Dear FIT/microFIT contract holder,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that you are made aware of the Renewable Energy Approval fees before they take effect on March 15, 2011.

Only entities, companies or individuals, who want to engage in a renewable energy generation project, as defined in Section 47.3 of the Environmental Protection Act are subject to the Renewable Energy Approvals and associated fees.

The Renewable Energy Approval fees will apply to all projects that require a Renewable Energy Approval. For the most part this would affect FIT contract holders, but there may be instances where a MicroFIT contract holder requires a Renewable Energy Approval, and therefore would also be subject to a REA fee. For example, Class 2 wind between 3 and 10KW require a Renewable Energy Approval. As well, some bio-energy projects under 10KW may need a REA depending on the type and location of the facility as per Regulation 359/09. To confirm if a Renewable Energy Approval is required for the project, please refer to the regulation (http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2009/elaws_src_regs_r09359_e.htm) or the MOE REA guide (http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/business/green-energy/docs/REP_Guide.pdf).

Renewable Energy Approval fees represent the cost to the Ministry to review a Renewable Energy Approval application. The fees are based on staff time required to review the application for completeness and conduct a technical review associated with each class of Renewable Energy Approval. Renewable Energy Approval fees have considered project costs for small-scale developers and have attempted to balance cost-recovery with the development of the renewable energy sector, by creating fee classes and capping Renewable Energy Approval fees for small and farm-based facilities.

For further information, please see the Environmental Registry Information Notice: Renewable Energy Approval (REA) Fees, which can be found here: http://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/ (EBR Number 011-1203)

Sincerely,

Marcia Wallace, Director
Modernization of Approvals
Ministry of the Environment