

# Approved Meeting Minutes



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## OEB Financial Assistance Working Group

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**Meeting Date:** August 18, 2010

**Time:** 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

**Location:** 2300 Yonge Street, 25th Floor, ADR room

**Attendees:** **Financial Assistance Working Group:**

Jack Lenartowicz	Coalition of Large Distributors (CLD)
Gord Eamer	Cornerstone Hydro Electric Concepts (CHEC)
Svetlana Diomin	Direct Energy
Manny Sousa	Enbridge Gas Distribution
Allen Maclure	Enbridge Electric Connections (EECI)
Mary Anne Rowlands	Housing Help Association of Ontario
Barb Allen	Hydro One Networks
Jennifer Lopinski	Low Income Energy Network (LIEN)
Chris Goethel	Ministry of Energy
Shayma Saadat	Ministry of Energy
Gladys Wong	Neighbourhood Information Post
John Bagnall	Neighbourhood Information Post
Katherine Sparkes	Ontario Power Authority
David Whitehouse	Peterborough Distribution
Debra Johnston	Salvation Army
Mark Kitchen	Union Gas
Steve Lavery	United Way Toronto
Kristi Billing	United Way Toronto
William Harper	VECC / Energy Probe

**Board Staff:**

Alison Cazalet, Takis Plagiannakos, Stephen Vetsis,  
Paul Gasparatto

### Setting the context

- Board staff gave a presentation outlining the history of LEAP and provided an overview of current OEB low-income initiatives.
- Outlined mandate/objective of FAWG.
- Discussed what has changed since 2009 consultation and the following factors were identified:
  - Low-income customer service rules.
  - Northern Ontario Energy Credit and Ontario Energy and Property Tax Credit.

- Emergency Energy Fund
- HST.

### **Low Income Statistics**

- Board staff presented an analysis of low-income statistics based on 2006 census data.

### **Electricity Late Payment Settlement**

- Steve Lavery of the United Way Toronto outlined the terms and current status of the settlement.
- Working group discussed possibility of using a similar administrative model for LEAP and any impact these additional funds will have.

### **Role of Suite Meter Providers**

- Allen Maclure of Enbridge Electric Connections Inc. provided an overview of the roles of suite meter providers as well as a description of some of the different business models used by the companies.
- Differences between standard LDC residential customers and SSM provider customers and how they pertain to LEAP funding were discussed.

### **OPA Low-Income CDM Program**

- Katherine Sparkes of the OPA provided a brief description of the OPA's low-income CDM initiative.
- Working group discussed ways of linking OPA low-income CDM programs to LEAP to maximize benefits to low-income customers.

### **Review of FAWG's 2009 recommendations**

- Board staff provided a review of the prior recommendations of the FAWG.
- Discussed desire to continue with original proposal of using LICO table to determine LEAP eligibility.
- FAWG agreed to continue to use the complete LICO table (incorporating household size and community size).
  - Agreed to use a 15% adder to LICO table cutoffs for LEAP eligibility, with a review after one year.

### **Action Items:**

- OEB staff to confirm definition of low-income households used by Statistics Canada.
- OEB staff to determine if low-income statistics can be shared for all LDCs. If so, OEB staff will prepare a table with all LDCs for next FAWG meeting.

### **Next Scheduled Meeting:**

- September 2, 2010