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October 24, 2003

## **Re: Review of Natural Gas Supply, Storage and Upstream Transportation**

The purpose of this letter is to advise stakeholders that over the next twelve months the Board intends to examine a number of issues with the objective of further improving the regulation of Ontario's gas markets.

In the past, the Board has undertaken initiatives such as the Ten Year Market Review and the Market Design Task Force, in order to explore options for better regulation of the evolving gas market. The Board intends to continue these initiatives through the development of policies which consider, among other things:

- What should the role of the gas distributor be with respect to the transportation, storage and supply of natural gas?
- Should the Board continue to regulate storage and if so, how?
- How might the gas distributor, in a regulatory context, better respond to changes in natural gas prices?
- Who is responsible for ensuring that adequate upstream transportation is available for Ontario's market?
- Since 1999 the gas market has evolved differently from what was contemplated in the Ten Year Market Review. How and why has this happened and what changes, if any, should be made?

The Board will begin this process by consulting with stakeholders and will then issue a discussion paper, or papers. After further consultation the Board will consider what actions may be required to improve the regulation of the Ontario gas market.

On November 12th, Board staff will host a meeting to discuss this initiative. Parties interested in participating in the preliminary discussions should notify the Assistant Secretary, no later than October 30th, at the Board's address or by email at [gasmarket@oeb.gov.on.ca](mailto:gasmarket@oeb.gov.on.ca). Please send your name, title, organization, address, email address, telephone and fax numbers and please indicate if you would like to participate by way of teleconference.

No funding will be offered by the Ontario Energy Board for participation in this policy initiative.

Yours truly,

*Original signed by:*

Paul B. Pudge  
Assistant Secretary