

December 10, 2015

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

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: EB-2015-0238 – Natural Gas Market Review – Consultation and Stakeholder Conference

On November 25, 2015, the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) initiated its third Natural Gas Market Review (“Review”) consultation. The purpose of the review is to examine ongoing developments in the North American natural gas market and assist the OEB’s consideration of any potential impacts for the Ontario natural gas market.

The Consumers Council of Canada (“Council”) intends to participate in this Review. The Council is an organization which represents the interests of residential consumers in Ontario. The outcome of this process will potentially have a direct impact on residential consumers and the way in which they are served by the Ontario natural gas utilities. Specifically, the Council intends to participate in the stakeholder conference scheduled for January 21, 2016, and provide written comments following the conclusion of the stakeholder conference.

The Council intends to ask for an order of costs for its participation in this Review. The Council is of the view that it is eligible for a cost award as it primarily represents the direct interests of consumers in relation to the services that are regulated by the Board. On August 18, 2015, the Council filed with the Board, pursuant to Rule 22.03 of the Ontario Energy Board’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, a document describing the Council, its mandate and objectives, membership, the constituency represented, and the types of activities the Council carries out. In addition, we provided a list of the individuals authorized to represent the Council in Board proceedings and consultation processes. The undersigned intends to represent the Council in this review.

For over a decade the Council has regularly participated in Board proceedings and consultation processes. In those processes the Board has determined the Council to be eligible for an award of costs. In the absence of an award of costs the Council would be unable to participate in this consultation process.

Copies of all correspondence should be sent to me, at 62 Hillside Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario, M4S 1T5. My telephone number is 416-322-7936 and my e-mail is jgirvan@uniserve.com.

Please let us know if any further information from the Council is required at this time.

Yours truly,

Julie E. Girvan

Julie E. Girvan

CC: Ken Whitehurst, Consumers Council of Canada