



Ontario  
Energy  
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de l'Ontario

**BY EMAIL**

July 23, 2021

**To: Hydro One Networks Inc.  
All Intervenors in EB-2017-0049 and EB-2019-0082**

**Re: Hydro One Networks Inc.  
2023-2027 Joint Rate Application Proceeding  
Pre-Application Stakeholder Conference – Invitation Letter  
Board File Number: EB-2021-0110**

Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) is expected to file a Joint Rate application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for approval of a 5-year Custom Incentive Ratemaking (CIR) Framework to establish its 2023-2027 distribution rates and transmission revenue requirements, subject to annual adjustments, in August 2021.

The OEB is seeking input on how best to plan for an efficient and effective hearing for Hydro One's upcoming application with a view to completing the proceeding in 355 days as per the OEB's performance standard. Specifically, OEB staff has developed a draft case schedule and is seeking input from Hydro One and any interested parties that intend to seek intervenor status in this Hydro One proceeding. For that purpose, the OEB will hold a brief pre-application stakeholder conference on August 12, 2021.

### **Stakeholder Conference Details and Cost Awards**

The OEB's stakeholder conference will be held on **August 12, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.** by webcast. Conference details will be sent to registered participants before the meeting date. The conference will not be transcribed.

Stakeholders who intend to participate in the OEB's stakeholder session should indicate their intent by filing a letter with the OEB. The letters should be emailed to [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca) by **August 6, 2021**. Kindly include "EB-2021-0110 – Hydro One Stakeholder Conference Attendance" in the email subject line. Please include the following information in your letter:

- Participant name and contact information
- Organization name
- Cost eligibility request, if applicable

Note that all requests for cost eligibility should comply with the requirements referred to in Attachment A.

Cost awards will be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes for preparation and the actual meeting time and will be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* to eligible participants for their participation in the OEB's stakeholder conference. Costs awarded will be recovered entirely from Hydro One. Please be aware that approval for cost eligibility for the stakeholder conference does not imply that cost eligibility will be granted for the actual Joint Rate application.

## Agenda

The agenda is set out below:

Time	Activity
10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	OEB Staff – Presentation on the Proposed Hearing Schedule
10:20 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	All Party Discussion – Proposed Hearing Schedule

OEB staff's presentation will be provided to registered participants in advance of the stakeholder conference.

All other questions relating to this stakeholder conference should be directed to Martin Davies at [martin.davies@oeb.ca](mailto:martin.davies@oeb.ca) and Tracy Garner at [tracy.garner@oeb.ca](mailto:tracy.garner@oeb.ca).

The OEB's toll-free number is 1-877-632-2727.

Yours truly,

*Original signed by*

Christine E. Long  
Registrar

## Attachment A - Cost Award Eligibility

The OEB will determine eligibility for costs in accordance with its Practice Direction on Cost Awards. Any person intending to request an award of costs must identify the following in their letter:

- The nature of the person's interest in the stakeholder conference
- The grounds on which the person believes that they are eligible for an award of costs (addressing the OEB's cost eligibility criteria as set out in section 3 of the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards)
- An explanation of any other funding to which the person has access
- The name and credentials of any lawyer, analyst or consultant that the person intends to retain, if known

All requests for cost eligibility will be posted on the OEB's website.

Hydro One will have an opportunity to object to any of the requests for cost award eligibility. Objections must be filed with the OEB by **August 9, 2021** and will be posted on the OEB's website.

The OEB will then issue a final determination on cost eligibility.

## Eligible Activities

Activity Eligible for Cost Awards	Max. Number of Hours
Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the stakeholder conference (for eligible participants and/or their consultants)	Actual meeting time + 30 minutes

## Cost Awards

The OEB will apply the principles set out in section 5 of its Practice Direction on Cost Awards when awarding costs. The maximum hourly rates set out in the OEB's Cost Awards Tariff will be applied. The OEB expects that groups representing the same interests or class of persons will make every effort to communicate and coordinate their participation in this process.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of its Practice Direction on Cost Awards to implement the payment of the cost awards. Therefore, the OEB will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process. For more information, please refer to the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards.