



**Ontario Energy Board  
Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario**

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**DECISION AND ORDER ON COST  
AWARDS**

**EB-2015-0148**

**Consultation to Implement the Ontario Electricity Support Program**

**BEFORE: Cathy Spoel**  
Presiding Member

**Christine Long**  
Vice Chair and Member

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**July 26, 2016**

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## INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On May 26, 2015, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a letter regarding the consultation to implement the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP). The letter stated that cost awards would be available in relation to participation in eligible activities forming part of the consultation to implement the OESP.

On September 3, 2015, the OEB issued a Decision granting cost award eligibility to the following organizations (collectively, the “eligible participants”):

- Low Income Energy Network (LIEN); and
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC).

On March 22, 2016 the OEB issued a Notice of Hearing which stated that cost awards would be available to eligible participants in relation to preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on meetings of the Financial Assistance Working Group that took place as part of OESP implementation.

LIEN and VECC filed cost claims in relation to this consultation. No objections were received.

### OEB Findings

The OEB finds that both eligible participants are entitled to 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. LIEN is therefore awarded \$1,015.40 and VECC is awarded \$3,773.02.

The OEB notes that LIEN’s cost claim included disbursements related to attendance at two meetings of the OESP Implementation Working Group that occurred on May 14 and August 6, 2015. These meetings were, inadvertently, not specifically identified in the Notice of Hearing. However, since the OEB had previously determined that eligible participants could claim costs “in relation to participation in eligible activities forming part of the consultation to implement the Ontario Electricity Support Program” and LIEN was specifically invited to the two Implementation Working Group meetings included in their cost claim, the OEB has determined that it is appropriate to award costs in relation to LIEN’s participation in those meetings.

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The OEB's letter of May 26, 2015 (announcing the consultation to implement OESP) also stated that any costs awarded would be recovered from all rate-regulated electricity distributors and would be apportioned based on distribution revenues. That apportionment was consistent with the methodology that was in place at the time for allocating costs for cost assessment purposes under section 26 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act). On February 9, 2016, the OEB issued a [letter](#) giving notice of changes to its Cost Assessment Model. Specifically, under the revised Cost Assessment Model, cost assessments for distributors are now based on customer numbers rather than revenues. The OEB considers it appropriate to apportion cost awards for this initiative in a manner consistent with the revised Cost Assessment Model. The OEB has therefore determined that costs awarded will be apportioned within the distributor class based on customer numbers. Schedule A has been prepared accordingly.

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

The amount payable by each licensed electricity distributor in relation to costs awarded to each EB-2015-0148 eligible participant is listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order. However, the amounts will not be paid directly by the distributor to the participant.

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 distributors at the same time as the invoices for cost assessments are made under section 26 of the OEB Act. The practice of the OEB is to issue to each licensed distributor one invoice that covers all cost awards payable by the 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 ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:**

1. Each distributor listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order shall pay the amounts set out in Schedule A in relation to the costs awarded to each eligible participant.

2. The payments referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be made to the OEB in accordance with the invoice issued to each distributor, and shall be due at the same time as cost assessments under section 26 of the OEB Act are due.

