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Subject: FYI - Summary of OEB Strategic Blueprint 2017-2022
Attachments: OEB-Strategic-Blueprint-2017-2022.pdf

Earlier today, the OEB published its *Strategic Blueprint 2017-2022: Keeping Pace With an Evolving Energy Sector* (attached for your reference). Organized around four interconnected Strategic Challenges, the OEB's *Strategic Blueprint* sets out the OEB's commitment to modernize its approach to regulation over the next five years. The four Strategic Challenges include:

- **Transformation & Consumer Value:** How can the OEB help ensure that the evolution of the sector brings a stronger focus on demonstrable value for consumers?
- **Innovation & Consumer Choice:** How can the OEB incent and enable innovation that enhances consumer choice and control?
- **Consumer Confidence:** How can the OEB strengthen and sustain the confidence of consumers during a period of accelerating change?
- **Regulation "Fit for Purpose":** How should the OEB equip itself to meet the challenges of sector transformation?

Similar to the IESO's current 2016-2020 strategic plan, the OEB's *Strategic Blueprint* also specifies Strategic Goals (specific outcomes the OEB aims to achieve) and Strategic Objectives (the areas on which the OEB will focus to attain each of the Strategic Goals). The *OEB's Strategic Blueprint* 'at-a-glance' is provided below.

Strategic Challenges	Transformation & Consumer Value	Innovation & Consumer Choice	Consumer Confidence	Regulation Fit for Purpose
Strategic Goals	Utilities are delivering value to consumers in a changing environment	Utilities and other market participants are embracing innovation in their operations and the products they offer consumers	Consumers have confidence in the oversight of the sector and in their ability to make choices about products and services	The OEB has the resources and processes appropriate for the changing environment
Strategic Objectives	- The regulatory framework incents utilities to focus on long-term value for money and least-cost solutions - Regional and utility system planning reflect the continuing evolution of the sector - Utility infrastructure is optimized during the shift to a low carbon economy	- The regulatory framework incents and enables utilities to adopt innovative solutions - The design of network rates and commodity prices support the efficient use of infrastructure and enable greater customer choice and control - Our codes and rules reflect the needs of an evolving sector	- Consumers understand their rights and choices - Consumers are treated fairly by utilities and other service providers - Consumer perspectives are welcomed, respected and addressed in all regulatory processes - The benefits of innovation and sector transformation are realized by all types of consumers	- We have the expertise needed to address sector evolution - Our own organization and processes remain flexible and are adapted to changing needs - Our work is supported by effective engagement and collaboration

Of interest to the IESO, other areas of focus discussed in the OEB's *Strategic Blueprint* include:

- Remunerating utilities in ways that:
 - Strengthen their focus on long-term value and least-cost solutions, and
 - Encourage utilities to pursue cost-effective innovation in their operations and services
- Supporting regional planning and cost-sharing arrangements among utilities that offer long-term value for consumers
- Requiring utilities to reflect the impact of sector evolution, including cyber security, system resilience, and opportunities to "right size" their networks, in their system planning and operations
- Modernizing the OEB's rules, codes and other regulatory instruments to reflect the needs of an evolving sector
- Addressing any unwarranted regulatory barriers to innovation and new business models that benefit consumers
- Working with LDCs and other agencies and market participants to identify and understand emerging new energy-related "value streams" and service models
- Encouraging utilities and other industry participants to develop innovative approaches to the needs of low-income and indigenous communities

Many of the points made in the OEB's *Strategic Blueprint* aligns with the work the IESO is doing/ exploring when it comes to the Market Renewal Program, non-wires alternatives, distributed energy resources, planning, implementation of the LTEP, etc. Regulatory Affairs will continue to monitor and advise on OEB initiatives to ensure the IESO has the opportunity to influence the outcomes of these initiatives as appropriate.

Let me know if you have any questions on the above.

Cheers,
-Tam-

