



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

June 17, 2021

**To: All Registered Stakeholders
All Other Interested Parties**

**Re: Consultation on the Deferral Account – Impacts Arising from the COVID-19
Emergency (EB-2020-0133)**

Today, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued the *Report of the Ontario Energy Board: Regulatory Treatment of Impacts Arising from the COVID-19 Emergency* (the Report), which has now been posted on the webpage for the [consultation](#).

Shortly after the Ontario government declared a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the OEB established a deferral account (the Account) for all rate-regulated electricity and natural gas utilities, to record incremental costs associated with the pandemic.

The OEB has been consulting with utilities, consumer groups and other stakeholders on establishing guidelines for the Account and the Report reflects the culmination of the consultation.

As noted in the Report, claims for cost recovery would ideally be filed in a utility's next cost-based proceeding. However, a utility is not precluded from filing sooner as a stand-alone application. Utilities that intend to file a stand-alone application in calendar year 2021, should inform the OEB within 60 days of the date of this letter.

Closing

The issuance of the Report marks the conclusion of the consultation. Cost-eligible activities related to this consultation are complete. A Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards will be issued separately. The OEB thanks the 47 registered stakeholders for their helpful input.

Any questions related to the consultation may be sent to Fiona O'Connell at fiona.oconnell@oeb.ca.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Christine E. Long
Registrar