

Public Service Sector responses:

Discussion Paper: Stakeholder Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

We would support a single Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) as a focal point for stakeholder engagement for the OESO. The committee would provide oversight for the implementation of standing subcommittees or working groups as required that would in turn deal with specific and focussed issues requiring a more detailed stakeholder process. We would also suggest that, given the historical success of the SAC, the Committee continue to provide global scope input and strategic influence in the stakeholder process for the OESO.

The Public Service Sector would not recommend any significant changes in the composition or mandate of the SAC. Any intent towards increasing the number of sectors represented should be vetted and approved by the OESO Board per the current practise. The addition of too many sectors, to the current complement within the SAC could potentially make the SAC less effective.

Our recommendation is to keep the number of meetings, frequency of meetings, and the division of planning verses public meetings similar to the current format yet remaining flexible to be adjusted as required. These meeting specifics have changed over time to reflect the needs of the stakeholder process.

The 3 year SAC term of service is appropriate with provision for a second 3 year term. The issues discussed at SAC are complex and require a number of years for SAC members to become comfortable with. Shorter terms do not allow for this.

The overall scope and terms of reference should remain similar to the existing SAC with provision for the inclusion of commentary and discussion of the core and key business issues currently handled by the OPA. For example the Public Service Sector is active in the Demand Response area and would welcome the opportunity to help develop and shape demand response programs which would benefit the province. Specifically we engage in DR3, Peak Shaving, Managing Global Adjustment as a Class A Consumer under the 5 peak billing model, Load Shifting, Load Shedding etc. Our sector feels that there are many more opportunities to improve Demand Response for Ontario and could do so via the stakeholder process.

As current Chair, I would suggest the annual election of Chair and Vice Chair by the SAC is an appropriate process to continue. The current model requires final approval of the candidates by the Board which is also appropriate.

Discussion Paper: Publication of Data and Information

The Public Service Sector uses the currently available IESO information for

- Budgeting utilities
- Demand response
- Long term projections
- Planning
- Managing Global Adjustment
- And a host of other items

We would suggest that the OESO work towards consolidation of the IESO and OPA information onto a single website. The stakeholder process would be an appropriate vehicle to achieve this much in the way that the Market Information Group is reviewing relevant and required IESO published market data currently. The OESO could adopt a similar process that would review and evaluate the stakeholder benefits currently being realized by those using OPA data and published reports. The stakeholder process could also identify additional information that may not currently be being produced for various sectors.

Discussion Paper: Separation of Procurement and Market Operations

Our sector received few comments on this discussion paper. Understanding of these issues does require a level of sophistication and knowledge that many of our members are not privy to. The comments which were received were unanimous on the issue of transparency. Members feel that transparency should be a primary goal in the development and implementation of any separation mechanism between procurement and market operations within the OESO.

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Public Service Sector