



EB-2014-0198

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*,
S.O, 1998, c. 15, Schedule B;

AND IN THE MATTER OF cost award eligibility for
interested parties in the policy review of electricity and
natural gas distributors' residential customer billing
practices and performance.

BEFORE: Marika Hare
Presiding Member

Cathy Spoel
Board Member

DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY
October 6, 2014

On September 18, 2014, the Board posted a [Draft Report of the Board](#) (the "draft Report") which provides an analysis of the billing practices, including estimated billing, of the natural gas and electricity distributors and proposes policies in these areas for stakeholder comment. In the [letter](#) accompanying the release of the draft Report, 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 the provision of comments on the draft Report to a maximum of 10 hours. The letter also stated that costs awarded will be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors based on their respective distribution revenues. As the focus of this initiative has become electricity distribution billing practices, and not natural gas and electricity, costs will be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors.

The Board received requests for cost eligibility from the following stakeholders:

- [Consumers Council of Canada](#); and
- [London Property Management Association](#).

Electricity distributors were given an opportunity to file any objections they might have in relation to the eligibility of the above-noted participants for an award of costs. The Board did not receive any objections from distributors.

Based on the criteria set out in section 3 of the Board's *Practice and Direction on Cost Awards*, the Board has determined that the above stakeholders are eligible for an award of costs.

ISSUED at Toronto, October 6, 2014

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary