Q. (Re: TIR-PUB-NLH-20) The RFI requests monthly load data for each Industrial Customer in 2014, 2015 and 2016. The response is redacted, but it is understood that the information was provided to the Board. Further, Hydro cited confidentiality concerns for not providing this information in its response to CA-NLH-282. The Consumer Advocate believes that it is necessary for all parties to have this information in order to conduct a proper review of the Application. Please indicate what the parties need to do in order to respond to confidentiality concerns and gain access to this information.

Α.

The matter of requiring the disclosure, limited or controlled or otherwise, of confidential information is a matter within the Board's discretion. As such, Hydro can only suggest or propose for the Board's consideration a process to be followed in this regard.

Hydro can advise that in Ontario there is a well-established process and a form of undertaking to the Ontario Energy Board that a party seeking access to confidential material must follow. In short, the first step is to request confidential treatment from the Board. If confidential treatment is granted, to gain access, a requesting party must execute an undertaking to hold the materials in confidence and not disclose the materials to any party that is not subject to the same undertaking and to return or destroy the materials at the end of the proceeding. If a party in the proceeding wishes to refer to the confidential materials at the hearing, then the hearing goes into an in-camera (non-public) phase for the time required to deal with the confidential materials. Any argument that contains reference to confidential filing is filed in a redacted format for public viewing and a non-redacted version which is sent to the Board and those parties that execute the undertaking.