



**EB-2014-0227**

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

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** cost awards in relation to the  
Low-Income Assistance Strategy Review.

**BEFORE:** Marika Hare  
Presiding Member

Cathy Spoel  
Member

### **DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS**

On [October 23, 2014](#), the Board issued a letter (the “Letter”) regarding its Low-Income Assistance Strategy Review initiative. The Letter invited interested stakeholders to provide input on the development of an ongoing ratepayer-funded bill assistance program for low-income electricity customers, as one facet of a broader review of strategies that the Board might employ, directly or indirectly, to assist those consumers.

The Letter stated that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the “Act”) in relation to their participation in eligible activities forming part of the Board’s Low-Income Assistance Strategy Review initiative, and that any costs awarded will be recovered from all rate-regulated electricity distributors and transmitters. In its October 31, 2014 [Decision on Cost Eligibility](#), the Board confirmed that costs awarded will be apportioned between distributors and transmitters as follows: (i) 75% will be apportioned to distributors and 25% will be apportioned to transmitters; and (ii) within each class, costs will be apportioned based on distribution or transmission revenues, as applicable.

In accordance with the Board's October 31, 2014 [Decision on Cost Eligibility](#) and its November 25, 2014 [Supplemental Decision on Cost Eligibility](#), the following participants were found eligible for an award of costs in relation to this initiative: Consumers Council of Canada ("CCC"); Energy Probe Research Foundation ("Energy Probe"); Housing Help Association of Ontario; Low Income Energy Network ("LIEN"); Salvation Army Centre of Hope; and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition ("VECC") (collectively, the "Eligible Participants").

In accordance with the Letter, cost awards are available for: (i) preparing written comments on Board staff's questions, up to a maximum of 10 hours; and (ii) preparation for, attendance at and reporting on the stakeholder forum held on November 6, 2014, to a maximum of 15 hours.

On February 4, 2015, the Board issued a Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards in relation to this consultation process (the "Notice"). CCC, Energy Probe, LIEN and VECC submitted cost claims within the deadline established for that purpose in the Notice. No objections to these filed cost claims were received.

### **Board Findings on the Cost Claims of the Eligible Participants**

The Board has reviewed the cost claims and finds that the claims filed by the Eligible Participants are within the approved overall limits set by the Board and that all of the Eligible Participants are entitled to 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this consultation process. By way of exception, LIEN's cost claim has been adjusted to align with the provisions of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* (the "Practice Direction") in relation to disbursements.

The amount payable by each individual distributor and transmitter in relation to costs awarded to each Eligible Participant is listed in Appendix A.

### **Process for Paying the Cost Awards**

The Board will use the process set out in section 12 of the Practice Direction to implement the payment of the cost awards. Therefore, the Board will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards relating to this consultation process. Invoices will be issued to distributors and transmitters at the same time as invoices for cost assessments made under section 26 of the Act. The practice of the Board is to issue to

each distributor and transmitter one invoice that covers all cost awards payable by the distributor and transmitter for the relevant period. As a result, the invoice may cover cost awards payable in relation to a number of consultations, including this one.

**THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:**

1. The amounts to be paid by each individual electricity distributor and transmitter in relation to the costs awarded to each Eligible Participant are as set out in Appendix A to this Decision and Order.
2. The individual electricity distributors and transmitters listed in Appendix A to this Decision and Order shall pay the costs awarded to each of the Eligible Participants as set out in Appendix A.
3. The individual electricity distributors and transmitters listed in Appendix A to this Decision and Order shall pay the Board's costs of, and incidental to, this consultation.
4. Payment of cost awards and of the Board's costs referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 shall be made to the Ontario Energy Board in accordance with the invoice issued to the individual distributor and transmitter, and shall be due at the same time as cost assessments under section 26 of the Act are due.

