

**IN THE MATTER OF a Consultation Process
Initiated by the Ontario Energy Board in Relation
to the Electricity Distribution Rate Design Review**

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 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 energy services to the intervenor's members is currently in excess of \$370 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. All schools in the province will be impacted by changes in the rates of regulated utilities.

Issues to be Addressed

5. The School Energy Coalition is intervening:
 - a. To review and comment on the Board Staff Discussion Paper and other reports associated with Electricity Distribution Rate Design Review proceeding, on matters related to but

- not limited to rate design issues, principles, pricing, methodologies and proposals, and other future developments in this consultation;
- b. To assess the rationale for methodologies, proposals and decisions associated with electricity rate design;
 - c. To review the economic and societal impacts of such proposals and the longer term impacts on all customers of the regulated utilities;
 - d. To review the terms, components, and applicability of any formulae proposed;
 - e. To consider the impact of the proposed policies on other activities of the Board related to electricity distribution rates, such as incentive regulation and cost allocation; and
 - f. Generally to represent the interests of the school boards and their students in this proceeding in all material aspects of the process.
6. The foregoing summary is intended to be illustrative but not exhaustive. The School Energy Coalition will review the evidence and the underlying principles as the record continues to develop, and will advise parties of any further areas of interest/concern.

The Intervenor's Intended Participation

7. The School Energy Coalition intends to participate in any pre-hearing discussions with other parties and with Board staff, or any formal or informal technical conferences, that may be available and add to the process. We also intend to participate in any hearing(s) of this matter, and in written or oral submissions, as well as any other parts of the process that the Board should order. The extent of the School Energy Coalition's involvement will, as in all rate proceedings and policy processes, evolve during the proceeding as the materiality of particular issues becomes clearer.

Counsel/Representative

8. 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: Bob Williams, Co-ordinator
Phone: 416 340-2540
Fax: 416 340-7571
Email: bwilliams@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 Shepherd
Phone: 416 214-5224
Fax: 416 214-5424
Email: jay.shepherd@shibleyrighton.com

(c) School Energy Coalition's case manager/consultant

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

Attn: Rachel Chen, Principal Consultant
Phone: 416 214-5298
Fax: 416 214-5498
Email: rachel.chen@ieai.ca

Costs

9. The School Energy Coalition intends to apply for recovery of its costs reasonably incurred in the course of its intervention in this matter. The School Energy Coalition has participated in many past natural gas and electricity proceedings in Ontario, including the Natural Gas Forum, consultations, rate cases, and other processes and hearings, and has been found eligible to be paid its reasonably incurred costs in all of those proceedings.
10. The School Energy Coalition is eligible for a cost award because it “primarily represents the interests of consumers (e.g. ratepayers) in relation to regulated services”. School boards are one of the largest groups of non-industrial energy consumers in the province, and their energy costs have a direct impact on the education of millions of Ontario children. The formation of the School Energy Coalition ensured that all representatives of the interests of schools participated jointly in OEB proceedings.

11. The School Energy Coalition is not ineligible by reason of any of the criteria contained in section 3.05 of the Practice Direction on Cost Awards.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the School Energy Coalition this 12th day of April, 2007.

SHIBLEY RIGHTON LLP

Per: _____
Jay Shepherd