August 24, 2017

The Honourable Glenn Thibeault
Minister of Energy
Ministry of Energy
4th Floor, Hearst Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2E1

Dear Minister Thibeault:

Re: Regulated Price Plan Roadmap: Electricity Pricing Pilots

I am pleased to advise you that a number of electricity pricing pilots approved by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) will soon start to be deployed. You will recall that the pilot projects are the next step in the OEB’s ongoing work to redesign the Regulated Price Plan (RPP) to better respond to policy objectives, improve system efficiency and give greater consumer control.

The pilot projects approved by the OEB involve different price plans, different non-price features such as in-home controls and real-time feedback on consumption, and combinations of both price and information treatments. The pilots will gauge the effectiveness of these approaches in facilitating and reinforcing the benefits of demand-responsive behaviour while also testing customer acceptance of different price plans.

Customers that opt to participate in a pricing pilot will be billed using specifically designed time-of-use prices that have been set by the OEB so as to be revenue neutral relative to the existing RPP prices. This will more directly empower participants in managing their electricity costs and enhance the robustness of the pilot project results.

To date, the OEB has selected Alectra Utilities, London Hydro and Oshawa PUC to implement the pilot projects. These projects will allow the real-world experience and preferences of more than 18,000 customers to inform how electricity is priced for RPP customers in the future, unlocking more value for them and the electricity system as a whole in the process.
We will be closely monitoring the progress of the approved pilot projects, and look forward to sharing the results in due course.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Rosemarie T. Leclair
Chair & CEO

CC: Andrew Teliszewsky, Chief of Staff, Ministry of Energy
Serge Imbrogno, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy