

Sector Briefing Note

To: Stakeholder Advisory Committee
From: John Witjes – Public Service Consumers
Date: June 3, 2009
Subject: **GREEN ENERGY ACT**

Item for table discussion

Each Stakeholder Advisory Committee member has been asked to provide this briefing note to address two questions:

a. How do you see the Green Energy Act impacting your sector?

The Green Energy Act presents opportunities for the Public Service Sector and our members are steadily increasing their awareness of the potential benefits. We are looking forward to seeing the details of the Act as information around supporting regulations becomes available.

The following points are of particular interest to our members

- The Act promotes and facilitates the development of renewable energies which, in the past, may have had marginal economics and substantial approvals processes to overcome. Improved support on these two issues may encourage members to pursue renewable energies more vigorously. The sector is particularly encouraged by the economic potential associated with renewable energy and the Act's promise of an accelerated connection approval process and associated infrastructure accommodation.
- The Act may allow municipalities to own electricity generation facilities that do not exceed 10 MW. This may be of interest to some of our members in the local promotion of renewable energy and also for economic benefit.
- The introduction of the Smart Grid will enable use of renewable energy and also increase the potential for our members to exercise demand response opportunities to help reduce costs and provincial demand.
- Within the legislation, public agencies will be asked to develop energy conservation and demand management plans and to update these on a regular basis. Within these plans the sector will be asked to establish and meet energy targets and this will raise the profile of energy management beyond existing levels for our members.

b. Are there specific actions the IESO should consider to assist your sector in Green Energy Act implementation?

- The Act will mandate that the IESO meet specific regulatory deadlines for connection assessments and regular reporting. Depending on the 'uptake' and interest in renewable energies within the province and the ability of various provincial agencies to communicate and cooperate effectively, this may put strain on current resources levels within the IESO.
- The IESO could help with implementation by providing increased awareness of the Act and the various sector implications. This could be done in a number of ways including more visible reference to the Green Energy Act on the IESO website.