Message

From: Terry Young [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=872FA3F6E61A48709B11458C0C3B6CA6-TERRY YOUNG]
Sent: 2017-11-29 12:46:55 PM
To: Warren.Lister@HydroOne.com
CC: raegan.bond@alectrautilities.com; Phil Bosco [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=52f6c5a9ac3440ee9353b42f5d743e58-Phil Bosco]; Graham Smith [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=f9ee8f9eb6cc4a1e8401368413e319af-Graham Smit]
Subject: RE: Affordability Fund Trust Meeting Next Week

Warren: Would 3:15 p.m. tomorrow work? Terry

From: Warren.Lister@HydroOne.com [mailto:Warren.Lister@HydroOne.com]
Sent: November 29, 2017 8:35 AM
To: Terry Young
Cc: raegan.bond@alectrautilities.com; Phil Bosco; Graham Smith
Subject: RE: Affordability Fund Trust Meeting Next Week

Thank you for the note Terry. We would like to take you up on your offer to meet with our Board to discuss eligible criteria in person. In fact we have a meeting tomorrow in Toronto from 1-4pm. Are you able to join us?

Warren

From: Terry Young [mailto:terry.young@ieso.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2017 8:10 AM
To: LISTER Warren
Cc: raegan.bond@alectrautilities.com; Phil Bosco; Graham Smith
Subject: RE: Affordability Fund Trust Meeting Next Week

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Warren:

Thank you for bringing this concern to my attention. We do have a mutual interest with ensuring customers in need across the province have access to programs which will reduce their electricity costs. To that end, since receiving the Direction from the Minister of Energy to assume responsibility for the delivery of the Home Assistance Program, the IESO has focused on developing changes to the delivery model, as well as changes to the program design to address known barriers to participation.

One of the changes identified by implementers and participants of this program is to address confusion around the eligibility threshold. The current version of the program uses LIM, an after-tax income value, which was implemented to align with the eligibility criteria for OESP at the beginning of the Conservation First Framework. Since LIM is no longer the eligibility criteria for OESP and since before tax income is more commonly used, participation will be simplified by reverting to LICO + 35% which was the approach used through the 2011 – 2014 framework and is currently used with the gas utilities' programs.

While many different methodologies can be used to set the eligibility criteria the focus of the Home Assistance Program, like the Affordability Fund Trust, is to simplify the experience for the customer. Through this change there will not be a material increase to the base of eligible participants and we continue to believe that the Affordability Fund Trust will serve a population that is very much in need.

We would be pleased to meet with you or the ATF Board to discuss the above or other concerns you may have. We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure we are coordinating the implementation of these programs.

Terry

From: Warren.Lister@HydroOne.com [mailto:Warren.Lister@HydroOne.com]
Sent: November 24, 2017 3:32 PM
To: Terry Young
Cc: raegan.bond@alectrautilities.com
Subject: Affordability Fund Trust Meeting Next Week
Importance: High

Hi Terry,

As Vice Chair of the Affordability Fund Trust, I would like to request a meeting with you to discuss an issue that has arisen and then to develop a creative solution.

When the Fair Hydro Plan was established, the Affordability Fund Trust (AFT) was created to target support for those Ontarians who were at or just above the poverty line and felt that their electricity affordability was burdensome. The AFT structured measures to provide persistent and meaningful benefits, similar to those already available under the Home Assistance Program (HAP). The AFT was also designed to specifically exclude HAP eligible applicants, to prevent potential double-dipping in both programs.

We have been in conversations with Stephen Lachan and Graham Smith at the IESO and understand that HAP eligibility will be changing to Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) + 35% based upon Gross Income. At this level, we believe that HAP eligibility will increase well beyond its intended low income beneficiary base. It will also overlap with the target population that the Affordability Fund Trust was established to support – those at or just above poverty level.

We have met with the IESO on a couple of occasions to discuss this matter, but wanted to bring you into the discussion, as we believe that we all have a mutual interest – to help those who are struggling to afford their electricity bills. We both have programs that are positioned and funded to help and we believe that there is a genuine need for both programs. That said, we remain concerned that at the proposed LICO + 35%, the AFT program would cease to be able to fulfill its mandate to support those at the poverty line and just above.

To that end, a fellow AFT Trustee (Raegan Bond) and I would like to meet with you early next week prior to our next AFT Board on Thursday, November 30th. We are hopeful one of the following time slots works on your end: Tuesday 8-9am or 4-5pm, Wednesday 8-10am or 1-2:30pm.

Thank you for your on-going cooperation.

Warren Lister