

January 24, 2011

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, Suite 2700
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli,

**Re: Developing Guidance for the Implementation of Smart Grid in Ontario;
Board File No. EB-2011-0004**

In response to the Board's letter dated January 13, 2011 inviting nominations to participate in a Smart Grid Working Group (SGWG), I would like to nominate myself as a participant in this consultation on behalf of Direct Energy (DE). DE is one of the largest retailers of energy in North America and operates in several provinces and states. DE holds a relationship with in excess of one million Ontarians through the provision of energy and energy-related services, and has direct experience in Smart Grid pilots and programs in Ontario. DE has also developed a home energy management system for the Texas electricity market, and is also participating in an E-vehicle initiative in Houston.

On a personal note, I have over 20 years experience in the Ontario energy industry and am currently a member of the Ontario Energy Association's Corporate Partners Committee which provides direct input to the Smart Grid Forum.

I would like to thank the Board for their consideration, and I appreciate the opportunity to continue providing input on this important matter.

Yours faithfully,

Original signed by

Ric Forster
Director
Government & Regulatory Affairs
Direct Energy Marketing Limited