**DATED** at Toronto, March 20, 2015

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original Signed By*

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary

Appendix A  
to the Board's Decision and Order on Cost Awards

**EB-2014-0227**  
**Low-Income Assistance Strategy Review**

	<b>Electricity Distributor</b>	<b>CCC</b>	<b>Energy Probe</b>	<b>LIEN</b>	<b>VECC</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	Algoma Power Inc.	\$ 22.70	\$ 27.28	\$ 0.73	\$ 19.40	\$ 70.10
2	Atikokan Hydro Inc.	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.63	\$ 0.04	\$ 1.16	\$ 4.20
3	Attawapiskat Power Corp.	\$ 1.19	\$ 1.43	\$ 0.04	\$ 1.01	\$ 3.67
4	Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation	\$ 24.42	\$ 29.35	\$ 0.78	\$ 20.88	\$ 75.43
5	Brant County Power Inc.	\$ 6.98	\$ 8.39	\$ 0.22	\$ 5.97	\$ 21.57
6	Brantford Power Inc.	\$ 16.54	\$ 19.88	\$ 0.53	\$ 14.14	\$ 51.09
7	Burlington Hydro Inc.	\$ 39.95	\$ 48.02	\$ 1.28	\$ 34.15	\$ 123.41
8	Cambridge and North Dumfries Hydro Inc.	\$ 28.76	\$ 34.56	\$ 0.92	\$ 24.58	\$ 88.82
9	Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	\$ 19.13	\$ 23.00	\$ 0.61	\$ 16.36	\$ 59.10
10	Centre Wellington Hydro Ltd.	\$ 3.38	\$ 4.07	\$ 0.11	\$ 2.89	\$ 10.45
11	Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation	\$ 0.79	\$ 0.94	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.67	\$ 2.43
12	COLLUS PowerStream Corp.	\$ 8.01	\$ 9.63	\$ 0.26	\$ 6.85	\$ 24.75
13	Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc.	\$ 0.93	\$ 1.12	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.79	\$ 2.87
14	Cornwall Street Railway Light and Power Company Ltd.	\$ 13.91	\$ 16.71	\$ 0.44	\$ 11.89	\$ 42.95
15	E.L.K. Energy Inc.	\$ 4.24	\$ 5.09	\$ 0.14	\$ 3.62	\$ 13.09
16	Enersource Hydro Mississauga Inc.	\$ 128.86	\$ 154.88	\$ 4.12	\$ 110.15	\$ 398.00
17	Entegrus Powerlines Inc.	\$ 20.76	\$ 24.95	\$ 0.66	\$ 17.74	\$ 64.11
18	EnWin Utilities Ltd.	\$ 56.55	\$ 67.97	\$ 1.81	\$ 48.34	\$ 174.67
19	Erie Thames Powerlines Corporation	\$ 9.27	\$ 11.14	\$ 0.30	\$ 7.92	\$ 28.63
20	Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation	\$ 1.76	\$ 2.11	\$ 0.06	\$ 1.50	\$ 5.43
21	Essex Powerlines Corporation	\$ 12.86	\$ 15.45	\$ 0.41	\$ 10.99	\$ 39.71
22	Festival Hydro Inc.	\$ 12.71	\$ 15.28	\$ 0.41	\$ 10.86	\$ 39.25
23	Fort Albany Power Corporation	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.96	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.68	\$ 2.46
24	Fort Frances Power Corporation	\$ 2.01	\$ 2.42	\$ 0.06	\$ 1.72	\$ 6.22
25	Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.	\$ 27.74	\$ 33.35	\$ 0.89	\$ 23.72	\$ 85.69
26	Grimsby Power Inc.	\$ 5.59	\$ 6.72	\$ 0.18	\$ 4.78	\$ 17.26
27	Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc.	\$ 29.61	\$ 35.58	\$ 0.95	\$ 25.31	\$ 91.44

