



PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE
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August 25, 2008

VIA MAIL and E-MAIL

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge St.
Toronto, ON
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)
EB-2008-0150

In accordance with the Board's request, please note that VECC intends to make a presentation during the course of the consultative scheduled to commence on September 22, 2008.

With respect to the topics our presentation intends to cover, we can indicate at this time that our presentation is likely to cover, to some degree, all of the topics outlined in the Board's draft issues list. In addition to that list, we would note the following with respect to VECC's presentation:

- a) It is VECC's view that as currently framed the scope of the consultative may be too narrow, in that it focuses only on, it appears, a strict definition of "low income energy consumers". In VECC's view the issues presented for discussion in this consultative are of equal to concern to a wider constituency of vulnerable consumers, including, by way of example, senior citizens on fixed incomes, who may not be captured by a narrowly construed definition of vulnerable consumer. Likewise, VECC is concerned about the inclusion of "indirect" vulnerable energy consumers in

programs design; for example, tenants may be excluded from the benefits of programs designed to make energy affordable to them by virtue of their (often) indirect relationship to their energy costs.

- b) The issues list does not explicitly discuss the interaction between the strictly regulated utility rates and the not so strictly regulated rates offered by direct marketers, and the issues that arise with respect to vulnerable consumers that have entered into direct market contracts; VECC intends to address this issue in its presentation.

Thank you.

Yours truly,



Michael Buonaguro
Counsel for VECC