



EB-2014-0134

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 a
consultation process to review the current Demand Side
Management (DSM) Guidelines and develop a new DSM
framework to be used for the development of the next
generation of DSM plans.

BEFORE: Marika Hare
Presiding Member

Cathy Spoel
Board Member

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS (Phase 2)
June 17, 2015

BACKGROUND

On April 10, 2014, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a letter initiating a consultation process to review the current Demand Side Management Guidelines and to develop a new DSM framework to be used for the development of the next generation of DSM plans.

In letters issued on April 10, 2014 and September 15, 2014, the OEB stated 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 development of the new DSM framework.

On March 27, 2015, the OEB issued its Decision and Order on Cost Awards. In that decision, the OEB found that the hours allocated for this consultation might not have been sufficient given its eventual scope and the time required for responsible participation, and would consider claims for a reasonable amount of additional time spent by any of the parties, provided such claims were properly explained and justified.

The OEB received additional cost claims from Environmental Defence (ED), Green Energy Coalition (GEC), Industrial Gas Users Association (IGUA), and School Energy Coalition (SEC).

OEB Findings

The OEB has reviewed the additional cost claims of ED, GEC, IGUA, and SEC. The OEB acknowledges that the hours originally specified for the writing of written comments were too low. As a result, the panel has decided on increasing the hours for the written comments by 50%, from 24 hours to 36 hours. The OEB notes that while SEC will be cut back on hours for written comments, it made a valuable contribution and therefore will not be cut back on meeting attendance time or preparation for the three working group meetings. The OEB therefore awards SEC a total amount of \$11,410.74.

The OEB finds that all parties are eligible for 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding subject to the adjustment reference above.

The approved cost claims are as follows:

Environmental Defence	\$3,907.96
Green Energy Coalition	\$2,388.84
Industrial Gas Users Association	\$2,760.62
School Energy Coalition	\$11,410.74

Process for Paying the Cost Awards

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of the *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* to implement the payment of the cost awards. Therefore, the OEB will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards relating to this consultation process. Invoices will be issued to natural gas distributors at the same time as invoices for cost assessments are made under section 26 of the Act. The practice of the OEB is to issue to each natural gas distributor one invoice that covers all cost awards payable by that natural gas distributor 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 OEB THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. The amounts to be paid by each individual distributor 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 distributors 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 distributors listed in Appendix A to this Decision and Order shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this consultation.
4. Payment of cost awards and of the OEB'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 shall be due at the same time as cost assessments under section 26 of the Act are due.

DATED at Toronto, June 17, 2015

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Appendix A

Decision and Order on Cost Awards (Phase 2) Dated June 17, 2015

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Review the current Demand Side Management (DSM) Guidelines and develop a new DSM framework to be used for the development of the next generation of DSM plans

Gas Distributor, Transmitter, Storage Company	ED	GEC	IGUA	SEC	TOTAL
Enbridge Gas Distribution	\$ 2,052.40	\$ 1,254.58	\$ 1,449.83	\$ 5,992.73	\$ 10,749.54
Union Gas	\$ 1,845.05	\$ 1,127.83	\$ 1,303.36	\$ 5,387.31	\$ 9,663.55
Natural Resource Gas	\$ 10.51	\$ 6.43	\$ 7.43	\$ 30.70	\$ 55.07
TOTAL	\$ 3,907.96	\$ 2,388.84	\$ 2,760.62	\$ 11,410.74	\$ 20,468.16