



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

**DECISION AND ORDER ON COST
AWARDS**

EB-2015-0245

**Natural Gas Demand Side Management Evaluation Advisory
Committee**

BEFORE: Cathy Spoel
Presiding Member

Christine Long
Vice Chair and Member

June 5, 2017

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 has determined that the following persons are eligible for an award of costs:

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

Costs awarded will be apportioned within the distributor class based on customer numbers rather than revenues.

The OEB issued a Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards (Notice) on April 17, 2017 which outlined the EAC activities from July 8, 2016 to March 31, 2017 and the maximum allowable hours for each of those activities.

The OEB received cost claims from Dr. Ted Kesik, Energy Futures Group, Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation, Marion Fraser Enterprises Inc. and Wirtshafter Associates, Inc.

On May 15, 2017, Enbridge stated that it had no objections to the cost claims.

OEB Findings

The OEB has reviewed the cost claims filed by Dr. Ted Kesik, Energy Futures Group, Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation, Marion Fraser Enterprises Inc. and Wirtshafter Associates, Inc. to ensure they were compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB has determined that the cost claims submitted by Dr. Ted Kesik, Energy Futures Group, Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation, Marion Fraser Enterprises Inc. and Wirtshafter Associates, Inc. are in accordance with the OEB's Notice dated April 17, 2017. The OEB finds that each of these Eligible Participants is entitled to 100% of its reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding.

The OEB finds that the claims of Dr. Ted Kesik, Energy Futures Group, Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation, Marion Fraser Enterprises Inc. and Wirtshafter Associates, Inc. are reasonable. The OEB approves cost awards for the eligible participants as follows:

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| • Dr. Ted Kesik | \$14,850.00 |
| • Energy Futures Group | \$9,157.50 |
| • Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation | \$15,661.80 |
| • Marion Fraser Enterprises Inc. | \$13,610.85 |
| • Wirtshafter Associates, Inc. | \$14,025.00 |

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* 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 Act. The practice of the OEB is to issue to each distributor one invoice that covers all cost awards payable by 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 paragraph 1 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 Act are due.

DATED at Toronto June 5, 2017

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Schedule A

OEB's Decision and Order on Cost Awards

EB-2015-0245

Gas Distributor, Transmitter, Storage Company	Energy Futures Group	Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation	Marion Fraser Enterprises Inc.	Wirtshafer Associates, Inc.	Dr. Ted Kesik	Total
Enbridge Gas Distribution	\$ 5,465.71	\$ 9,347.84	\$ 8,123.72	\$ 8,370.91	\$ 8,863.32	\$ 40,171.50
Union Gas	\$ 3,670.27	\$ 6,277.15	\$ 5,455.14	\$ 5,621.13	\$ 5,951.78	\$ 26,975.46
Natural Resource Gas	\$ 21.52	\$ 36.81	\$ 31.99	\$ 32.96	\$ 34.90	\$ 158.18
TOTAL	\$ 9,157.50	\$ 15,661.80	\$ 13,610.85	\$ 14,025.00	\$ 14,850.00	\$ 67,305.15