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June 29, 2016

Mr. Darren Christle
Secretary and Executive Director
Manitoba Public Utilities Board
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0C4

Dear Mr. Christle:

Re: Cost of Service Proceeding

The Consumers Coalition appreciated the opportunity to make submissions to the Public Utilities Board (PUB) regarding the oral evidence stage of the Cost of Service Process.

The Coalition chose not to offer comments regarding oral closing submissions because it assumed the PUB would make that determination after reviewing the outcome of the oral evidence proceeding in early September 2016.

The Consumers Coalition has a strong preference that oral submissions be allowed. It believes that this will be especially important to allow legal counsel to weave together strands of evidence that were adduced in cross examination and which might be lost in lengthy written argument. Given the desire of the PUB for written argument, the Coalition believes that an oral argument highlighting the key elements of parties' submission could be made with a relatively strict time limit (30 minutes to 1 hour).

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Yours truly,

**BYRON WILLIAMS
DIRECTOR**

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