28	Haldimand County Hydro Inc.	\$ 16.39	\$ 19.70	\$ 0.52	\$ 14.01	\$ 50.63
29	Halton Hills Hydro Inc.	\$ 12.18	\$ 14.64	\$ 0.39	\$ 10.41	\$ 37.62
30	Horizon Utilities Corporation	\$ 121.45	\$ 145.98	\$ 3.89	\$ 103.82	\$ 375.14
31	Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.	\$ 1.94	\$ 2.33	\$ 0.06	\$ 1.66	\$ 5.99
32	Hearst Power Distribution Company Limited	\$ 1.33	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.04	\$ 1.14	\$ 4.12
33	Hydro 2000 Inc.	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.61	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.44	\$ 1.58
34	Hydro One Brampton Networks Inc.	\$ 68.16	\$ 81.92	\$ 2.18	\$ 58.26	\$ 210.53
35	Hydro One Networks Inc.	\$ 1,388.38	\$ 1,668.74	\$ 44.43	\$ 1,186.79	\$ 4,288.34
36	Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.	\$ 24.73	\$ 29.72	\$ 0.79	\$ 21.14	\$ 76.37
37	Hydro Ottawa Limited	\$ 172.15	\$ 206.92	\$ 5.51	\$ 147.16	\$ 531.74
38	InnPower Corp.	\$ 9.97	\$ 11.99	\$ 0.32	\$ 8.53	\$ 30.81
39	Kashechewan Power Corp.	\$ 1.08	\$ 1.30	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.93	\$ 3.35
40	Kenora Hydro Electric Corporation Ltd.	\$ 3.30	\$ 3.96	\$ 0.11	\$ 2.82	\$ 10.19
41	Kingston Hydro Corporation	\$ 12.77	\$ 15.35	\$ 0.41	\$ 10.92	\$ 39.45
42	Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc.	\$ 48.72	\$ 58.55	\$ 1.56	\$ 41.64	\$ 150.47
43	Lakefront Utilities Inc.	\$ 5.94	\$ 7.14	\$ 0.19	\$ 5.08	\$ 18.35
44	Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.	\$ 9.28	\$ 11.15	\$ 0.30	\$ 7.93	\$ 28.65
45	London Hydro Inc.	\$ 71.29	\$ 85.68	\$ 2.28	\$ 60.93	\$ 220.18
46	Midland Power Utility Corporation	\$ 4.58	\$ 5.50	\$ 0.15	\$ 3.91	\$ 14.14
47	Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.	\$ 15.98	\$ 19.20	\$ 0.51	\$ 13.66	\$ 49.35
48	Newmarket - Tay Power Distribution Ltd.	\$ 16.89	\$ 20.31	\$ 0.54	\$ 14.44	\$ 52.18
49	Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	\$ 31.71	\$ 38.11	\$ 1.01	\$ 27.10	\$ 97.93
50	Niagara-On-The-Lake Hydro Inc.	\$ 5.51	\$ 6.62	\$ 0.18	\$ 4.71	\$ 17.01
51	Norfolk Power Distribution Inc.	\$ 13.05	\$ 15.68	\$ 0.42	\$ 11.15	\$ 40.30
52	North Bay Hydro Distribution Limited	\$ 13.16	\$ 15.81	\$ 0.42	\$ 11.25	\$ 40.63
53	Northern Ontario Wires Inc.	\$ 3.12	\$ 3.75	\$ 0.10	\$ 2.67	\$ 9.65
54	Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	\$ 38.33	\$ 46.08	\$ 1.23	\$ 32.77	\$ 118.40
55	Orangeville Hydro Limited	\$ 7.03	\$ 8.45	\$ 0.23	\$ 6.01	\$ 21.72
56	Orillia Power Distribution Corp.	\$ 9.30	\$ 11.17	\$ 0.30	\$ 7.95	\$ 28.72
57	Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.	\$ 21.21	\$ 25.49	\$ 0.68	\$ 18.13	\$ 65.51
58	Ottawa River Power Corp.	\$ 4.56	\$ 5.48	\$ 0.15	\$ 3.90	\$ 14.08
59	Peterborough Distribution Inc.	\$ 19.55	\$ 23.49	\$ 0.63	\$ 16.71	\$ 60.37
60	PowerStream Inc.	\$ 185.47	\$ 222.92	\$ 5.93	\$ 158.54	\$ 572.87
61	PUC Distribution Inc.	\$ 20.27	\$ 24.37	\$ 0.65	\$ 17.33	\$ 62.62
62	Renfrew Hydro Inc.	\$ 2.10	\$ 2.52	\$ 0.07	\$ 1.79	\$ 6.47
63	Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.	\$ 2.93	\$ 3.52	\$ 0.09	\$ 2.51	\$ 9.05
64	St. Thomas Energy Inc.	\$ 8.24	\$ 9.90	\$ 0.26	\$ 7.04	\$ 25.44
65	Sioux Lookout Hydro Inc.	\$ 2.37	\$ 2.85	\$ 0.08	\$ 2.03	\$ 7.33

