

Ms. Christine Long  
Registrar & Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319, 27th Floor  
2300 Yonge Street  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

September 29, 2020

**Re: EB-2020-0048 Oshawa PUC Networks (OPUCN) 2021 Rates Cost of Service  
Pollution Probe Interrogatories**

Dear Ms. Long:

Please find attached Pollution Probe's interrogatories to the applicant. It was helpful to review Board Staff's interrogatories which were filed early in order to reduce duplication.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Pollution Probe.



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Registered Parties to the Proceeding (via email)  
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**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

**Oshawa PUC Networks Inc. (Oshawa PUC Networks)**

**Application for 2021 Electricity Distribution Rates**

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**POLLUTION PROBE INTERROGATORIES**

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**September 29, 2020**

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**Consultant for Pollution Probe**

Pollution Probe #1

[Exhibit 1, Page 7]

OPUCN indicates that “OPUCN plans to **Enhance the Customer Experience** by driving advanced service outcomes. We strive to be anticipatory rather than reactive, to enhance the customer’s experience by setting expectations and continuing to surpass them by going above and beyond the threshold requirements”

- a) Please describe the efficiencies and enhanced customer experience Oshawa PUC expects to achieve from coordinating with City of Oshawa or Region of Durham, particularly related to their energy and emissions plans.
- b) Please describe how Oshawa PUC support the Provincial requirements for energy and emission reporting under Ontario Regulations 397/11 and 20/17 and CDM plan requirements under Ontario Regulation 397/11 for its customers (including the City of Oshawa).

Pollution Probe #2

[Exhibit 1, Page 40]

OPUCN indicates that “Based on OPUCN’s consultations with the City of Oshawa and Durham Region, OPUCN expects its customer base to continue to increase over the next five years”.

- a) Please confirm what electrification, DER or other assumptions have been identified which will have an impact on OPUCN’s load forecast and capital plan (DSP) over the same period.
- b) Please detail any energy storage opportunities OPUCN has assessed for new or existing customer load which would reduce the need for system capital upgrades.
- c) Please detail the opportunity for OPUCN to consider behind the meter load displacement given the recent bulletin from the OEB.

Pollution Probe #3

[Exhibit 1, Page 42]

“OPUCN is requesting \$1.395 million to implement smart grid projects which include the implementation of system upgrades, distribution automation, communication upgrades, and customer facing web interfaces.”

- a) Please provide the definition OPUCN uses for “smart grid” to determine which projects would be “smart grid projects”.
- b) Please explain how each proposed “smart grid project” (or project grouping) fits under the definition provided.
- c) Please explain how OPUCN screens and prioritizes these projects.

Pollution Probe #4

[Exhibit 1, Appendix 6]

Oshawa PUC indicates that one of its core value principles is to “Demonstrate Environmental Stewardship and Community Involvement”.

- a) Please provide a description of how Oshawa PUC coordinates with and supports the City of Oshawa and Region of Durham energy and emissions plans.
- b) Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) programs are available to consumers in the City of Oshawa. IESO has also proposed (subject to final Provincial approval) to continue CDM programs post-2020. Please explain how Oshawa PUC provides support to its customers to ensure awareness and take advantage of these programs.
- c) Has Oshawa PUC assessed opportunities to avoid or share costs with other project developers (e.g. distributed energy resources) as part of its Distribution System Plan? If so, please provide details. If not, why not?