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## **BACKGROUND**

March 3, 2014

### **The Ontario Energy Board and Energy East**

#### **About the OEB**

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) oversees the province's energy industry and regulates Ontario's electricity and natural gas sectors. The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency that makes decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a sustainable and efficient energy sector that provides consumers with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

The Board envisions informed consumers participating in a viable and efficient energy sector, and works towards this vision through regulation that is effective, fair and transparent.

- Based in Toronto, the OEB is an independent, self-financing Crown corporation.
- The Minister may ask the Board to examine, report and advise on any question relating to energy.

#### **Other Regulators in the Energy Sector**

There are other regulators overseeing different aspects of the energy sector:

- The Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) is mandated to “improve electrical safety for the well-being of the people of Ontario.”
- The National Energy Board (NEB) regulates, among other things, the construction and operation of interprovincial and international oil and gas pipelines, international power lines and designated interprovincial power lines. After hearings on TransCanada's proposed Energy East Pipeline, the NEB will file a report and make recommendations to the Federal Government, which has the final decision-making power on the project.

#### **OEB's Role in Energy East**

The Ontario Government intends to participate as an intervenor in the federal review of the proposed Energy East Pipeline.

To assist in its participation, Ontario's Minister of Energy has asked the Ontario Energy Board to conduct province-wide consultations on what TransCanada's project means for Ontario and its residents.

The information and perspectives received during the consultation process will help inform the OEB's report on the implications for Ontario of TransCanada's Energy East proposal. The Ontario Government will review the OEB report in formulating its own position regarding the proposed project.

## **Quick Facts – What the OEB Does**

### **Among other things, the OEB:**

- issues codes, rules and guidelines for regulated entities to follow in their operations
- licenses and oversees market participants including generators, marketers and retailers
- monitors and enforces compliance with regulations
- approves the natural gas commodity price charged by gas distributors
- approves and sets delivery rates for the distribution of natural gas and the transmission and distribution of electricity
- sets time-of-use prices for households and small businesses under the Board's Regulated Price Plan.

## **Contact us**

For more information, please visit the OEB website at [www.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca) or contact us directly.

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