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**Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario**  
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**BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING**

November 29, 2011

**To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors;  
Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario;  
Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters;  
Energy Probe Research Foundation;  
London Property Management Association;  
School Energy Coalition; and  
Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards in the Initiative to Develop Electricity Distribution System Reliability Standards (Board File Number: EB-2010-0249)**

### **Background**

On August 23, 2010, the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") issued a letter to interested parties introducing a consultation process the Board intends to follow to implement a system reliability standards regime for licensed electricity distributors in Ontario.

In that letter, the Board indicated that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the "Act") in relation to their participation in this consultation process and that any costs awarded would be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors based on their respective distribution revenues.

The letter specified that cost awards would be available for preparing for and participating in the stakeholder conference, including the submission of any written submissions that may be requested, to **a maximum of 42 hours**. Cost awards would also be available to eligible parties who only wished to provide written submissions that

were be requested (i.e., parties that did not attend the stakeholder conference) to a **maximum of 30 hours**.

In accordance with the Board's October 1, 2010 Decision on Cost Eligibility, the following participants were found to be eligible for an award of costs: the Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario; the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters; Energy Probe Research Foundation; the London Property Management Association; the School Energy Coalition; and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (collectively, the "eligible participants").

This portion of the consultation was completed on November 23, 2011.

### **Notice of Hearing**

The Board is initiating this hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards that will be made in accordance with section 30 of the Act in relation to participation in this phase of the consultation process. The file number for the hearing is EB-2010-0249.

The Board intends to proceed by way of written hearing unless a party can satisfy the Board that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If a party wants to object to a written hearing, the objection must be received by the Board no later than **7 days** after the date of this Notice.

Assuming that the Board does not receive any objections to a written hearing, the hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. The eligible participants shall submit their cost claims by **December 21, 2011**. A copy of the cost claim must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on each licensed electricity distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.
2. Licensed distributors will have until **January 6, 2012**, to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. A copy of the objection must be filed with the Board and one copy must be served on the eligible participant against whose claim the objection is being made.

3. The eligible participant whose claim was objected to will have until **January 13, 2012**, to make a reply submission as to why its cost claim should be allowed. A copy of the reply submission must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on the objecting distributor.
4. The Board will then issue its decision on cost awards. The Board's costs may also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

Service of cost claims, objections and reply submissions on other parties may be effected by courier, registered mail, facsimile or e-mail.

All written submissions sent to the Board in this hearing (including cost claims, objections, and reply submissions) will be placed on the public record, which means that the written submissions will be available for viewing at the Board's offices and may be placed on the Board's website.

If the written submission is from a private citizen (i.e., not a lawyer representing a client, not a consultant representing a client or organization, not an individual in an organization that represents the interests of consumers or other groups, and not an individual from a regulated entity), before placing the written submission on the public record, the Board will remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the written submission (i.e., the address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the written submission will become part of the public record.

Parties must file a paper copy and one electronic copy of their submissions with the Board Secretary by **4:45 pm** on the required dates. The Board requests that interested parties make every effort to provide electronic copies of their filings in searchable/unrestricted Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, and to submit their filings through the Board's web portal at [www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.ca). A user ID is required to submit documents through the Board's web portal. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the "e-filings services" webpage on the Board's website at [www.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca), and fill out a user ID password request. Additionally, interested parties are requested to follow the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the document entitled "RESS Document Preparation – A Quick Guide" also found on the e-filing services webpage. If the Board's

web portal is not available, electronic copies of filings may be filed by e-mail at [boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca](mailto:boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca). Those that do not have internet access should provide a CD containing their filing in PDF format.

All submissions must quote file number **EB-2010-0249**, include your name, address, e-mail address, telephone number, and fax number.

**If you do not file a letter objecting to a written hearing or do not participate in the hearing by filing written submissions in accordance with this Notice, the Board may proceed without your participation and you will not be entitled to further notice in this proceeding.**

**DATED** at Toronto, November 29, 2011

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Yours truly,

*Original Signed By*

John Pickernell  
Assistant Board Secretary