



June 10, 1999

To: All Interested Parties

**Re: Request for Comment: Transitional Electricity Retailer
Licence (RP 1999-0009)**

Transitional licences and associated codes are being developed by the Board for approval by the Minister of Energy, Science and Technology. Section 57 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act* (the "Act") requires any person who retails electricity to any consumer to have a licence. Licenced Distributors will not require a Retail's Licence to distribute Standard Supply Service.

On February 3, 1999, Board staff circulated a draft *Transitional Electricity Retailer Licence* along with a *Code of Conduct for Energy Marketers* to stakeholders for comment.

Extensive and detailed comments were received from stakeholders. Based on these comments, staff have made changes to the Licence and Code, and are now seeking further views from stakeholders before finalizing.

Specifically, Board staff is seeking further comments on:

1. Is the content of the retailer licence clear? Is the purpose of the licence clear?
2. Are the requirements of the licensee under the licence conditions clear? Are the requirements technically achievable? If not, why not? How could they be amended to reflect a practical outcome? Do the requirements impose a significant cost to a retailer of electricity? If so, what types of costs would be incurred?
3. Are there special provisions that are necessary during a period of transition?
4. Are the requirements of the Code clear? Are the requirements applicable to all retailers?
5. Are the requirements for retailers marketing to low volume consumers clear? Do they achieve the necessary consumer protection measures?
6. What are the tests the Board should use to determine the start date for retailing to low-volume consumers?
7. Should there be specific disclosure requirements to assist consumers in making price and term comparisons?

Comments from interested parties

With respect to the written comments to be provided, Board staff requests that:

1. Parties separate their comments between those on the draft retailer licence and those of the proposed code. To the extent possible, parties are asked to organize their comments to follow the drafts;
2. Written comments are to be mailed or faxed to Una O'Reilly by **June 25, 1999** at:
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 26th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4
Fax: (416) 440-7656
E-mail: OreillUn@oeb.gov.on.ca
Attention: Una O'Reilly

Any questions relating to the draft transitional retailers licence or Electricity Retailer Code of Conduct are be directed to Una O'Reilly at (416-440-8111) or Tobi Baumhard (416-440-8110) toll free at 1-888-632-6273.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Powell
Director of Licensing

Enclosures

