



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
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BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

September 24, 2020

To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors and Transmitters and All Rate-regulated
Natural Gas Distributors
All Participants in EB-2018-0287 and EB-2018-0288
All Other Interested Stakeholders

Re: **Cost Awards Process**
Utility Remuneration and Responding to Distributed Energy Resources
Board File Numbers: EB-2018-0287 and EB-2018-0288

On March 15, 2019, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a letter initiating two integrated consultation processes: Utility Remuneration and Responding to Distributed Energy Resources (DERs). The letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. The letter made provision for stakeholders to apply for eligibility and for electricity distributors and transmitters to object. As is the OEB's practice when a consultation on complex issues is expected to span several phases, the OEB has determined to award costs to eligible participants for activities to date.

On July 17, 2019, the OEB issued its [Decision on Cost Eligibility](#) and determined the following applicants to be eligible for an award of costs in relation to cost eligible activities (collectively the Eligible Participants):

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario
- Building Owners and Managers Association Toronto
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters
- Consumers Council of Canada
- Energy Probe Research Foundation

- Environmental Defence
- Industrial Gas Users Association
- London Property Management Association
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition

Since initiating these consultations, the OEB issued letters on [July 17, 2019](#), [September 26, 2019](#), and [January 21, 2020](#) setting out the following eligible activities for costs awards:

Activity Eligible for Cost Awards	Max. Number of Hours
Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the September 2019 stakeholder meeting (for eligible participants and/or their consultants)	Actual meeting time + 4 hours
Preparation of presentation for September 2019 stakeholder meeting	6 hours
Written comments summarizing views on objectives, issues and guiding principles for each initiative	10 hours
Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the February 2020 stakeholder meeting (for eligible participants and/or their consultants)	Actual meeting time + 4 hours
Written comments on staff's proposals	10 hours

In order to determine the cost awards to the Eligible Participants identified above, the OEB will use the process set out below.

1. Eligible Participants must submit their cost claims by October 9, 2020. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served, by email, on each rate-regulated licensed electricity distributor and each rate-regulated licensed transmitter. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).
2. Rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors and rate-regulated licensed transmitters will have until October 19, 2020 to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. The objection must be filed with the OEB and one copy must be served,

by email, 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 October 26, 2020 to file with the OEB a reply submission as to why its cost claim should be allowed. One copy of the reply submission is to be served, by email, on the objecting party.

The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards. The OEB's costs may also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

Filing with the OEB

All materials filed with the OEB must quote file numbers, **EB-2018-0287** and **EB-2018-0288**, be submitted in a searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature 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 email 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 boardsec@oeb.ca.

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.

Email: boardsec@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)

Fax: 416-440-7656

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

Attachment: Cost Claim Form