



LETTER No. L-44-08

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Via E-MAIL

September 12, 2008

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Dear Sirs:

Re: Return on Common Equity for a Low-Risk Benchmark Utility
Change of Source Data Used in Calculation

This letter is to advise you that the Commission is considering changing the source of data used to calculate the allowable rate of return on common equity for a low-risk benchmark utility (the "ROE"). The ROE calculation requires data on the yield spread between 10- and 30-year bonds. Historically, these data have been obtained from figures published in the *Financial Post*.

After an initial review, the Commission believes that the data may be more efficiently obtained from the Bank of Canada website. Due to a decrease in the level of detail in the data reported in the *Financial Post* in recent years, the Commission also believes that using the Bank of Canada figures may result in greater data transparency and accuracy.

The Commission invites your comments on the proposal. As the trading days during October will be those of consequence to the 2009 ROE calculations, please submit your comments to the Commission by Tuesday, September 23, 2008.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Erica M. Hamilton

TR/cms

cc: Mr. R. Brian Wallace
Bull, Housser & Tupper

Mr. Jim Quail
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