



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

**DECISION AND ORDER ON COST
AWARDS**

EB-2015-0245

**UNION GAS LIMITED
ENBRIDGE GAS DISTRIBUTION INC.**

Natural Gas Demand Side Management Evaluation Advisory Committee

BEFORE: Cathy Spoel
Presiding Member

Christine Long
Vice Chair and Member

September 29, 2016

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On August 21, 2015 the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued [a letter](#) establishing the process to evaluate the results of Natural Gas Demand Side Management (DSM) programs from 2015 to 2020.

As part of the OEB's evaluation process, an Evaluation Advisory Committee (EAC) made up of experts representing both utility and non-utility stakeholders was formed.

In the August 21, 2015 letter, 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 EAC.

Based on the criteria set out in section 3 of the OEB's *Practice and Direction on Cost Awards*, the OEB determined that the following persons are eligible for an award of costs:

- Chris Neme, Energy Futures Group
- Jay Shepherd, Jay Shepherd Professional Corporation
- Marion Fraser, Fraser & Company (Marion Fraser Enterprises)
- Robert M. Wirtshafter, Wirtshafter Associates, Inc.
- Ted Kesik, University of Toronto

The OEB issued a Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards on August 19, 2016 which outlined the activities to date eligible for cost awards and the maximum allowable hours for each of those activities.

This Decision and Order relates to activities that have taken place since the inception of the EAC on August 21, 2015 up to the latest eligible activity prior to the issuance of the Notice, the review and written comments on the Commercial and Industrial Prescriptive and Market Transformation 2015 Verification proposal on July 7, 2016. Subsequent OEB processes will allow for eligible participants to recover costs related to EAC activities after July 7, 2016.

The Notice also set out the process for participants to file their cost claims, for rate-regulated natural gas distributors to object to the claims and for participants to respond to any objections raised. The OEB determined that costs awards will be apportioned within the distributor class based on customer numbers. This apportionment is reflected in Schedule A.

The OEB received cost claims from Fraser & Company, Energy Futures Group, Ted Kesik, Jay Shepherd Professional Corporation and Wirtshafter Associates, Inc. Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. (Enbridge) indicated that it has no objection to the claims. Union Gas Limited (Union) also has no objection to the claims, but noted that the hours claimed for preparation and attendance at EAC meetings by Marion Fraser appeared to be more than the maximum hours. In a subsequent letter Union retracted its comment related to the hours claimed by Marion Fraser.

OEB Findings

The OEB finds that the cost claims filed by Fraser & Company, Energy Futures Group, Ted Kesik, Jay Shepherd Professional Corporation and Wirtshafter Associates, Inc. for EAC activities between August 21, 2015 and July 7, 2016 are reasonable and in accordance with the Notice.

The approved cost awards for each of the eligible participants are as follows:

• Fraser & Company (Marion Fraser Enterprises Inc.)	\$3,523.91
• Energy Futures Group	\$3,052.50
• Ted Kesik	\$5,775.00
• Jay Shepherd Professional Corporation	\$6,451.17
• Wirtshafter Associates, Inc.	\$3,382.50

Process for Paying the Cost Awards

The amount payable by each rate-regulated natural gas distributor in relation to costs awarded to each 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 eligible 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 the payment 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 *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act). The practice of the OEB is to issue to each 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. Each distributor listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this consultation.
3. The payments referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above 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 September 29, 2016

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Schedule A

OEB's Decision and Order on Cost Awards

Dated September 29, 2016

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Natural Gas Demand Side Management Evaluation Advisory Committee

Gas Distributor	Dr. Ted Kesik	Energy Future Group	Jay Shepherd Professional Corporation	Marion Fraser Enterprises Inc.	Wirtshafter Associates, Inc.	Total
Enbridge Gas Distribution	\$ 3,447.08	\$ 1,822.03	\$ 3,850.69	\$ 2,103.41	\$ 2,019.01	\$ 13,242.22
Union Gas	\$ 2,314.61	\$ 1,223.44	\$ 2,585.62	\$ 1,412.38	\$ 1,355.70	\$ 8,891.74
Natural Resource Gas	\$ 13.31	\$ 7.03	\$ 14.86	\$ 8.12	\$ 7.79	\$ 51.12
TOTAL	\$ 5,775.00	\$ 3,052.50	\$ 6,451.17	\$ 3,523.91	\$ 3,382.50	\$ 22,185.08