

FW: OESP reg amendments - consultation draft

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Date: Wed, 21 Jun 2017 12:06:27 -0400
Attachments: OESP reg amendments - 314-15 - consultation draft.docx (65.54 kB)

Draft OESP reg received.

From: Kaufman, Paul (TBS)
Sent: June 21, 2017 11:46 AM
To: Strang, James (TBS)
Cc: Smook, Nick (TBS)
Subject: RE: OESP reg amendments - consultation draft

James, I spoke to the lawyer at Energy who drafted the regs and she advises that this is the only OESP regulation and that it would accomplish what is described below.

Paul

Paul Kaufman
Counsel
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From: Strang, James (TBS)
Sent: June-21-17 11:18 AM
To: Kaufman, Paul (TBS)
Subject: RE: OESP reg amendments - consultation draft

Is this the extent of OESP regs?

We've gotten a couple of references to pending OESP regs....seem to suggest expecting more in regs.

From draft MCSS submission (going June 27 TB):

In the draft MCSS submission, it says the following about reg changes needed to implement the automatic enrolment process:

Amendments to the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998 were made to enable MCSS to implement this strategy. Corresponding amendments to the OESP regulation (O.Reg. 314/15) are currently being proposed which will ensure MCSS processes for administering Social Assistance programs are sufficient for OESP purposes, and to ensure that anyone who receives a utility bill and is deemed financially eligible for Social Assistance is also deemed eligible for OESP.

From draft Cabinet Office note (for LRC/Cabinet on June 27):

The ministry is proposing amendments to O. Reg. 314/15 under the OEBA to implement an approach to proclaim the relevant section of the OEBA into force on a future date to be named by proclamation. The proclamation OIC would be brought forward for approval at a later date. This would allow time for the funds accumulated in the IESO's OESP variance account to be more fully expended prior to the repeal and replacement of the relevant section. However, the MCSS data sharing provisions, along with ss. Amendments to s. 79, the new sections 79.3 and 79.4, would come into force at Royal Assent of the *Fair Hydro Act, 2017* on June 1, 2017.

The ministry is also proposing amendments to O. Reg. 314/15 made under the OEBA to include a "General Rule" that would enable Ministry of Community and Social Services staff [\[HT1\]](#) to sign up social assistance clients for OESP based upon Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) eligibility criteria, and matching this eligibility to the existing OESP household size / income credit table. The amendment is in support of efforts to increase enrollment by reducing application burdens on target populations and enable the development of automatic enrollment procedures for some populations already receiving other government programming.

From: Kaufman, Paul (TBS)
Sent: June 21, 2017 10:49 AM
To: Strang, James (TBS); Graham, Helen (TBS)
Cc: Smook, Nick (TBS); Skubel, Chris (TBS)
Subject: FW: OESP reg amendments - consultation draft

James, did you get this through other channels already? If not I'll send you the password.

Let us know if there is something you wanted to know about what is in the reg and we can review and talk to Energy legal to try to get you an answer. Same for the GA reg you sent earlier today.

Paul

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From: Letourneau, Amanda (MOI)
Sent: June-21-17 10:15 AM
To: Smook, Nick (TBS); Kaufman, Paul (TBS)
Cc: Rehob, James (ENERGY)
Subject: OESP reg amendments - consultation draft

Hi Nick & Paul,

I was asked to share a draft of the proposed amendments to the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) regulation (314/15) under the Ontario Energy Board Act. The proposed amendments are intended to facilitate the processing of OESP applications by MCSS on behalf of social assistance recipients and expand eligibility to all OW/ODSP recipients. We are hoping to finalize the regulation today so if you could let me know if you have any comments/questions by this afternoon it would be greatly appreciated. I'll send the password separately.

Thanks,

Amanda

Amanda Letourneau

Counsel

Legal Services Branch

Ministries of Energy / Economic Development & Growth /

Research, Innovation & Science / Infrastructure / Accessibility

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From: Strang, James (TBS) <James.Strang@ontario.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 9:14 AM

To: Chander, Sunita (ENERGY)

Cc: Malekzadeh, Afshin (TBS); Skubel, Chris (TBS); An, Tai (ENERGY); Gounden, Pratima (ENERGY)

Subject: FW: Consultation Draft - OESP?

Morning Sunita, is there a recent consultation draft of the OESP related regs going June 27? We've received one for GA refinancing.

Please confirm or correct that following June 27, there appears to be no further OESP related regs needed for implementation. There is a proclamation OIC pending for Fall 2017 to finalize transfer of OESP to government funding.

Also, is there any more info on urgency for MCSS to be hiring in August 2017? Is it just the March 1, 2017 minute reference to pursue additional measures to substantially increase OESP take-up? Has there been engagement with TBS' Centre of Excellence on OESP take-up (as indicated in the minute)?

Lastly, can Energy clarify how changes in Social Assistance eligibility impact OESP eligibility (there appears to a difference in timing of eligibility reviews)? How will that be managed (initially, and across the various systems once automated).

James

Energy: Would third party community providers also be able to do this, or only MCSS?