M.O. 2021-13

Order P-30.1.1-2021-13 of the Minister of Finance dated 8 December 2021

Act respecting the Financial Assistance for Investment Program and establishing the Special Contracts and Financial Assistance for Investment Fund (chapter P-30.1.1)

CONCERNING a modification of the conditions, terms, and characteristics of the Financial Assistance for Investment Program applicable to enterprises billed at Rate L and enterprises that are large power consumers served by off-grid systems

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE,

CONSIDERING the second paragraph of section 3 of the Act respecting the Financial Assistance for Investment Program and establishing the Special Contracts and Financial Assistance for Investment Fund (chapter P-30.1.1), which provides that the amount of financial assistance may not exceed 20% of the electricity costs for each billing period during the maximum period of application of the financial assistance, determined by ministerial order;

CONSIDERING the third paragraph of section 3 of the Act, which provides that the manner in which the financial assistance is applied is to be determined by ministerial order; CONSIDERING section 6 of the Act, which provides that to receive financial assistance, an enterprise must send an application to the Minister before the date and in the manner determined by ministerial order;

CONSIDERING the second paragraph of section 8 of the Act, which provides that if a decision grants or modifies financial assistance, it is also notified to the electric power distributor, which must specify, in the manner determined by ministerial order, the amount of the assistance on the electricity bill it issues to the enterprise;

CONSIDERING the conditions, terms, and characteristics of the Financial Assistance for Investment Program established by Order P-30.1.1-2021-01 of March 16, 2021 (2021, *G.O.* 2, 1184);

CONSIDERING section 7 of this Order, which provides that the financial assistance granted to a project with eligible costs of less than \$250 million is payable from the date provided for in section 11 until the expiry of a period of 48 consecutive months;

CONSIDERING section 12 of the Act respecting the Financial Assistance for Investment Program and establishing the Special Contracts and Financial Assistance for Investment Fund, which provides that the ministerial orders provided for by this Act are not subject to the publication requirement set out in section 8 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1) or to the date of coming into force set out in section 17 of that Act; WHEREAS because of the health emergency, several enterprises participating in the Financial Assistance for Investment Program have had to slow down their activities and delay the realization of the investments planned in respect of an eligible project with the result that it is impossible to realize all the investments before the end of the period of application of the financial assistance of 48 months;

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend under certain conditions and for certain enterprises the period of application of the financial assistance;

ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The conditions, terms, and characteristics of the Financial Assistance for Investment Program established by Order P-30.1.1-2021-01 of March 16, 2021 (2021, *G.O.* 2, 1184) are modified by the insertion after section 19 of the following:

"**19.1.** Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision, an enterprise whose first full audited report on the capitalized costs of a project that includes allowable costs of less than \$250 million was submitted to the Minister before November 25, 2021 can obtain that the financial assistance to which it is entitled be spread over 48 monthly billings within a period of 72 months starting from the date stipulated in section 11 if it submits to the Minister by December 31, 2022 a request to stagger the payment of the financial assistance showing to the satisfaction of the Minister that the health emergency delayed the realization of this investment project."

2. This Order comes into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

8 December 2021

Minister of Finance,

ERIC GIRARD