



Ontario
Energy
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de l'énergie
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DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

EB-2019-0207

Distributed Energy Resources Connections Review

By Delegation Before: Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection &
Industry Performance

April 29, 2021

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On August 13, 2019, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [letter](#) commencing an initiative to review its requirements in regard to the connection of distributed energy resources (DERs) by licensed electricity distributors (DER Connections Review). The letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, and the OEB has determined that the licensed rate-regulated electricity distributors will pay the costs.

The OEB issued Decisions on September 10, 2019, September 13, 2019, September 23, 2019 and January 13, 2020 that determined the following participants in this consultation process were eligible for cost awards¹:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe)
- Environmental Defence (ED)
- London Property Management Association (LPMA)
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC)
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)

The Decisions noted that cost awards would be available in relation to participation in the Working Group. In the Decisions, the OEB requested that participants with similar viewpoints coordinate their activities in order to reduce costs, and that this effort will be taken into account during the decision on awards of costs.

The maximum number of cost eligible hours per participant to prepare for, attend and report on Working Group Meetings was limited to 1.5 times the meeting time.

On March 2, 2021, the OEB issued a Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards (the Notice) in relation to cost eligible activities.

The OEB received cost claims from CME, Energy Probe, ED, OCC and Pollution Probe. AMPCO, BOMA, CCC, LPMA and SEC did not file a cost claim. No objections were received from any licensed rate-regulated electricity distributors.

¹ Decisions on Cost Eligibility are available on the OEB website at [Distributed Energy Resources \(DER\) Connections Review](#)

OEB Findings

The OEB has reviewed the cost claims filed by CME, Energy Probe, ED, OCC and Pollution Probe to ensure they are compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The claims by Energy Probe, ED, and Pollution Probe are approved.

In the matter of the claims by OCC and CME, these parties share a consultant for the purpose of participating in the consultation. The OEB supports this approach, as it creates opportunities for cost efficiencies. In reviewing the cost claims of these two parties, the OEB will allocate the actual meeting time based on time in attendance equally between OCC and CME and each party will be allowed preparation and reporting time equivalent to 0.5x the actual meeting time identified in the Notice. This will allow these parties to recover the cost of their shared consultant's meeting attendance plus an amount related to preparation for, and reporting to each client, since it is reasonable to expect the consultant to communicate separately with each client. The claims by OCC and CME generally follow this approach.

However, for the meeting on May 13, 2020, each of OCC and CME has claimed 3 hours of the consultant's time for a two-hour meeting, for a total of six hours. While this is consistent with the 1.5x meeting time approach used for other intervenors, it effectively results in the consultant being compensated twice for meeting participation. Based on the OEB's approach described in the preceding paragraph, for the May 13 meeting, each of OCC and CME is eligible for one hour of preparation and reporting time and one hour of meeting time. The OEB will therefore reduce the claims by OCC and CME by 1 hour each to reflect the allowed meeting and preparation/reporting time.

• Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	\$23,023.75
• Energy Probe Research Foundation	\$3,338.78
• Environmental Defence	\$24,282.57
• Ontario Chamber of Commerce	\$22,616.95
• Pollution Probe	\$23,119.80

Process for Paying the Cost Awards

The amount payable by each rate-regulated licensed electricity distributor in relation to costs awarded to each Eligible Participant is listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order. Costs awarded will be apportioned within the distributor class based on customer numbers. However, the amounts will not be paid directly by the distributor to the Eligible Participant.

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 distributors 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 each distributor one invoice that covers all cost awards payable by the distributor 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. Each distributor listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order shall pay the amounts set out in Schedule A in relation to the costs awarded to each Eligible Participant.
2. Each distributor listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this consultation.
3. The payments referred to in paragraph 1 shall be made to the OEB in accordance with the invoice issued to each distributor, and shall be due at the same time as cost assessments under section 26 of the Act are due.

DATED at Toronto April 29, 2021

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

Schedule A

OEB's Decision and Order on Cost Awards

EB-2019-0207

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence	Ontario Chamber of Commerce	Pollution Probe	Total
Algoma Power Inc.	52.44	7.60	55.31	51.51	52.66	219.52
Alectra Utilities Corporation	4,557.04	660.84	4,806.19	4,476.52	4,576.05	19,076.64
Atikokan Hydro Inc.	7.33	1.06	7.73	7.20	7.36	30.68
Attawapiskat Power Corporation	2.29	0.33	2.41	2.25	2.30	9.58
Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation	163.55	23.72	172.49	160.66	164.23	684.65
Brantford Power Inc.	177.42	25.73	187.12	174.28	178.16	742.71
Burlington Hydro Inc.	301.17	43.67	317.64	295.85	302.43	1,260.76
Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	129.95	18.84	137.05	127.65	130.49	543.98
Centre Wellington Hydro Ltd.	30.93	4.49	32.62	30.39	31.06	129.49
Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation	5.51	0.80	5.82	5.42	5.54	23.09
EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario Inc	76.74	11.13	80.94	75.39	77.06	321.26
Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc.	9.97	1.45	10.52	9.79	10.01	41.74
E.L.K. Energy Inc.	54.52	7.91	57.50	53.56	54.75	228.24
Energy+ Inc.	289.78	42.02	305.62	284.66	290.99	1,213.07
Entegrus Powerlines Inc.	262.44	38.06	276.79	257.81	263.54	1,098.64
Enwin Utilities Ltd.	395.77	57.39	417.41	388.78	397.42	1,656.77
ERTH Power Corporation	102.04	14.80	107.61	100.23	102.46	427.14
Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation	14.73	2.14	15.54	14.47	14.79	61.67
Essex Powerlines Corporation	132.91	19.27	140.18	130.56	133.47	556.39
Elexicon Energy	730.08	105.87	769.99	717.18	733.12	3,056.24

