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BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

October 12, 2021

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE RETAIL SETTLEMENT CODE

OEB FILE NO.: EB-2021-0183

**To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors
All Natural Gas Distributors
All Other Interested Parties**

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is giving notice under section 70.2 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act) of proposed amendments to the Retail Settlement Code (RSC) related to [Ontario Regulation 633/21](#) (Green Button Regulation) made under the *Electricity Act, 1998*.

A. Background

The Green Button Regulation will come into effect on November 1, 2021, and requires distributors¹ to implement Green Button by November 1, 2023, for the purposes of complying with section 25.35.8 of the *Electricity Act, 1998*.

Green Button is the data standard selected by the Ontario government for use in providing customers² access to their energy usage and account information, as well as the ability to authorize the sharing of that data with third parties.

¹ The obligation to make energy data available under section 25.35.8 of the *Electricity Act, 1998* applies to "energy providers", which is defined in the Green Button Regulation as including most electricity and natural gas distributors.

² Access to energy data is to be provided to account holders, defined in section 25.35.8 of the *Electricity Act, 1998* as a person or entity that has an account with an energy provider. For convenience of reference, this Notice refers to account holders as "customers."

Under the Green Button Regulation, distributors will be required to make energy usage and account holder information available in Green Button format to their customers and third parties authorized by their customers to have access to that information. The information to be made available is information identified in the NAESB ESPI standard³ that is collected by the distributor and made available to its customers in the normal course of its operations.

B. Proposed Amendments to the RSC

The OEB is proposing two amendments to the RSC to ensure that the RSC provisions relating to customer information clearly accommodate and distinguish Green Button from other processes that operate within the sector. The proposed amendments are as follows:

1) New Section 10.6.4 in the RSC:

10.6.4 Non-Application for Energy Data made available in accordance with NAESB ESPI standard

Section 10.6.3 does not apply to energy data that is made available by a distributor under section 25.35.8 of the Electricity Act and Ontario Regulation 633/21.

2) Amendment to opening paragraph of Chapter 11 of the RSC by adding the words in italics:

This chapter describes the rights of consumers and retailers to access current and historical valid meter information (i.e., verified meter usage data) and unverified meter data (i.e., raw meter usage data) and related information. This chapter also describes the obligations of distributors in providing access to such information. *For greater certainty, this chapter does not apply to energy data that is made available by a distributor under section 25.35.8 of the Electricity Act and Ontario Regulation 633/21.*

³ The standard titled "REQ.21 Energy Services Provider Interface Model Business Practices", version 3.3, published on January 30, 2020, by the North American Energy Standards Board.

These changes will enhance clarity, and the OEB does not anticipate any costs arising from these amendments to the RSC in and of themselves.

C. Invitation to Comment

To accommodate finalization of the RSC amendments on a timely basis, written comments on the proposed amendments must be filed no later than **October 26, 2021**.

All materials filed with the OEB must be submitted in a searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the OEB's web portal at <https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice>. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number, fax number and email address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guidelines found at <http://www.oeb.ca/OEB/Industry>. If the web portal is not available, parties may email their documents to registrar@oeb.ca.

Filings to the OEB must be received by the Registrar by 4:45 p.m. on the required date. They must quote file number EB-2021-0183 and include your name, address, telephone number and, where available, your email address and fax number. If the filing is from an individual consumer (i.e., not a lawyer representing a client, not a consultant representing a client or organization, not an individual in an organization that represents the interests of consumers or other groups, and not an individual from a regulated entity), before making the filing available for viewing at the OEB's offices or placing the filing on the OEB's website, the OEB will remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the written comment (i.e., the address, phone number, and email address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the filing will be available for viewing at the OEB's offices and will be placed on the OEB's website.

This Notice and all written comments received by the OEB in response to it will be posted on the webpage for this consultation.

D. Closing

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact Eamon O’Riordan at Eamon.ORiordan@oeb.ca. The OEB’s toll-free number is 1-888-632-6273.

DATED OCTOBER 12, 2021

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD