Ontario Natural Gas Technical Evaluation Committee 3rd Quarter Report

The Technical Evaluation Committee (The Committee) publicly reports its discussions and activities on a quarterly basis. This report reflects work conducted between July 1 and September 30, 2013. All quarterly reports are available on the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) website online.

1. Confirmation of 2014 Committee Intervenor and Independent Members

As per the Terms of Reference for Stakeholder Engagement (EB-2011-0327), three intervenor members (J. Shepherd, C. Neme and J. Girvan) were elected in September, 2013, by the Consultative. T. Kesik and R. Wirtshafter were invited to remain on the Committee as independent members for the 2014 calendar year. The elected members will serve for one year, starting October 1, 2013, while the independent members' term will begin January 1, 2014.

2. Custom Projects Savings Verification (CPSV)

With input from auditors and the utilities' respective Audit Committees, the Committee revised and updated a joint Terms of Reference for Custom Projects Savings Verifications (CPSV) to be included in requests for proposals. Finalization of the Terms of Reference is anticipated in early Q4 2013.

3. Technical Reference Manual (TRM)

The Committee and the consultant (ERS) continued their review of prescriptive measures as part of the TRM project. The consultant shared its initial analysis of four groups of measures (ten groups in total):

Initiated:

- New Measures (Demand Control Ventilation and High Efficiency Water Heaters)
- Commercial Water Heating
- Multi-Family Water Heating
- Commercial Cooking

To be analyzed:

- Commercial Space Heating
- Multi-Family Space Heating
- Residential Water Heating
- Residential Space Heating
- Commercial / Multi-Family Other
- Residential Other

The Committee worked with the consultant to finalize the project workplan and develop the template used to display and organize key information for each measure. The Committee provided guidance to the consultant on proposing, where reasonable, a single value for measure assumptions, as the measures in the TRM are to be applied prescriptively.

The Committee also provided feedback on the consultant's analysis of the following measures:

- Demand Control Ventilation
- High Efficiency Water Heaters
- Condensing Gas Water Heaters (New Construction)
- Condensing Gas Water Heaters (Retrofit)
- High Efficiency Condensing Boilers <300MBH (New Construction)
- High Efficiency Condensing Boilers <300MBH (Retrofit)

Next steps in the TRM project include finalization of these prescriptive measures and review of the remaining measures. This project is scheduled for completion in 2014.

4. Net to Gross Study: Request for Proposals (RFP)

The Committee is finalizing a Request for Proposals to select a firm that will conduct a study to determine Net to Gross values for the utility's respective commercial and industrial custom DSM offerings. The Committee further refined the project scope and provided additional clarity on the study methodology. A final draft is expected for release in Q4 2013. Selection and engagement of the successful proponent is expected in January 2014.

5. Guidelines for establishing a Free Ridership value for new prescriptive measures

Based on discussions in Q2, a background document was circulated by the utilities in July 2013. At a future meeting, the utilities (led by Union Gas) will propose a framework for determining free ridership for new prescriptive measures, and when the free ridership value should be revisited.