**DATED** at Toronto July 26, 2016

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary

## Schedule A

## OEB's Decision and Order on Cost Awards

## EB-2015-0148

Distributor	LIEN	VECC	Total
Algoma Power Inc.	2.39	8.88	11.26
Atikokan Hydro Inc.	0.34	1.27	1.61
Attawapiskat Power Corp.	0.09	0.35	0.45
Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation	7.38	27.44	34.82
Brantford Power Inc.	7.91	29.39	37.30
Burlington Hydro Inc.	13.58	50.45	64.03
Energy + Inc.	12.76	47.41	60.17
Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	5.86	21.79	27.65
Centre Wellington Hydro Ltd.	1.37	5.11	6.48
Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation	0.26	0.96	1.21
Entegrus Powerlines Inc.	8.29	30.79	39.08
Collus PowerStream Corp.	3.31	12.31	15.62
Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc.	0.40	1.50	1.90
E.L.K. Energy Inc.	2.41	8.96	11.37
Enersource Hydro Mississauga Inc.	40.98	152.28	193.26
Enwin Utilities Ltd.	17.67	65.67	83.34
Erie Thames Powerlines Corporation	3.75	13.94	17.69
Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation	0.68	2.52	3.20
Essex Powerlines Corporation	5.83	21.65	27.48
Festival Hydro Inc.	4.15	15.41	19.55
Fort Albany Power Corporation	0.06	0.21	0.27
Fort Frances Power Corporation	0.77	2.85	3.62
Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.	9.66	35.88	45.54
Grimsby Power Incorporated	2.20	8.17	10.36
Guelph Hydro Electric Systems Inc.	10.73	39.87	50.60
Haldimand County Hydro Inc.	4.36	16.19	20.55
Halton Hills Hydro Inc.	4.37	16.25	20.63
Horizon Utilities Corporation	48.99	182.04	231.03
Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.	1.14	4.22	5.35
Hearst Power Distribution Company Limited	0.57	2.11	2.68
Hydro 2000 Inc.	0.25	0.93	1.18
Hydro One Brampton Networks Inc.	29.93	111.20	141.12
Hydro One Networks Inc.	254.41	945.32	1199.73
Hydro One Remote Communities Incorporated	0.73	2.70	3.42
Hydro Ottawa Limited	64.57	239.94	304.51

Innpower Corporation	3.16	11.74	14.90
Kashechewan Power Corporation	0.07	0.27	0.34
Kenora Hydro Electric Corporation Ltd.	1.14	4.24	5.39
Kingston Hydro Corporation	5.56	20.65	26.21
Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc.	18.49	68.69	87.17
Lakefront Utilities Inc.	2.03	7.53	9.56
Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.	2.71	10.08	12.80
London Hydro Inc.	31.01	115.22	146.22
Midland Power Utility Corporation	1.44	5.34	6.78
Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.	6.95	25.81	32.75
Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd.	7.07	26.28	33.36
Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	10.54	39.16	49.70
Niagara-on-the-lake Hydro Inc.	1.74	6.48	8.23
North Bay Hydro Distribution Limited	4.92	18.28	23.20
Northern Ontario Wires Inc.	1.24	4.63	5.87
Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	13.37	49.68	63.05
Orangeville Hydro Limited	2.37	8.79	11.16
Orillia Power Distribution Corporation	2.72	10.09	12.81
Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.	11.09	41.20	52.29
Ottawa River Power Corporation	2.20	8.18	10.38
Peterborough Distribution Incorporated	7.34	27.29	34.63
Powerstream Inc.	71.17	264.46	335.63
PUC Distribution Inc.	6.84	25.40	32.24
Renfrew Hydro Inc.	0.87	3.23	4.09
Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.	1.20	4.47	5.67
St. Thomas Energy Inc.	3.37	12.54	15.92
Sioux Lookout Hydro Inc.	0.57	2.11	2.68
Thunder Bay Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	10.31	38.30	48.61
Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.	1.41	5.23	6.64
Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited	150.35	558.67	709.01
Veridian Connections Inc.	23.88	88.74	112.62
Wasaga Distribution Inc.	2.62	9.75	12.37
Waterloo North Hydro Inc.	11.10	41.24	52.34
Welland Hydro-Electric System Corp.	4.57	17.00	21.57
Wellington North Power Inc.	0.76	2.82	3.57
West Coast Huron Energy Inc.	0.77	2.88	3.65
Westario Power Inc.	4.66	17.32	21.99
Whitby Hydro Electric Corporation	8.46	31.42	39.88
Woodstock Hydro Services Inc.	3.19	11.86	15.05

TOTAL

\$ 1,015.40	\$ 3,773.02	\$ 4,788.42
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