



Ontario  
Energy  
Board

Commission  
de l'énergie  
de l'Ontario

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# **DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS**

**EB-2020-0106**

**Consultation to Review Annual Update to Natural Gas  
Supply Plans**

**By Delegation Before: Theodore Antonopoulos**

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**February 23, 2021**

## INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On July 6, 2020, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) announced that it was initiating a consultation to review the annual update to the five-year natural gas supply plans in keeping with the gas supply plan assessment process contemplated in the OEB's [Report of the Board: Framework for the Assessment of Distributor Gas Supply Plans](#) (Gas Supply Framework).<sup>1</sup>

In the July 6, 2020 letter, the OEB indicated that costs awarded for the review of EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership (ENGLP)'s Gas Supply Plans will be recovered from ENGLP. In that letter, the OEB indicated that cost awards would be limited to a maximum of 9 hours for the review of each Gas Supply Plan (ENGLP Aylmer and ENGLP Southern Bruce) and would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the Act) to eligible participants for their participation in cost eligible activities.

On July 27, 2020, the OEB issued its Decision on Cost Award Eligibility granting cost eligibility to the following parties:

- Anwaatin Inc. (Anwaatin)
- Building Owners and Managers Association, Greater Toronto (BOMA)
- Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario (FRPO)
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

The OEB issued the Final OEB Staff Report on the review of ENGLP's gas supply plans on December 14, 2020. On January 14, 2021, the OEB issued a Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards that outlined the process for parties to file cost claims.

The OEB received cost claims from Anwaatin, FRPO, Pollution Probe, SEC and VECC. BOMA did not file a cost claim. ENGLP, through a letter dated February 9, 2021, did not object to any of the cost claims.

## Findings

The OEB has reviewed the cost claims filed by Anwaatin, FRPO, Pollution Probe, SEC and VECC to ensure they are compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost*

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<sup>1</sup> EB-2017-0129

*Awards.* The OEB finds that all the cost claims are in accordance with the OEB's Notice. The OEB finds that each of the eligible participants is entitled to 100% of its reasonable incurred costs for participating in this consultation. The OEB approves cost awards for the eligible participants as follows:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| • Anwaatin Inc.                                     | \$1,354.87 |
| • Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario | \$4,847.70 |
| • Pollution Probe                                   | \$2,889.98 |
| • School Energy Coalition                           | \$1,273.51 |
| • Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition             | \$2,572.52 |

### **Process for Paying the Cost Awards**

The amount payable by ENGLP in relation to costs awarded to each eligible participant is listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of the Practice Direction to implement the payment of the cost awards. Therefore, the OEB will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards relating to this consultation process. Invoices will be issued to ENGLP at the same time as the invoices for cost assessments are made under section 26 of the Act. The practice of the OEB is to issue to ENGLP one invoice that covers all cost awards payable by ENGLP for the relevant period. As a result, the invoice may cover cost awards payable in relation to a number of consultations, including this one.

### **THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:**

1. EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership shall pay the amounts set out in Schedule A in relation to the costs awarded to each eligible participant.
2. The payments referred to in paragraph 1 shall be made to the OEB in accordance with the invoice issued to EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership, and shall be due at the same time as cost assessments under section 26 of the Act are due.
3. EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this consultation.

**DATED** at Toronto February 23, 2021

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original Signed By*

Christine E. Long  
Registrar

## Schedule A

### OEB's Decision and Order on Cost Awards

EB-2020-0106

| Gas Distributor, Transmitter, Storage Company | Anwaatin Inc.      | Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario | Pollution Probe    | School Energy Coalition | Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition | Total               |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership         | 1,354.87           | 4,847.70  | 2,889.98           | 1,273.51                | 2,572.52                              | 12,938.58           |
|   |                    |   |                    |                         |                                       |                     |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>\$ 1,354.87</b> | <b>\$ 4,847.70</b>                                | <b>\$ 2,889.98</b> | <b>\$ 1,273.51</b>      | <b>\$ 2,572.52</b>                    | <b>\$ 12,938.58</b> |