**Ontario Energy Board** 

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## BY EMAIL AND WEBPOSTING

March 30, 2007

To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors

All Participants in Proceeding EB-2006-0266

**All Other Interested Parties** 

Re: Stakeholder Consultations on Conservation and Demand Management

EB-2007-0097

On March 28, 2007 the Ontario Energy Board issued a letter inviting interested parties to meetings that would be held to discuss conservation and demand management (CDM) issues within the authority of the Board. The purpose of this letter is to advise that the commencement of these consultations will be delayed. A revised schedule of meetings is included in Appendix A, and also posted on the Board's website at www.oeb.gov.on.ca.

As stated in the letter of March 28, 2007 these meetings will be part of, and will inform, a larger work program that the Board has initiated that will include updating avoided cost data and input assumptions and measures in the Board's existing Total Resource Cost Guide ("TRC Guide"), as well as the development of third generation incentive regulation, and a review of the design of electricity distribution rates, including standby and distributed generation rates.

The purpose of the stakeholder meetings will be for the Board to provide information about the Board's current CDM framework, and to obtain feedback from stakeholders as to whether there are any other steps the Board can take in exercising its oversight over distribution rates to support implementation of CDM in Ontario.

For greater clarity, the issues that will be explored in these meetings are as follows:

1. The Board has provided guidance to distributors with respect to the application process for CDM funding through distribution rates, with the November 2006 Filing Requirements, and the March 1, 2007 Letter to Licensed Electricity Distributors. Are there any remaining issues that need to be clarified regarding the application process?

- 2. How does the Board's regulatory framework help or hinder distributors' evaluation of CDM programs, ability to learn from their experiences, and ability to improve programs? How could evaluation protocols be improved to enhance the ability of distributors to learn from their experiences?
- 3. Are there any additional ways in which the Board's regulatory framework for CDM could further support consumers' access to, and participation in, distributor-delivered CDM programs?
- 4. How would multi-year funding through distribution rates affect the development of CDM programs?
- 5. For third tranche programs, distributors are required to apply to the Board for approval to re-allocate funds exceeding 20% of the approved budget. Are there any ways that this application process could be improved to facilitate reallocation of funding to cost effective programs in a timely and efficient manner?
- 6. With the TRC Guide, the Board provided distributors with avoided cost data and input assumptions and measures to facilitate cost effectiveness analyses of CDM programs. Is there any additional data and/or information that would aid with program screening and evaluation?
- 7. Are there any other ways in which the Board's regulatory framework could further facilitate CDM.

The Board would appreciate knowing from participants, in advance, whether they would like to formally present their views on any of the above questions at the meeting. Alternatively, participants are invited to come prepared to discuss the above issues informally. Parties wishing to formally present their views in advance should send an email to <a href="CDM@oeb.gov.on.ca">CDM@oeb.gov.on.ca</a> stating their intention.

All filings to the Board in relation to this matter must quote file number EB-2007-0097 and include your name, address, telephone number, and, where available, an e-mail address and fax number. 7 paper copies of each filing must be provided. The Board requests that interested parties make every effort to provide electronic copies of their filings in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) or Word, either on diskette or by e-mail to boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Peter H. O'Dell Assistant Board Secretary

## **APPENDIX A**

## **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	LOCATION DETAILS
April 24 , 2007	1:00 – 3:30	Chatham	To be determined.
April 25, 2007	9:00 – 11:30	London	London Hydro offices 111 Horton Street London
April 25, 2007	2:00 – 4:30	Guelph	Guelph Hydro offices 395 Southgate Drive Guelph
May 1, 2007	1:00 – 3:30	Sudbury	Greater Sudbury Hydro offices 500 Regent Street Sudbury
May 2, 2007	9:00 – 11:30	Thunder Bay	Thunder Bay Hydro offices 34 Cumberland Street North Thunder Bay
To be determined.	1:30 – 5:00	Toronto	Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street Toronto  West Hearing Room, 25 <sup>th</sup> floor
To be determined.	9:30 – 12:00	Whitby	Whitby Hydro offices 100 Taunton Road East Whitby
To be determined.	1:00 – 3:30	Ottawa	Hydro Ottawa offices 3025 Albion Road North Ottawa
To be determined.	1:00 – 3:30	Niagara Falls	To be determined.
To be determined.	1:00 – 3:30	Barrie	Barrie Hydro offices 55 Patterson Road Barrie