#### EB-2006-0064

### IN THE MATTER OF the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.O.15, Sch. B;

## AND IN THE MATTER OF the Ontario Energy Board's Proposed Regulatory Process for setting payment amounts for Ontario Power Generation Inc.'s prescribed Generation Assets.

#### NOTICE OF INTERVENTION

### OF THE

#### SCHOOL ENERGY COALITION

1. The School Energy Coalition applies for intervenor status in this proceeding.

#### **General Interest of the Intervenor**

- 2. The School Energy Coalition is a coalition established to represent the interests of all Ontario publicly-funded schools in matters relating to energy regulation, policy, and management. It is made up all seven of the major school-related organizations, representing all of the school boards, and all levels of school management, and through them representing the approximately 5000 schools and about 2 million students in Ontario. The primary goal of these organizations is to promote and enhance public education for the benefit of all students and citizens of Ontario.
- 3. The intervenor's members have a significant interest in the activities of regulated gas utilities and their affiliates in the province, due to the severe financial implications those activities have on school boards, their students and the people of the province of Ontario. Utility costs are one of the most significant cost pressures facing school boards. The cost of utilities to the intervenor's members, of which electricity and natural gas are the major components, is currently in excess of \$360 million, and has increased rapidly over the last five years. To produce balanced budgets in the face of ever increasing utility costs, school boards have repeatedly been forced to cut essential programs and services to the detriment of the students and the public of the province of Ontario.
- 4. Utility costs are one of the most significant cost pressures facing school boards. The cost of utilities to the intervenor's members, of which electricity and natural gas are the major components, is currently in excess of \$360 million, and has increased rapidly over the last five years. To produce balanced budgets in the face of ever increasing utility costs, school

boards have repeatedly been forced to cut essential programs and services to the detriment of the students and the public of the province of Ontario.

### **Issues to be Addressed**

- 5. The School Energy Coalition is intervening:
  - a. generally to represent the interests of the school boards and their students in this proceeding in all major aspects of the application.
  - b. The School Energy Coalition intends to participate actively in all aspects of the review process, as described in the Board's March 21, 2006 letter.
  - c. The School Energy Coalition's Consultant Darryl Seal has been involved in Ontario's energy sector since 1989, in both the natural gas and electricity sectors. As chief economist at Enbridge, Mr. Seal was involved in all aspects of regulation for the utility. Since 2003, Mr. Seal has represented the School Energy Coalition's interests in gas and electric utility rate and policy proceedings, including reviewing cost allocation and rate design issues in numerous rate cases. Mr. Seal's CV is attached.

## **Counsel/Representative**

- 6. The School Energy Coalition requests that a copy of all documents filed with the Board by each party to this proceeding be served on the Applicant, and on the Applicant's counsel and case manager as follows:
- (a) School Energy Coalition:

ONTARIO EDUCATION SERVICES CORPORATION c/o Ontario Public School Boards' Association 439 University Avenue, 18th Floor Toronto, ON M5G 1Y8

Attn: Brian Cain, Co-ordinatorPhone:416 340-2540Fax:416 340-7571Email:bcain@opsba.org

(b) School Energy Coalition's counsel:

SHIBLEY RIGHTON LLP Barristers and Solicitors 250 University Avenue, Suite 700 Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3E5

Attn: Jay ShepherdPhone:416 214-5224Fax:416 214-5424Email:jay.shepherd@shibleyrighton.com

c) School Energy Coalition's consultant/case manager

INSTITUTIONAL ENERGY ANALYSIS, INC. 250 University Avenue, Suite 700 Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3E5

Attn: Darryl Seal, Principal ConsultantPhone:416 214-5218Fax:416 214-5418Email:darryl.seal@ieai.ca

# **Costs**

- 7. The School Energy Coalition intends to apply for recovery of its costs reasonably incurred in the course of its intervention in this proceeding and meets the criteria for cost awards of the Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards. It has received funding in past for numerous rates filings and other Board proceedings.
- 8. The School Energy Coalition already incurs costs in its participation in energy sector interventions for a) staff time and resources; b) volunteer time of members of its Technical Advisory Committee; and c) covering the difference in hourly rates between OEB costs levels and market rates. These amounts are substantial and no further budget for these activities is possible. As a result, as is the case in rate case interventions, intervention on behalf of the schools is entirely dependent on obtaining funding.
- 9. Therefore, the School Energy Coalition requests recovery of its full reasonably incurred costs, as outlined in the Board's March 21, 2006 letter, in the course of its participation in this process.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the School Energy Coalition this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2006.

# SHIBLEY RIGHTON LLP

Per:\_\_\_\_

Jay Shepherd