

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2020-0163

EB-2020-0186

AMENDING THE INDEPENDENT ELECTRICITY SYSTEM OPERATOR'S LICENCE TO REQUIRE IT TO ASSIST WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE COVID-19 ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND THE COVID-19 ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – SMALL BUSINESS

BY DELEGATION, BEFORE: Brian Hewson

Vice President,

Consumer Protection & Industry

Performance

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB), of its own motion, is amending the licence of the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to reflect amendments that were recently made to the licences of licensed electricity distributors and licensed unit submeter providers (Utilities) in regard to the implementation of the Covid-19 Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) and the COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program – Small Business (CEAP-SB). Specifically, the OEB is amending the definitions of "CEAP" and "CEAP-SB" in the IESO's licence to reflect the same amendments that were recently made to these definitions in the licences of Utilities.

BACKGROUND AND DECISION

Based on guidance provided through a number of letters from the Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines and the Associate Minister of Energy, the OEB made a number of amendments to the Utilities licences that required them to administer the CEAP and CEAP-SB programs. The OEB also issued licence amendments requiring the IESO to assist with the implementation of CEAP on June 18, 2020 and CEAP-SB on August 10, 2020.

On January 14, 2021, the OEB amended the licences of the Utilities with respect to CEAP and CEAP-SB. Amongst other things, these amendments modified the definition of "CEAP" and "CEAP-SB". For purposes of clarity, the OEB has determined that it will amend the licence of the IESO to incorporate these updated definitions.

This Decision and Order is being issued by Delegated Authority without a hearing pursuant to section 6(4) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998 (OEB Act).

The new IESO licence conditions are effective immediately. All other licence conditions in the IESO's licence relating to CEAP and CEAP-SB remain unchanged.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The IESO's licence, EB-2013-0066, is amended such that the definition of "CEAP" in section 23.1 shall state: "CEAP" means the COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program as described in the Board's Decision and order dated January 18, 2021 (EB-2020-0163), and

2. The IESO's licence, EB-2013-0066, is amended such that the definition of CEAP-SB under section 24.1 shall state: "CEAP-SB" means the COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program – Small Business as described in the Board's Decision and Order dated January 18, 2021 (EB-2020-0186).

DATED at Toronto January 18, 2021

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance