



March 6, 2014

**BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING**

**To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors  
All Licensed Electricity Transmitters  
Energy Probe Research Foundation  
Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition  
London Property Management Association  
All Other Interested Parties**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards  
Review of Cost Allocation Policy for Unmetered Loads  
Board File No.: EB-2012-0383**

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## **Background**

On October 1, 2012, the Board issued a letter initiating a consultation process to review the cost allocation policy for unmetered loads. The Report of the Board, [Review of the Board's Cost Allocation Policy for Unmetered Loads](#), was issued on December 22, 2013.

In the October 1, 2012 letter, the Board indicated that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to their participation in the consultation activities described above.

In accordance with the [Decision on Interventions and Cost Award Eligibility and Order](#) (the "Cost Eligibility Decision") issued by the Board on November 15, 2012, the following stakeholders (collectively, the "Eligible Participants") have been determined to be eligible for an awarded of cost in relation to this consultation:

- The London Property Management Association (comment process only);
- Energy Probe Research Foundation (working group and comment process); and
- The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (working group and comment process).

Eligible activities for this consultation included attendance at, preparation, and reporting for working group meetings, and comments on the [Consultant's Report](#) prepared by Elenchus Research Associates. The Board communicated the maximum number of hours for activities eligible for cost awards in its [May 17, 2013 letter](#) which accompanied the Consultant's Report. The maximum number of hours and eligible activities for the consultation are repeated at Appendix A to this notice.

The Board indicated in its October 1, 2012 letter that costs to be awarded through this consultation will be recovered 100% from all licensed electricity distributors and transmitters based on their respective distribution and transmission revenues. In consideration of the fact that there were no transmitter representatives in the consultation, and the fact that the consultation really centered on distribution systems, the Board has determined that costs awarded will be recovered 100% from all licensed distributors based on their respective distribution revenues.

### Notice of Hearing

The Board is initiating this hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards that will be made in accordance with section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to eligible consultation activities that have occurred since October 1, 2012 in relation to Review of Cost Allocation Policy for Unmetered Loads. The file number for this hearing is **EB-2012-0383**.

The Board intends to proceed by way of written hearing unless a party can satisfy the Board that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If a party wants to object to a written hearing, the objection must be received by the Board no later than **7 days** after the date of this Notice.

Assuming that the Board does not receive any objections to a written hearing, the hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. Eligible Participants shall submit their cost claims by **March 20, 2014**. The cost claim must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on each rate-regulated licensed electricity distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.
2. Electricity distributors will have until **March 27, 2014** to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. The objection must be filed with the Board and one copy must be served on the Eligible Participant against whose claim the objection is being made.

3. An Eligible Participant whose cost claim was objected to will have until **April 3, 2014** to make a reply submission as to why its cost claim should be allowed. A copy of the reply submission must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on the objecting electricity distributor.
4. The Board will then issue its decision on cost awards. The Board's costs may also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

Service of cost claims, objections and reply submissions on other parties may be effected by courier, registered mail, facsimile or e-mail.

The Board will use the process set out in section 12 of its Practice Direction on Cost Awards to implement the payment of the cost awards. Therefore, the Board will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process. For more information on this process, please see the Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards and the October 27, 2005 letter regarding the rationale for the Board acting as a clearing house for the cost award payments. These documents can be found on the Board's website at [www.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca) on the "Rules, Guidelines and Forms" webpage.

Parties must file two paper copies and one electronic copy of their filings with the Board Secretary by **4:45 pm** on the required dates. The Board requests that parties make every effort to provide electronic copies of their filings in searchable / unrestricted Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, and to submit their filings through the Board's web portal at <https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/>. A user ID is required to submit documents through the Board's web portal. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the "e-filings services" webpage on the Board's website at [www.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca), and fill out a user ID password request. Additionally, interested parties are requested to follow the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the document entitled "RESS Document Preparation – A Quick Guide" also found on the e-filing services webpage. If the Board's web portal is not available, electronic copies of filings may be filed by e-mail at [boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca](mailto:boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca). Persons that do not have internet access should provide a CD containing their filing in PDF format.

All filings must quote file number **EB-2012-0383** and include your name, address telephone number and, where available, your e-mail address and fax number.

All filings in this hearing (i.e., cost claims, objections, or replies), will form part of the public record. Copies of the filings will be available for inspection at the Board's office during normal business hours and the filings may be placed on the Board's website.

If the filing is from a private citizen (i.e., not a lawyer representing a client, not a consultant representing a client or organization, not an individual in an organization that represents the interests of consumers or other groups, and not an individual from a regulated entity), before making the filing available for viewing at the Board's offices or placing the filing on the Board's website, the Board will remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the filing (i.e., the address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the filing may be available for viewing at the Board's offices and will be placed on the Board's website.

**If you do not file a letter objecting to a written hearing or do not participate in the hearing by filing written materials in accordance with this Notice, the Board may proceed without your participation and you will not be entitled to further notice in this proceeding.**

Yours truly,

*Original Signed By*

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary

Attachment

**Appendix A: Consultation Activities for Which Cost Claims may be Filed and Maximum Number of Hours**

<b>Activity Eligible for Cost Awards</b>	<b>Maximum Number of Hours</b>
Written Comments on the Consultant's Report	10 hours
Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the working group sessions held on December 10, 2012, January 18, 2013, and April 9, 2013.	10 hours per day