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MARY ANNE ALDRED
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER & GENERAL COUNSEL
CHEF DE L'EXPLOITATION & AVOCATE GÉNÉRALE

January 18, 2018

BY MAIL & EMAIL

Carolyn Calwell
Assistant Deputy Minister (Acting)
Ministry of Energy
77 Grenville Street, 6th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2C1

Dear Ms. Calwell:

Re: Ontario Energy Board's Draft 2018-2021 Business Plan and Budget

I am pleased to enclose an early draft of the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) Business Plan and Budget for 2018- 2021. The draft has been prepared in accordance with the *Agencies & Appointments Directive (ADD)* and the *Guide to Developing Business Plans for Provincial Agencies (Guide)*.

We acknowledge and appreciate the extension that was granted to us by the Minister of Energy in his letter of December 15, 2017, deferring the time for submission of the OEB's draft Business Plan to January 31, 2018 to coincide with the deadline for the filing of the OEB's LTEP Implementation Plan. As noted in the Minister's letter, there is considerable alignment between the three documents that will guide our work during the three-year planning period — the Business Plan, the LTEP Implementation Plan and the OEB's recently-published *Strategic Blueprint – Keeping Pace with an Evolving Energy Sector 2017-2022*. Given the advanced state of our work on the LTEP Implementation Plan, the OEB is able to provide you with an early draft of the Business Plan to allow additional time for your review.

This early draft provides an overview of the initiatives included in our Business Plan prior to reflecting all projects proposed in our LTEP Implementation Plan, and identifies where we expect that revisions or additions may be required to reflect the completed LTEP Implementation Plan. We will be completing our LTEP Implementation Plan over the next two weeks and will submit it to the Minister, as required, by January 31, 2018. At that time, we will also submit a final draft Business Plan that in all respects reflects the work contemplated in our LTEP Implementation Plan.

Our work to enhance project descriptions and adopt a greater focus on outcomes and metrics is in progress, and the final draft Business Plan will provide enhanced detail in relation to performance measures and targets as requested by the Minister.

A further addition to be reflected in the final draft of the Business Plan will be the inclusion of costs related to the Ontario Electricity Support Program. The OEB will make a provision for a further three years of program administration costs to be included in its budget beginning April 1, 2018, in keeping with our understanding that the transfer of administrative responsibility for the program may not occur in the near term.

In other respects, this early draft of the OEB's 2018-2021 Business Plan and Budget contain all of the components required by the *ADD* and *Guide*. It adopts the same format that we used in the 2017-2020 plan approved by the Minister earlier this year.

I would be pleased to discuss this early draft of the 2018-2021 Business Plan and Budget with you and your staff at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Mary Anne Aldred
Chief Operating Officer & General Counsel
Ontario Energy Board

CC: Ms. Rosemarie T. Leclair, Ontario Energy Board
Mr. Serge Imbrogno, Ministry of Energy

ATT: