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Energy  
Board

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December 8, 1998

**To: All Interested parties**

**Re: Stakeholder consultation for electricity distribution interim licences**

On October 28, 1998, I issued a letter to invite initial input for drafting a generic interim distribution licence and proposed industry codes as they relate to electricity distribution companies. This letter is to invite you to participate in the Board's stakeholder consultation meetings on the draft distribution licences.

The preliminary comments received from interested parties were used by Board staff to gain an appreciation of any diverging views among stakeholders. Staff are also using these comments to guide them in further drafting of the licence and to provide an indication of the extent and format of the consultation required. The following key issues were identified and will be used as the main focus for discussion in our meetings:

1. Licence fees
2. OEB information disclosure requirements for monitoring compliance
3. Associated codes general discussion
4. Separation of business activities and codes of conduct
5. Market boundaries
  - a. Transmission and distribution delineation
  - b. Obligation to provide services within distribution boundaries
  - c. Obligation to provide services to other distributors
  - d. Obligation to connect
  - e. Expansion of distribution systems
6. The extent to which interim licences and associated codes should focus on the 'end-state' competitive market licences and associated codes.

Detailed summaries of the comments received to date from interested parties on the draft

distribution and transmission licences as well as the codes to which they relate, will be available on our website on [www.oeb.gov.on.ca](http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca) by December 11, 1998.

As noted earlier, interim licences and associated codes are to be developed by the Board for Ministerial approval and Board issuance in early 1999 on an “as required” basis. The Board is commencing its consultation process to give stakeholders an opportunity to provide input to the conditions contained in the interim licences. Board staff anticipates holding 4 regional sessions to discuss the draft distribution licences. The schedule is as follows:

|          |  |                          |
|----------|--|--------------------------|
| London   | Delta Armories, 325 Dundas St  | December 16, 1998        |
| Sudbury  | Ramada Inn Convention Center,<br>Palladium Room North, 85 St. Anne<br>Rd             | January 6, 1999          |
| Kingston | The Ambassador Hotel and<br>Convention Center, The Ontario<br>Room, 1550 Princess St | January 8, 1999          |
| Toronto  | to be determined   | January 18 & 19,<br>1999 |

The Board has retained the services of Hardy Stevenson and Associates Ltd to help facilitate the consultation sessions. They will ensure all parties are able to participate in the meetings and that the issues are given reasonable and balanced coverage.

Interested parties are asked to register their intention to attend and their expected level of participation by advising Mark Wallbank at Hardy Stevenson and Associates Ltd by December 14, 1998 at (416) 944-8444 or by email at [hsa@echo-on.net](mailto:hsa@echo-on.net). If you have any questions regarding the content of the stakeholder sessions you may contact Paula Conboy (416-440-7613) or Brian Hewson (416-440-7628) at the Ontario Energy Board.

Sincerely,

Robert Cappadocia  
Director, Regulatory Affairs