

**Ontario Energy
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**Commission de l'énergie
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BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING

February 27, 2017

**To: All Rate-regulated Electricity Distributors
Participants in EB-2012-0410
All Interested Parties**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards
Rate Design Working Group
Board File No.: EB-2012-0410**

On April 2, 2015, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [letter](#) regarding its Board Policy: *A New Distribution Rate Design for Residential Electricity Customers*. In its letter, the OEB noted that some implementation details needed to be addressed prior to putting the policy into effect, and a Rate Design Working Group (RDWG) was formed for this purpose.

In accordance with the OEB's May 29, 2014 Decision on Cost Eligibility and the April 2, 2015 letter, the Consumers Council of Canada and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition were deemed eligible for an award of costs in relation to participation at the meetings of the RDWG. Cost awards for the meetings of the RDWG were not captured by the prior Cost Awards decision issued by the OEB on June 23, 2015 with respect to this initiative.

In accordance with the April 2, 2015 letter, cost awards are available for the preparation, attendance and reporting on the working group meetings which were held with staff on April 29, 2015 and May 27, 2015. A maximum of 7 hours is available for each meeting.

Notice of Hearing

The OEB is initiating this hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards that may be made in accordance with section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board*

Act, 1998 in relation to the consultation process on the Board's Policy on Rate Design for Electricity Residential Customers. The file number for this hearing is **EB-2012-0410**.

The OEB intends to proceed by way of written hearing unless a party can satisfy the OEB that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If a party wants to object to a written hearing, the objection must be received by the OEB no later than **7 days** after the date of this Notice.

If the OEB does not receive any objections to a written hearing, the hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. Eligible participants shall submit their cost claims by **March 8, 2017**. A copy of the cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served on each rate-regulated electricity distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*. As contemplated in the *Practice Direction*, the cost claim form has been customized for this consultation. Eligible participants must use the customized form that is attached as Attachment A to this Notice.
2. Electricity distributors will have until **March 15, 2017** to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. A copy of the objection must be filed with the OEB and one copy must be served on the Eligible Participant against whose claim the objection is being made.
3. The Eligible Participant whose cost claim was objected to will have until **March 22, 2017** to make a reply submission as to why its cost claim should be allowed. A copy of the reply submission must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served on the objecting distributor.
4. The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards. The OEB's costs may also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

Service of cost claims, objections and reply submissions on other parties may be effected by courier, registered mail, facsimile or e-mail.

All submissions in this hearing (i.e., cost claims, objections, or replies) will form part of the public record. Copies of the submissions will be available for inspection at the OEB's office and the submissions may be published on the OEB's website.

Parties must file two paper copies and one electronic copy of their submissions with the Board Secretary by **4:45 pm** on the required dates. The OEB requests that parties make every effort to provide electronic copies of their filings in searchable/unrestricted Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, and to submit their filings through the OEB's web portal at <https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/>. A user ID is required to submit documents through the OEB's web portal. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the "e-filings services" webpage on the OEB's website at www.ontarioenergyboard.ca, and fill out a user ID password request. Additionally, parties are requested to follow the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the document entitled "RESS Document Preparation – A Quick Guide" also found on the e-filing services webpage. If the OEB's web portal is not available, electronic copies of filings may be filed by e-mail at boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca. Those that do not have internet access should provide a CD containing their filing in PDF format.

All submissions must quote file number **EB-2012-0410** and include your name, address, e-mail address, telephone number, and fax number.

If you do not file a letter objecting to a written hearing or do not participate in the hearing by filing written submissions in accordance with this Notice, the OEB may proceed without your participation and you will not be entitled to further notice in this proceeding.

Dated at Toronto, February 27, 2017

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Attachment A: Form for Cost Claim

Attachment "A"

Form for Cost Claim

Ontario Energy Board
COST CLAIM FOR CONSULTATIONS
Statement of Fees Being Claimed



File # EB- 2012-0410

Process Rate Design for Residential Electricity Customers – Rate Design Working Group Meetings

Party _____

HST Rate: _____

		Meeting with Board Staff April 29, 2015	Meeting with Board Staff May 27, 2015			
		Eligible Participant	Eligible Participant			
Individual Whose Fees are Being Claimed	Hourly rate	<i>Up to 7 hours</i>	<i>Up to 7 hours</i>	Subtotal	HST	Total
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Totals:				\$0.00	\$0.00	
				Total legal/consultant fees:		\$0.00