October 18, 2022

Ms. Nancy Marconi
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4
Registrar@oeb.ca

Dear Ms. Marconi:

Re: Regional Planning Process Advisory Group (RPPAG)
Load Forecast Guideline for Ontario
Regional Planning Process Review (EB-2020-0176)

On December 20, 2021, the RPPAG provided its <u>Report to the OEB</u> with recommendations to improve the regional planning process in Ontario, for the OEB's consideration. The OEB then issued a letter on April 28, 2022 (<u>April 2022 letter</u>) with its response to those recommendations.

In the April 2022 letter, the OEB indicated there were essentially two types of recommendations. Those that would require the OEB to take action and others that require some form of action by the RPPAG. The OEB further noted that it had endorsed all of the recommendations that require the RPPAG to action.

One of those recommendations related to the RPPAG developing a Load Forecast Guideline for electricity distributors, transmitters, and the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to use in preparing load forecasts, as part of the regional planning process, to ensure greater consistency (e.g., assumptions) in determining regional needs.

The Load Forecast Guideline was prepared by the Load Forecast subgroup<sup>1</sup> and was subsequently reviewed and adopted by the RPPAG.

Given how the system is evolving and will continue to do so, the RPPAG plans to review this guidance document at least every two years to address emerging issues (e.g., electrification, decarbonization, etc.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Load Forecast subgroup consisted of members from the following organizations: Alectra Utilities, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Enbridge, Hydro One, IESO, London Hydro, Pollution Probe, School Energy Coalition, Toronto Hydro.

Please find attached the RPPAG's Load Forecast Guideline.

Yours truly,

Regional Planning Process Advisory Group

Attachment: Load Forecast Guideline for Ontario – Guidance for the Development of Regional Planning Demand Forecasts

c: Brian Hewson, Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance Chris Cincar, Senior Policy Advisor, Industry Policy & Compliance