66	Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	\$ 24.36	\$ 29.28	\$ 0.78	\$ 20.83	\$ 75.26
67	Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.	\$ 3.49	\$ 4.20	\$ 0.11	\$ 2.99	\$ 10.79
68	Toronto Hydro-Electric System Ltd.	\$ 600.84	\$ 722.17	\$ 19.23	\$ 513.60	\$ 1,855.83
69	Veridian Connections Inc.	\$ 61.47	\$ 73.88	\$ 1.97	\$ 52.55	\$ 189.87
70	Wasaga Distribution Inc.	\$ 4.93	\$ 5.92	\$ 0.16	\$ 4.21	\$ 15.22
71	Waterloo North Hydro Inc.	\$ 37.59	\$ 45.18	\$ 1.20	\$ 32.13	\$ 116.10
72	Welland Hydro-Electric System Corp.	\$ 11.60	\$ 13.95	\$ 0.37	\$ 9.92	\$ 35.84
73	Wellington North Power Inc.	\$ 2.61	\$ 3.14	\$ 0.08	\$ 2.23	\$ 8.07
74	West Coast Huron Energy Inc.	\$ 2.43	\$ 2.92	\$ 0.08	\$ 2.08	\$ 7.50
75	Westario Power Inc.	\$ 10.15	\$ 12.20	\$ 0.32	\$ 8.68	\$ 31.35
76	Whitby Hydro Electric Corp.	\$ 22.29	\$ 26.79	\$ 0.71	\$ 19.05	\$ 68.84
77	Woodstock Hydro Services Inc.	\$ 9.13	\$ 10.98	\$ 0.29	\$ 7.81	\$ 28.20

\$ 3,686.62	\$ 4,431.07	\$ 117.97	\$ 3,151.33	\$ 11,386.99
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	<b>Electricity Transmission System Owner/Operator</b>	<b>CCC</b>	<b>Energy Probe</b>	<b>LIEN</b>	<b>VECC</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	\$ 3.85	\$ 4.63	\$ 0.12	\$ 3.29	\$ 11.90
2	Five Nations Energy Inc.	\$ 5.30	\$ 6.36	\$ 0.17	\$ 4.53	\$ 16.36
3	Great Lakes Power Ltd.	\$ 30.23	\$ 36.33	\$ 0.97	\$ 25.84	\$ 3.36
4	Hydro One Networks Inc.	\$ 1,188.89	\$ 1,428.96	\$ 38.05	\$ 1,016.26	\$ 3,672.15
5	Niagara West Transformation Corp.	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.74	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.53	\$ 1.90

\$ 1,228.88	\$ 1,477.02	\$ 39.33	\$ 1,050.44	\$ 3,795.67
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<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 4,915.50	\$ 5,908.09	\$ 157.30	\$ 4,201.77	\$ 15,182.66
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