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VIA E-MAIL

January 25, 2012

To: All participants in the Phase 2 - System Reliability Consultation

Re: **Reliability Data Working Group**

Phase 2 – Initiative to Develop Electricity Distribution System Reliability Standards

Board File No.: EB-2010-0249

1. Introduction

Board staff would like to thank all those stakeholders who provided written comments on the questions set out in staff's letter of November 23, 2011. The comments received have been posted on the Board's web site at the following link:

<http://www.oeb.gov.on.ca/OEB/Industry/Regulatory+Proceedings/Policy+Initiatives+and+Consultations/System+Reliability+Standards>

In the November 23rd letter, staff stated the intention to form a Reliability Data Working Group (the "Working Group") to discuss issues related to the topics set out in that letter. Nineteen parties have expressed interest in joining the Working Group. Board staff appreciates the interest expressed by the large number of stakeholders who wish to join the Working Group.

The objective of the Working Group is to consider the feedback provided in response to the questions set out the November 23rd letter and to apply their experience and

knowledge, to advise staff on the technical aspects of improving the quality of the reliability data being utilized and reported by distributors. Staff believes that given the types of issues to be addressed and the other steps in the process a small Working Group will provide for discussions that will ensure that these technical issues can be addressed fully in a very timely manner

Therefore, staff has selected 10 distributors out of the 17 that responded to staff's invitation, and who represent a cross section of large and small, urban and rural distributors from across the province. Also, to ensure a range of interests are represented, staff has selected the two non-distributor groups that requested membership. The representatives of following participants would make up the Working Group.

- Algoma Power (FortisOntario)
- Chatham–Kent Hydro
- Energy Probe Research Foundation
- Enersource Hydro Mississauga Inc.
- Halton Hills Hydro Inc.
- Horizon Utilities
- Hydro One Networks Inc.
- London Hydro
- Orangeville Hydro (CHEC Group)
- Power Worker's Union
- Toronto Hydro Electric System Limited
- Utilities Kingston

Staff appreciates the interest expressed by the other distributors and believe that they have valuable input to add to this consultation. Therefore, it is staff's intention to continue to circulate any Working Group materials to these parties if they wish. Staff invites those participants who are not sitting in on the actual Working Group meetings to continue to provide any comments they have on the materials they receive. Staff will ensure that any that comments received are provided to the working group.

The advice from the WG will be relied upon by Board staff to develop any proposals for change to the Board's system reliability monitoring and reporting requirements. The proposed amendments will be issued for Notice and Comment. As a result, all interested parties, including those who are not participating in the Working Group, will have further opportunity to provide comments on these matters for Board consideration.

2. Working Group Meetings

Board staff has set the following dates for the Working Group to meet:

- February 9, 2012
- March 1, 2012
- March 22, 2012

The meetings will take place between **9:30 am to 12:30 pm**, in one of the Board's Meeting Rooms, on the **25th floor** of the Board's offices at **2300 Yonge Street, Toronto**. An agenda for each meeting will be circulated prior to the meeting. Working Group attendees are encouraged to review prior to the first meeting the responses to Staff's November 23, 2011 letter, see link above.

Some participants expressed comments and made recommendations that go beyond the scope of this current initiative. While these comments may be considered by the Board in the future, the focus of this initiative and the Working Group will be specifically on the technical aspects of improving the quality of the reliability data being utilized and reported by distributors.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the Working Group meetings, please contact Paul Gasparatto at paul.gasparatto@ontarioenergyboard.ca or at 416-440-7724. The Board's toll free number is 1-888-632-6273.

DATED at Toronto, January 25, 2012

Yours Truly,

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson
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Networks & Smart Grid
Regulatory Policy