

Hydro Ottawa Limited

**Application for electricity distribution rates and other
charges for the period from January 1, 2021 to
December 31, 2025**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 2
May 29, 2020**

Hydro Ottawa Limited (Hydro Ottawa) filed a custom incentive rate-setting application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on February 11, 2020 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Hydro Ottawa charges for electricity distribution, beginning January 1, 2021, and for each following year through to December 31, 2025.

On March 4, 2020, the OEB issued a Notice of Hearing, which provided for interested participants to apply for intervenor status and cost eligibility in the proceeding. In its Procedural Order No.1 and Decision on Confidentiality dated March 31, 2020 (PO No.1), the OEB, among other things, set out a schedule of procedural steps leading up to the expert evidence process.

By letter dated May 28, 2020, Hydro Ottawa requested an extension of the May 29, 2020 deadline for filing interrogatory responses to June 5, 2020. Hydro Ottawa cited complexities of employees working remotely in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the number and complexity of interrogatories, in making its request. Hydro Ottawa committed to ensuring that the responses will be filed by the proposed new deadline.

Subsequent emails in support of Hydro Ottawa's request were received from Consumers Council of Canada, Energy Probe, Environmental Defence and Pollution Probe.

On May 29, 2020, the OEB received a letter from OEB staff requesting an extension to the dates for filing expert evidence, interrogatories on expert evidence and responses to those interrogatories (originally addressed in items 7, 8 and 9 of PO No.1) should the OEB grant the Hydro Ottawa request. OEB staff noted that the extra time is needed in

order for Pacific Economics Group Research LLC (PEG) to properly review Hydro Ottawa's responses and to make any adjustments necessary to the evidence that will be filed on the record.

Based on the reasons provided, the OEB grants Hydro Ottawa a one-week extension to the deadline for filing interrogatory responses, and will extend the deadlines related to the PEG evidence as requested by OEB staff. The OEB reminds parties that requests for extensions to the case schedule may result in delays in the final decision on the application.

The deadlines in items 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 on page 5 of PO No.1 are revised accordingly as shown below.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Hydro Ottawa shall file with the OEB complete written responses to all interrogatories and serve them on OEB staff and all intervenors by **June 5, 2020**.
2. OEB staff shall file a proposed issues list, or, alternatively, shall advise the OEB in writing that the parties and OEB staff have been unable to reach an agreement on a draft issues list by **June 12, 2020**.
3. OEB staff shall file expert evidence with the OEB, and provide a copy to Hydro Ottawa and intervenors no later than **June 19, 2020**.
4. If any party is seeking information and material with respect to any evidence filed by OEB staff or any intervenor that is in addition to the evidence filed with the OEB, and that is relevant to this proceeding, that information shall be requested by written interrogatories filed with the OEB, and copied to all parties by **June 26, 2020**.
5. Any party that receives interrogatories on its evidence shall file with the OEB complete responses to the interrogatories by **July 8, 2020**.

All materials filed with the OEB must quote the file number, **EB-2019-0261**, be made in searchable/unrestricted PDF format electronically through the OEB's web portal at <https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice>. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <https://www.oeb.ca/industry>. If the web portal is not available, parties may email their documents to the address below.

NOTE: The OEB is temporarily waiving the paper copy filing requirement until further notice. All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Shuo Zhang at Shuo.Zhang@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, James Sidlofsky at James.Sidlofsky@oeb.ca.

ADDRESS

Ontario Energy Board
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Attention: Registrar

Email: boardsec@oeb.ca
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Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, **May 29, 2020**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Christine E. Long
Registrar and Board Secretary