



Ontario
Energy
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BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

October 6, 2020

To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors
All Licensed Electricity Retailers
All Licensed Unit Sub-Meter Providers
Independent Electricity System Operator
All Participants in Consultation Process EB-2020-0152
All Other Interested Parties

Re: **Cost Awards Process**
Consultation on Implementing the Process for Enabling Customers to Opt Out of Time-of-Use Pricing
Ontario Energy Board File No: EB-2020-0152

On June 3, 2020 the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [letter](#) initiating a consultation to inform the development of amendments to its Standard Supply Service Code (SSSC) and other regulatory instruments as required in order to ensure the timely, efficient and effective implementation of a process for enabling customers to opt out of time-of-use pricing. The letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* and made provision for stakeholders to apply for eligibility.

On June 11, 2020, the OEB issued a 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):

- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Building Owners and Managers Association Toronto (BOMA)
- Low Income Energy Network (LIEN)
- London Property Management Association (LPMA)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

The OEB issued letters on [June 3, 2020](#) and [August 6, 2020](#), and Notices on [July 15, 2020](#) and [August 25, 2020](#) setting out the following eligible activities for costs awards:

Activity Eligible for Cost Awards	Max. Number of Hours
Participation in the initial stakeholder meeting and in meetings of the TOU Customer Choice Working Group	Actual meeting time + 50% of meeting time for preparation and reporting
Preparation of written comments on the proposed amendments to the SSSC	8 hours
Participation in stakeholder meeting on the role of the Smart Metering Entity	Actual meeting time + 50% of meeting time for preparation and reporting
Preparation of written comments on the revised proposed amendments to the SSSC	3 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 shall submit their cost claims by October 16, 2020. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served, by e-mail, on each rate-regulated licensed electricity distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#). Cost awards will be available under section 30 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998 to eligible participants for their participation in this consultation. Costs awarded will be recovered from all rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors based on the number of customers they serve.
2. Rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors will have until October 26, 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 e-mail, 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 November 2, 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 e-mail, 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 number, **EB-2020-0152**, 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 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 registrar@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: registrar@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