

SUPPLEMENTAL DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY

EB-2016-0201

Consultation on Staff Research Paper on the Examination of Alternative Price Designs for the Recovery of Global Adjustment Costs from Class B Consumers in Ontario

By Delegation Before: Brian Hewson

April 11, 2019

On February 28, 2019, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a <u>letter</u> and a Staff Research Paper on the *Examination of Alternative Price Designs for the Recovery of Global Adjustment Costs from Class B Consumers in Ontario* (Research Paper). The letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* to eligible participants to a maximum of 12 hours for provision of comments on the Research Paper and a maximum of 6 hours in connection with the stakeholder meeting on March 21, 2019. The letter made provision for stakeholders to apply for eligibility by March 12, 2019 and for electricity distributors to object by March 18, 2019.

On March 21, 2019, the OEB issued a <u>Decision on Cost Eligibility</u>, awarding cost eligibility to four organizations. Since issuing that decision, the OEB has received three late applications from the following organizations:

- Building Owners and Managers Association, Greater Toronto (BOMA)
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)
- Canadian Solar Industry Association (CanSIA)

The requests were posted on the OEB's website and no objections were received from distributors. Based on the criteria set out in the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*, the OEB has determined that BOMA and CME are eligible for cost awards.

A portion of the membership of CanSIA consists of electricity generators who are generally not eligible for cost awards under section 3.05 (b) of the Practice Direction. In its application, CanSIA argues that special circumstances exist for the OEB to grant cost eligibility under section 3.07 of the Practice Direction because CanSIA a) represents solar generation and customers adopting solar generation and b) represents solar developers who do not have the resources to participate in the stakeholder activities outlined above. Given that the focus of this stakeholder engagement is on electricity consumers and not generators, the OEB will not be granting cost eligibility to CanSIA. Although not eligible for costs, CanSIA may nevertheless submit comments on the Research Paper by the April 18, 2019 deadline.

Participants with similar viewpoints who have been awarded cost eligibility are requested to coordinate their activities in order to reduce costs. This effort will be taken into account during the decision on awards of costs.

Other eligible activities may be announced as the project progresses. This cost eligibility decision will apply to any further eligible activities in this process.

The OEB reminds all stakeholders of the importance of adhering to the timelines for requesting cost eligibility.

DATED at Toronto April 11, 2019

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

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