



September 30, 2008

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street, Suite 2700  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4P 1E4

Subject: Board File – EB-2008-0150  
Consultation on Energy Issues Relating to Low Income Consumers – Information Request  
Winter Warmth Program

Dear Ms. Walli:

In follow-up to the subject consultation held September 22nd – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Hydro Ottawa offers the following information relating to the Winter Warmth Program.

#### Financial Commitment

During Hydro Ottawa's third year of sponsorship, December 2007 to April 2008, a total of \$65,000 was contributed to the Winter Warmth Program. Initial funding of \$40,000 was further increased by \$25,000 at the end of February in order to meet program needs. \$40,000 has been budgeted for the 2008 / 2009 program year.

#### Number of Applicants

During this past heating season, 207 Ottawa households received Winter Warmth Assistance for their electricity or natural gas account. Of this number, 160 households were Hydro Ottawa customers, of which, 75 households received funding from both Hydro Ottawa and Enbridge.

This represents a 74% increase in the number of individuals that benefited from Hydro Ottawa's involvement in the program.

Season	Adults	Children	Total Individuals
2006 / 2007	124	162	286
2007 / 2008	225	274	499

#### Average Payment Per Household

The average disbursement this past heating season was \$353.00, representing a 12% decrease from the previous season of \$399.00.

The average household owed \$529.00 for electricity, which is slightly lower than the previous year's average of \$537.00.

It should be noted that these balances may represent more than one billing period.

#### Demand for Winter Warmth Funds

During the past year a total of \$56,499 was distributed to Hydro Ottawa customers. As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, a balance of \$2,501 remained, which will be applied to the 2008 / 2009 Winter Warmth Program. The United Way retained 15% of the initial donation, or \$6,000, to cover their program administrative costs.

Should you require any further details, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly



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