

Dear [LDC CEO]:

I want to provide an update on the price mitigation initiatives announced a few months ago by the Province and follow-up on my letter to you from September 23, 2016. I am pleased to tell you that that Bill 13, *Ontario Rebate for Electricity Consumers Act, 2016 (ORECA)*, which will provide an 8% rebate to five million residential, small business and farms across Ontario on their electricity bills, received Royal Assent on November 2, 2016 and comes into force on January 1, 2017.

We have also moved forward in drafting regulations to ensure that the 8% rebate, the expansion of the Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI) and the expansion of the Rural or Remote Protection Program (RRRP) are implemented by January 1, 2017. With respect to the 8% rebate, two new regulations under the ORECA provide the necessary regulatory framework to deliver the 8% rebate, including details on how LDCs will recover the rebate, passed on to consumers, as well as invoicing requirements. Please see the following links to review the regulations in detail:

Link to regulations [**Note: regulations will be posted online early next week. Once regulations go live we can provide links to the regulations**]

I want to thank you for the feedback you have provided the Ministry on this important initiative and your commitment in meeting the January 1, 2017 implementation timeline. As distributors you have an important role to play in Ontario's electricity sector and I know you will take this opportunity to communicate these important initiatives to your consumers and ensure they benefit from these rate mitigation measures.

While I recognize that some LDCs may face technical hurdles that will delay the implementation of the rebate program, I strongly encourage you to be in a position to offer the rebate to your customers in January 2017. As you know, customers across the province are looking for cost relief on their electricity bills and will be expecting to see the rebate on their bills early in the New Year.

If you have any questions please contact Michael Reid (Michael.Reid@ontario.ca) Assistant Deputy Minister of the Strategic Network and Agency Policy Division.

Again, I want to thank you for all your effort and commitment in ensuring that we have these initiatives in place for January 1, 2017.

Sincerely,

Glenn Thibeault
Minister of Energy