

EB-2021-0292

### Independent Electricity System Operator, in its capacity as the Smart Metering Entity

Application to provide access to de-identified electricity consumption data to third parties that are Canadian Governmental Entities

### PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1 December 13, 2021

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), in its capacity as the Smart Metering Entity (SME), filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on October 29, 2021 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, Ontario Regulation 453/06 made under the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998 and subsections 53.8 of the *Electricity Act*, 1998 (Application). The Application seeks OEB approval to:

- Expand third party access to de-identified electricity consumption data beyond the IESO and OEB to Canadian Governmental Entities
- Provide access to de-identified consumption data under a no-fee model for standard requests, with costs covered by the Smart Metering Charge
- Provide access to de-identified consumption data under a cost recovery model of \$145.00 per hour for complex requests
- Use basic terms of the Data Use Agreement and the provision to tailor the Data Use Agreement to suit specific circumstances

A Notice of Hearing was issued on November 16, 2021. Each of Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA), Consumers Council of Canada (CCC), Electricity Distributors Association (EDA), Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe), Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA) and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) applied for intervenor status. BOMA, CCC, Energy Probe, OSEA and VECC applied for cost eligibility.

No objection was received from the IESO.

BOMA, CCC, EDA, Energy Probe, OSEA and VECC are approved as intervenors. The list of parties in this proceeding is attached as Schedule A to this Procedural Order.

BOMA, CCC, Energy Probe, OSEA and VECC are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards.

Cost eligible intervenors should be aware that the OEB will not generally allow the recovery of costs for the attendance of more than one representative of any party unless a compelling reason is provided when cost claims are filed.

Being eligible to apply for recovery of costs is not a guarantee of recovery of any costs claimed. Cost awards are made by way of OEB order at the end of a hearing.

#### **Process**

The IESO requested that the OEB consider a streamlined process for the review of the application and proposed that the OEB convene a settlement conference before initial discovery. The IESO noted that its intention is not to avoid or subvert the discovery process and acknowledged that its request is not consistent with the OEB's standard approach. The IESO stated that because of the extensive consultation it has already undertaken in the preparation of the application, it is of the view that initial discovery is not necessary in this case and that the issues can be resolved expeditiously through a settlement process.

In its intervention letter VECC stated that it did not have any objections to the IESO's proposal and recommended that the OEB consider making provision for parties to clarify matters related to the evidence at the start of the settlement conference. The EDA stated that it is not opposed to the IESO's request, but that if the request is granted, that the EDA have "the ability to revisit this position for whether the record of this proceeding is appropriately complete and for whether the approach has introduced risks to intervenors and interested parties."

The OEB will proceed with the process requested by the IESO. At this time the OEB is convening a four-day settlement conference. At the outset of the settlement conference parties will have an opportunity to clarify matters related to the IESO's evidence and develop an issues list. Parties may use the IESO's proposed Issues List<sup>2</sup> as the starting point for their discussions relating to the development of an Issues List. The OEB also notes that because there is no initial discovery, any settlement proposal must provide sufficient detail in support of any settled issues. If there are any corrections to the IESO's evidence because of the evidence clarification process, the changes should be clearly identified at the time the settlement proposal is filed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EB-2021-0292, Cover Letter to Application, p.1, October 29, 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> EB-2021-0292, Cover Letter to Application, p.2, October 29, 2021

If a settlement is reached, provision will be made for the presentation of any settlement proposal filed by the IESO.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. A 4-day settlement conference among the parties and OEB staff will be convened on January 17, 2022, starting at 9:30 a.m. At the outset of the settlement conference, parties will have the opportunity to clarify matters related to the IESO's evidence and develop an Issues List. The settlement conference will continue January 18, 20 and 21, 2022. The settlement conference will be a virtual event and information on how to participate will be provided at a later date.
- 2. **Within 48 hours** of the conclusion of the settlement conference, the IESO shall file a letter informing the OEB of the status of the settlement discussions, including whether a tentative agreement was reached on all issues. If there is no agreement on all issues, the IESO shall file a statement to that effect with the OEB.
- 3. Any settlement proposal arising from the settlement conference shall be filed with the OEB on or before **February 15, 2022**. The settlement proposal should contain a list of any unsettled issues and a proposal on how the parties propose to address the unsettled issues.
- 4. Any submission from OEB staff on a settlement proposal shall be filed with the OEB and served on all parties by **February 23, 2022**.
- 5. The OEB is setting a tentative date of **March 4**, **2022**, **from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** for the IESO to present to the OEB any settlement proposal. OEB staff will, at the direction of the OEB, confirm or amend this date in subsequent correspondence.

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or any other type of document, **do not include personal information** (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Please quote file number, **EB-2021-0292** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online filing portal</u>.

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address
- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the <u>Regulatory Electronic Submission System (RESS)</u>
   Document Guidelines found at the Filing Systems page on the OEB's website
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet <u>set up an account</u>, or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Michael Bell at Michael.Bell@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Ian Richler at Ian.Richler@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

DATED at Toronto, December 13, 2021

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** 

By delegation, before: Christine E. Long

Original signed by

Christine E. Long Registrar

# SCHEDULE A LIST OF APPLICANTS AND INTERVENORS INDEPENDENT ELECTRICITY SYSTEM OPERATOR

EB-2021-0292

December 13, 2021

### **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

**December 13, 2021** 

### **APPLICANT**

### Rep. and Address for Service

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December 13, 2021

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### **APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

**December 13, 2021** 

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