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BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

September 25, 2007

**To All Licensed Electricity Distributors
And To All Interested Parties**

Re: Smart Meter Technology Test Guidelines, EB 2007-0778

Ontario Regulation 427/06 *Smart Meters: Discretionary Metering Activity and Procurement Principles* made under the *Electricity Act, 1998* allows distributors to undertake certain smart metering activities. Specifically section 2 of the Regulation provides that a distributor may conduct metering activities that are for the purpose of testing smart meter technology, if certain conditions are met. One of those conditions is that the distributor receives prior approval from the Board.

The Ontario Energy Board has today posted on its website www.oeb.gov.on.ca for comment "Smart Meter Initiative: Draft Criteria and Filing Guidelines for Smart Metering Pilots" ("Draft Guidelines"). The purpose of the Draft Guidelines is to provide distributors with an explanation of the criteria the Board expects to use when reviewing proposals for pilots and to identify the material to be filed with applications for approval of a smart meter pilot. These Guidelines also explain how the information that distributors obtain from undertaking a smart meter pilot is to be shared with other

distributors to assist in the efficient and effective implementation of the smart metering initiative. The Board is issuing the Guidelines in draft form so that comments from interested parties may be taken into consideration prior to finalization by the Board.

The Board will not be granting cost awards in this matter.

The Board invites interested parties to provide written comments on the Draft Guidelines. Interested parties that wish to provide written comments on the Draft Guidelines must file three (3) paper copies of the comments and an electronic version of the comments in searchable Adobe Acrobat (PDF) and Word with the Board Secretary by **November 20, 2007**. Electronic copies may be submitted on diskette or by e-mail to boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca.

Your submission must quote file number EB-2007-0778 and include your name, postal address and telephone number and, if available, e-mail address and fax number.

This letter, the Draft Guidelines, and all written comments submitted will be available for public inspection on the Board's website at www.oeb.gov.on.ca and at the Board's office during normal business hours.

Any questions relating to this consultation should be directed to the Market Operations Hotline at marketoperations@oeb.gov.on.ca or by telephone at 416-440-7604. The Board's toll-free number is 1-888-632-6273.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Peter H. O'Dell

Assistant Board Secretary