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Message to Stakeholders from COO

As you know, the Ontario Energy Board is committed to timely and transparent communications. In the past three years, we have undertaken a number of initiatives to increase our transparency with our stakeholders. These initiatives include publishing our draft business plan for stakeholder comment which we incorporate into our final business plan; setting and publishing the audited results of specific performance measures; and, conducting and publishing the results of our annual stakeholder survey. As part of our continuing commitment to provide clear and timely communications that enhance our transparency with you, our stakeholders, I would like to inform you of a number of additional measures that the OEB is undertaking.

First, we are launching our new Regulatory Activities Calendar on our website. It is available via our homepage, or at <http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca/html/en/calendar/index.cfm>. Many of you have requested such a roadmap of our activities and I hope you find this calendar helpful. It contains dates for upcoming regulatory activities and timelines for response to Board initiatives as well as tips on how to use the calendar. A feature you may find useful is the ability to sort through the calendar by gas and electricity sector. We welcome your feedback on our new calendar.

I also want to inform you that beginning in 2007, the OEB will publish regularly on its website expense information relating to the travel and hospitality of the Chair, the Vice-Chairs and myself as the Chief Operating Officer. In doing so, we are following best practices for Crown corporations and public agencies. Information for the month of January 2007 will be available next month and will include totals of the amounts expended for travel, accommodation, meals and other items. The guidelines governing travel and hospitality are outlined in the [OEB's Travel and Hospitality Policy](#), which is also posted on our website. The Board's policy is to have an independent auditor review the Chair's expenses on a monthly basis.

Finally, the Board is also publishing today its current Incentive Pay Plans for the Board Chair, and for the Vice-Chairs and Full-Time Board Members. These plans were developed by the Hay Group, a leading compensation firm, and have been approved by the Minister of Energy. As you are aware, the OEB fully complies with the requirements of the *Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act* (PSSDA) which requires disclosure of the names, positions and salaries of staff and Board members earning more than \$100,000 annually. This information is published annually by the Ministry of Finance.

As a public organization, we strive to be responsive to our stakeholders and the public. We believe these steps build on our existing efforts to be transparent and to demonstrate our commitment to using our resources effectively and responsibly.

Yours truly,

Angela Ferrante
Chief Operating Officer