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**Commission de l'Énergie de l'Ontario**  
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January 21, 2004

Notice To All Interested Stakeholders

**RE: RP - 2004-0020 - Notice of a Consultation to Review Further Efficiencies in the Electricity Distribution Sector**

The Board is committed to the efficiency of the distribution sector and the promotion of policies which result in benefits to energy consumers. In the past few years, the electricity distribution sector has experienced major structural developments and other challenges. Whether the present electricity distribution structure is maintained or changed, the Board is of the view that a review is timely and would be constructive. In particular, the Board wishes to review alternative ways of driving further efficiencies in the delivery of electricity services and to better understand the impact of implementing these alternatives on distributors and the broader electricity industry.

Therefore, the Board will hold a consultation on these matters. The Board invites interested stakeholders to make written representations. Further, the Board will hold consultations during the week of February 16, 2004 at which time interested stakeholders will be given the opportunity to make oral presentations. The Board will shortly be providing a consultation paper on these issues and additional information about the process that the Board intends to follow.

One of the primary issues that will be addressed in the consultation paper is whether there are economic, service and other benefits to be gained from further consolidation of the electricity distribution sector. Consolidation may also provide additional benefits by allowing distributors to be more involved in commodity procurement and load aggregation, including acting as load serving entities, and in demand side management and system planning.

Another issue that will be addressed in the consultation paper is the mechanisms available to the Board to drive further efficiencies in the electricity distribution sector, including PBR incentive schemes. The consultation paper will also discuss the benefits that may result from the greater use of shared services among distributors.

In addition to the issues raised in the consultation paper, stakeholders may also highlight other related issues which they may consider necessary or desirable for further enhancing the efficiency and performance of the electricity distribution sector.

If interested in participating in this consultation, please send your name, title, organization, address, e-mail address and telephone and fax numbers to the Board Secretary at the address given below by 4:30 p.m. on January 29, 2004.

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For questions relating to this consultation, please contact David Brown (416-440-8123, [david.brown@oeb.gov.on.ca](mailto:david.brown@oeb.gov.on.ca)) or Sahar Mishriki (416-440-8117, [sahar.mishriki@oeb.gov.on.ca](mailto:sahar.mishriki@oeb.gov.on.ca)), or call toll free 1-800-632-6273.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. O'Dell", with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Peter H. O'Dell  
Assistant Secretary