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September 26, 2017

The Public Utilities Board of Manitoba  
Attention: Mr. Darren Christle  
Executive Director and Secretary  
400-330 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0C4

Dear Mr. Christle:

**Re: Manitoba Hydro GRA 2017/18 & 2018/19 –  
Revised Consumers Coalition Budget for Dr. Gotham**

The purpose of this letter is to provide a revised budget for Dr. Doug Gotham, the advisor retained by the Coalition to conduct work on load forecasting and export price forecasts.

In the letter from the Public Utilities Board dated 25 August 2017, the Board indicated that:

The Board is currently discussing with the Consumers Coalition possible efficiencies that may be achieved in the budget for Dr. Doug Gotham as a result of the Board's possible retention of an Independent Expert Consultant on load forecast and export pricing issues. The Board's decision on the budget for Dr. Gotham is therefore deferred until there can be confirmation in this regard.

The Coalition can advise that it has met with Board counsel regarding Dr. Gotham's scope of work. Given that the Board has retained Daymark as an Independent Expert Consultant on load and export forecasting issues, as well as challenges relating to the claims of confidentiality, the Coalition will not be calling upon Dr. Gotham to provide expert evidence.

The Coalition still intends to retain Dr. Gotham to provide analysis and recommendations to the Coalition relating to the reasonableness of the methodologies used for load forecasting and export price forecasting.

Load forecasting and export price forecasting are core to our clients' interests in this proceeding as they can materially impact the Corporation's financial forecasts, and therefore rate-setting. In our respectful view, the proposed revised budget for Dr. Gotham is reasonable in order to assist the Coalition to meaningfully participate in this proceeding.

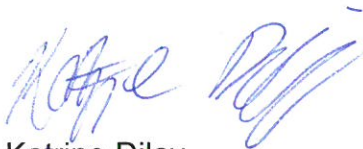
The Coalition notes the meaningful contribution of Dr. Gotham in the Need For And Alternatives To process where he focused on Hydro's methodological challenges in load forecasting and export price forecasting and recommended evidence-based approaches to improving methodologies. Dr. Gotham is considered a leading expert in North America on issues relating to load and the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) marketplace. The Coalition believes that retaining Dr. Gotham is a cost-effective way to bring value added to this process on issues of load forecasting and export price forecasting.

In its budget dated 14 July 2017, the Coalition included a range for Dr. Gotham, which was premised on whether he would file evidence and testify as an expert witness. Given that Dr. Gotham will not be providing expert evidence, the Coalition is filing with this letter a revised budget for his work in this proceeding. We have included both a blackline version, showing the changes made to the original budget for Dr. Gotham, along with a clean version.

You will note that the revised budget for Dr. Gotham is toward the low end of the original budget submitted on 14 July 2017. While the original budget contemplated a range of \$13,497.00- \$43,190.40 CAD, the revised budget is for \$16,196.40 CAD (or \$12,000.00 US). Approval of this budget for Dr. Gotham will assist the Coalition in assessing the reasonableness of the methodologies used by the Corporation for load forecasting and export price forecasting.

We trust this is satisfactory. Should you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (204) 985 5220 or Mr. Byron Williams at (204) 985 8533.

Yours truly,



Katrine Dilay  
Attorney  
KD/bw/vs

cc: Consumers Coalition  
Board Counsel  
Manitoba Hydro