



NOTICE TO MARKET PARTICIPANTS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Date: March 6, 2012

Re: Supply Cushion Data and Technical Working Group

Since 2010 the MSA has been utilizing a supply cushion metric to identify events of interest in order to focus its monitoring efforts. The MSA has recently received a request from a stakeholder to obtain the supply cushion estimates with a view to evaluating the robustness of the approach.

Consequently, the MSA is releasing the [supply cushion estimates](#) from February 1, 2008 to December 31, 2011 along with some basic descriptive statistics. The derivation of the supply cushion metric is described in detail in the MSA [Q3 2010 report](#) and has been reported on in subsequent quarters.

The MSA has been conducting some internal work on the robustness of the supply cushion metric with a view to sharing this with stakeholders in the coming weeks. Given the interest already expressed the MSA is considering setting up a technical working group. The working group would also be an opportunity for the MSA to share some of its work on an improved methodology and exchange ideas with stakeholders. Stakeholders wishing to participate in the working group should contact matt.ayres@albertamsa.ca by **March 16, 2012**. The MSA anticipates the group would meet weekly over a short period, perhaps 4-6 weeks. Given the nature of the work participants must have a strong background in statistics or econometrics and be willing to supply resources between meetings to conduct analysis.

Regards,

/s/ Matt Ayres

Chief Economist