Agenda Item - Summary

Date of Meeting: April 11, 2017

Agenda Item: 4. Communication Plan on Accounting Changes

Nature of Issue:[1] IESO core business activity; enhance public confidence in the IESO and the sector to facilitate informed customer choice

Executive Summary: The IESO disclosed accounting changes in its 2016 Annual Report, which was published on April 3, 2017. One accounting change recognizes certain costs as regulated assets and the other sees the IESO now include market accounts on its financial statements. As part of the disclosure, the IESO included mention of the previously unrecognized actuarial losses and past service costs of $80,617,000.

The IESO will take a reactive communications approach since there appears to be no strategic advantage to proactively informing stakeholders, media or the general public, beyond regular reporting practices. Key messages and Q&As will guide IESO responses to potential inquiries from interested parties.

Significant Issues:[2] Inquiries and renewed attention around the unrecognized actuarial losses and past service costs of $80,617,000 may result in negative perceptions about the IESO. Also, the accounting changes being associated with the government`s Ontario Fair Hydro Plan may draw the IESO more into any discussion on this initiative.

Decision being Sought: No

Attachments: Memo – Comms Plan for Accounting Changes

Accounting Changes KMs and QAs

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1 Consider whether this agenda item supports the IESO's core business and/or a strategic goal. If selecting a strategic goal, consideration should also be given to the underlying strategic objective supported.

- IESO core business activity
- Deliver superior reliability performance in a changing environment
- Drive to a more efficient and sustainable marketplace
- Be recognized as a trusted advisor, informed by engagement
- Invest in our people and processes to meet the needs of the sector

2 Consider contentious issues and significant risks.

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