

October 3, 2008

**VIA EMAIL: [EB-2008-0150LowIncomeEnergy@oeb.gov.on.ca](mailto:EB-2008-0150LowIncomeEnergy@oeb.gov.on.ca)**

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Consultation on Energy Issues Relating to Low Income Consumers**  
**Board File No.: EB-2008-0150**

---

The Ontario Power Authority (“OPA”) is writing the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”) to respond to a question that arose during the September 22-25, 2008 stakeholder session.

The Ontario Power Authority has initiatives that both directly and indirectly benefit low income consumers across the province and address in a comprehensive manner the objectives of the Low Income Directive. There are two dedicated initiatives for the sector informed by extensive research, consultation, and pilot program activity.

The multi-family buildings initiative for existing buildings is for all private and assisted operators and providers of housing in multi-unit buildings with more than 6 units. It provides financial incentives for common area upgrades, in-suite energy efficiency, technical support and funding for resident education. The participant targets are 15,000 buildings representing 90,000 dwelling units through 2010. Low income Ontarians reside not only in assisted housing units but occupy 40% of units in privately owned buildings.

The single family homes initiative is for residents in electrically heated homes and buildings with less than six dwelling units. Energy efficiency upgrades and audits are provided at no cost to the resident along with educational materials regarding energy conservation practices in the home.

The projection for the portion of 2008 and 2009 funding for these programs that will directly reach low income residents is \$15-20.0 million.

October 3, 2008  
Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Page 2 of 2

The OPA also notes that developers of multi-residential buildings are also eligible for financial incentives through the High Performance New Construction Program and the LDC-delivered Electricity Retrofit Incentive Program (ERIP).

We look forward to working with sector stakeholders to maximize the impact of these initiatives and achieving our objectives under the Minister's Directive to the Ontario Power Authority for reducing demand and energy burden for low income Ontarians.

Yours truly,

(original signed)

Miriam Heinz  
Regulatory Coordinator  
Ontario Power Authority