

July 12, 2021

Christine Long
Board Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Via email to registrar@oeb.ca

Re: OEB Innovation Sandbox Renewal Consultation, Board File #: EB-2021-0180

Dear Ms. Long,

With this letter we are expressing interest and intent to participate in the above reference OEB consultation on behalf of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (“OCC”).

1. The OCC and its Interest in this Proceeding

The OCC is the independent, non-partisan voice of Ontario business, with a diverse network of 60,000 members. For more than a century it has supported economic growth in Ontario by advocating for business priorities at Queen’s Park. Its members represent all sectors of Ontario’s economy, from innovative small and medium Enterprises (“SMEs”) to established multinational corporations and industry associations. The views of these businesses should be considered in this proceeding.

The OCC’s mandate and objectives, its membership and the constituency it represents, and the types of programs and activities by which it carries out its mandate, are described on OCC’s website, www.occ.ca.

Low-cost electricity is vital for Ontario businesses to remain economically competitive and provide value to their customers. As a result, OCC members seek an approach to energy planning that balances affordability, transparency, and flexibility.

The OCC wishes to actively participate in this proceeding to ensure that any rate changes which the Board approves, in combination with other increases in electricity prices that come as a result of this proceeding, are affordable and capable of sustaining Ontario’s businesses.

2. Nature and Scope of the OCC’s Intended Participation

The OCC intends to participate actively in this proceeding for the purpose of:

- (a) Attending the Fall Stakeholder Event; and
- (b) Providing input on the draft redesign of the Innovation Sandbox;

The OCC is not seeking to participate in the one-on-one or small group meetings in July and

August.

3. Request for Materials

The OCC requests that an electronic copy of the materials relevant to this consultation be sent to its representative. The OCC does not require a hard copy of this material.

4. Request for Cost Eligibility

OCC intends to seek a cost award in this proceeding on the grounds that its ability to participate is dependent upon a determination that it is eligible for such an award. In many prior proceedings, the Board has determined that OCC is eligible for a Cost Award.

5. Strapolec's Representation of OCC

Strategic Policy Economics ("Strapolec") represents the OCC under the auspices of a written retainer agreement executed by the OCC. Strapolec's mandate is to represent the interests of businesses in those OEB proceedings which may have an impact on the rates which Ontario businesses pay for utility services. Claudia Dessanti, Senior Manager, Policy of OCC, is the individual with whom Strapolec liaises.

6. OCC Contacts

If the relief sought in this letter is granted, then OCC requests that further communications with respect to this matter be sent to the following individuals:

<p>Claudia Dessanti Senior Manager, Policy Ontario Chamber of Commerce 2105-180 Dundas Street West, Toronto ON M5G 1Z8</p> <p>Tel 647-243-0882 email claudiadessanti@occ.ca</p>	<p>Marc Brouillette Principal Consultant Strategic Policy Economics 148 Westminster Avenue Toronto, ON M6R 1N7</p> <p>Tel (416) 564-4185 email marc@strapolec.ca</p>
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Please contact the undersigned if the Board requires any further information in connection with these requests.

Yours very truly

Strategic Policy Economics



Marc Brouillette
Principal Consultant
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cc. Claudia Dessanti, OCC