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence	Ontario Chamber of Commerce	Pollution Probe	Total
Festival Hydro Inc.	94.43	13.69	99.60	92.76	94.83	395.31
Fort Albany Power Corporation	1.32	0.19	1.39	1.30	1.33	5.53
Fort Frances Power Corporation	16.77	2.43	17.68	16.47	16.84	70.19
Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.	212.45	30.81	224.07	208.70	213.34	889.37
Grimsby Power Incorporated	50.83	7.37	53.61	49.93	51.04	212.78
Halton Hills Hydro Inc.	99.58	14.44	105.02	97.82	99.99	416.85
Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.	24.78	3.59	26.14	24.34	24.88	103.73
Hearst Power Distribution Company Limited	12.08	1.75	12.74	11.87	12.13	50.57
Hydro 2000 Inc.	5.73	0.83	6.05	5.63	5.76	24.00
Hydro One Networks Inc.	5,909.28	856.96	6,232.39	5,804.88	5,933.95	24,737.46
Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.	16.14	2.34	17.03	15.86	16.21	67.58
Hydro Ottawa Limited	1,484.29	215.24	1,565.44	1,458.07	1,490.48	6,213.52
Innpower Corporation	77.33	11.21	81.55	75.96	77.65	323.70
Kashechewan Power Corporation	1.91	0.28	2.02	1.88	1.92	8.01
Kingston Hydro Corporation	123.49	17.91	130.24	121.31	124.01	516.96
Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc.	427.61	62.01	450.99	420.05	429.39	1,790.05
Lakefront Utilities Inc.	46.26	6.71	48.79	45.45	46.46	193.67
Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.	60.48	8.77	63.79	59.41	60.73	253.18
London Hydro Inc.	703.71	102.05	742.18	691.28	706.64	2,945.86
Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.	170.50	24.72	179.82	167.49	171.21	713.74
Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd.	192.74	27.95	203.27	189.33	193.54	806.83
Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	244.85	35.51	258.23	240.52	245.87	1,024.98
Niagara-on-the-lake Hydro Inc.	41.88	6.07	44.17	41.14	42.05	175.31
North Bay Hydro Distribution Limited	107.94	15.65	113.85	106.04	108.39	451.87
Northern Ontario Wires Inc.	26.69	3.87	28.15	26.22	26.80	111.73
Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	315.38	45.73	332.62	309.80	316.69	1,320.22
Orangeville Hydro Limited	55.12	7.99	58.13	54.14	55.35	230.73

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence	Ontario Chamber of Commerce	Pollution Probe	Total
Orillia Power Distribution Corporation	61.90	8.98	65.28	60.80	62.15	259.11
Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.	258.29	37.46	272.41	253.72	259.37	1,081.25
Ottawa River Power Corporation	49.75	7.21	52.47	48.87	49.96	208.26
Peterborough Distribution Incorporated	165.68	24.03	174.74	162.75	166.37	693.57
PUC Distribution Inc.	150.19	21.78	158.40	147.54	150.82	628.73
Renfrew Hydro Inc.	19.22	2.79	20.28	18.88	19.30	80.47
Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.	26.37	3.82	27.81	25.90	26.48	110.38
Sioux Lookout Hydro Inc.	12.64	1.83	13.33	12.41	12.69	52.90
Synergy North Corporation	252.52	36.62	266.32	248.06	253.57	1,057.09
Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.	31.95	4.63	33.70	31.39	32.09	133.76
Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited	3,434.82	498.10	3,622.62	3,374.13	3,449.15	14,378.82
Wasaga Distribution Inc.	60.76	8.81	64.08	59.68	61.01	254.34
Waterloo North Hydro Inc.	254.71	36.94	268.64	250.21	255.77	1,066.27
Welland Hydro-Electric System Corp.	103.33	14.98	108.98	101.51	103.76	432.56
Wellington North Power Inc.	16.88	2.45	17.80	16.58	16.95	70.66
Westario Power Inc.	104.56	15.16	110.27	102.71	104.99	437.69
Electricity Distribution Total	23,023.75	3,338.78	24,282.57	22,616.95	23,119.80	96,381.85