



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

EB-2018-0278

Activities and Program-based Benchmarking Initiative

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

December 14, 2021

OVERVIEW

On October 10, 2018, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) launched an initiative to develop Activity and Program Based Benchmarking (APB) to encourage continuous improvements by regulated utilities. For the development of APB initiative, which has been completed, cost awards are available for eligible participants under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, for participation in the various phases of the initiative. In previous letters, the OEB established a process for stakeholder participation and identified the activities that would be cost-eligible. The OEB also previously determined that costs would be recovered from all rate-regulated electricity distributors and apportioned based on their respective customer numbers.

Based on the criteria set out in section 3 of the OEB's *Practice and Direction on Cost Awards*, the OEB has determined that the following persons are eligible for an award of costs:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- London Property Management Association (LPMA)
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

On November 15, 2021, the OEB issued a Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards (the Notice) in relation to activities for preparation and attendance at a stakeholder meeting.

ACTIVITY	TOTAL ELIGIBLE HOURS PER PARTICIPANT
Working Group for APB Initiative	Actual meeting time plus up to a maximum of 4 hours per meeting for preparation
OEB Staff Discussion Paper and Stakeholder Consultation Meeting	Up to a maximum of 12 hours (for review and comment on staff discussion paper) and actual attendance time to a maximum of 6 hours
Attendance at Stakeholder Meeting on APB Report	Actual preparation and attendance time to maximum of 10 hours

The OEB received cost claims from AMPCO, CCC, LPMA, Pollution Probe and SEC. By e-mail, BOMA and VECC stated that they would not file a cost claim. No objections were received.

OEB Findings

The OEB has reviewed the cost claims filed by AMPCO, CCC, LPMA, Pollution Probe and SEC to ensure they were compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB finds that the cost claims of AMPCO, CCC, LPMA, Pollution Probe and SEC are reasonable having considered the instructions provided in the OEB's letters regarding eligible activities. The OEB approves cost awards for the Eligible Participants as follows:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario \$8,203.80
- Consumers Council of Canada \$10,441.20
- London Property Management Association \$7,458.00
- Pollution Probe \$1,771.28
- School Energy Coalition \$11,297.74

Process for Paying the Cost Awards

The amount payable by each rate-regulated electricity distributor in relation to costs awarded to each Eligible Participant is listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order. 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 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 December 14, 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-2018-0278

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	Consumers Council of Canada	London Property Management Association	Pollution Probe	School Energy Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Costs	Total Costs
Algoma Power Inc.	18.73	23.84	17.03	4.04	25.80	89.45	829.16	918.60
Alectra Utilities Corporation	1,627.91	2,071.89	1,479.92	351.48	2,241.86	7,773.07	72,054.78	79,827.85
Atikokan Hydro Inc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	115.86	115.86
Attawapiskat Power Corporation	-	-	-	-	-	-	36.18	36.18
Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation	58.42	74.36	53.11	12.61	80.46	278.97	2,585.95	2,864.91
Brantford Power Inc.	63.38	80.67	57.62	13.68	87.28	302.63	2,805.31	3,107.94
Burlington Hydro Inc.	107.59	136.93	97.81	23.23	148.16	513.72	4,762.04	5,275.75
Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	46.42	59.08	42.20	10.02	63.93	221.66	2,054.71	2,276.36
Centre Wellington Hydro Ltd.	11.05	14.06	10.05	2.39	15.22	52.76	489.12	541.88
Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation	-	-	-	-	-	-	87.18	87.18
EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario Inc	27.42	34.89	24.92	5.92	37.75	130.90	1,213.45	1,344.35
Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	157.66	157.66
E.L.K. Energy Inc.	19.48	24.79	17.71	4.21	26.82	93.00	862.11	955.11
Energy+ Inc.	103.52	131.75	94.11	22.35	142.56	494.28	4,581.90	5,076.18

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	Consumers Council of Canada	London Property Management Association	Pollution Probe	School Energy Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Costs	Total Costs
Entegrus Powerlines Inc.	93.75	119.32	85.23	20.24	129.11	447.66	4,149.70	4,597.36
Enwin Utilities Ltd.	141.38	179.94	128.53	30.53	194.70	675.08	6,257.85	6,932.93
ERTH Power Corporation	36.45	46.39	33.14	7.87	50.20	174.04	1,613.36	1,787.40
Espanola Regional Hydro Distribution Corporation	5.26	6.70	4.78	1.14	7.25	25.13	232.91	258.03
Essex Powerlines Corporation	47.48	60.43	43.16	10.25	65.39	226.71	2,101.55	2,328.26
Elexicon Energy	260.81	331.93	237.10	56.31	359.17	1,245.31	11,543.80	12,789.11
Festival Hydro Inc.	33.73	42.93	30.67	7.28	46.46	161.08	1,493.15	1,654.23
Fort Frances Power Corporation	5.99	7.62	5.44	1.29	8.25	28.60	265.10	293.70
Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.	75.89	96.59	69.00	16.39	104.52	362.39	3,359.25	3,721.64
Grimsby Power Incorporated	18.16	23.11	16.51	3.92	25.01	86.70	803.71	890.41
Halton Hills Hydro Inc.	35.57	45.27	32.34	7.68	48.99	169.85	1,574.46	1,744.31
Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.	8.85	11.27	8.05	1.91	12.19	42.27	391.84	434.11
Hearst Power Distribution Company Limited	-	-	-	-	-	-	191.01	191.01
Hydro 2000 Inc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	90.65	90.65
Hydro One Networks Inc.	2,192.28	2,790.18	1,992.99	473.34	3,019.07	10,467.86	97,034.89	107,502.74
Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.	5.77	7.34	5.24	1.25	7.94	27.53	255.24	282.78
Hydro Ottawa Limited	530.24	674.84	482.03	114.48	730.21	2,531.80	23,469.27	26,001.07
Innpower Corporation	27.62	35.16	25.11	5.96	38.04	131.90	1,222.65	1,354.54

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	Consumers Council of Canada	London Property Management Association	Pollution Probe	School Energy Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Costs	Total Costs
Kashechewan Power Corporation	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.26	30.26
Kingston Hydro Corporation	44.11	56.15	40.10	9.52	60.75	210.64	1,952.62	2,163.26
Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc.	152.75	194.42	138.87	32.98	210.36	729.38	6,761.24	7,490.62
Lakefront Utilities Inc.	16.53	21.03	15.02	3.57	22.76	78.92	731.53	810.44
Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.	21.60	27.50	19.64	4.66	29.75	103.16	956.27	1,059.43
London Hydro Inc.	251.39	319.95	228.53	54.28	346.19	1,200.34	11,126.88	12,327.22
Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.	60.91	77.52	55.37	13.15	83.88	290.83	2,695.89	2,986.72
Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd.	68.85	87.63	62.59	14.87	94.82	328.76	3,047.51	3,376.27
Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	87.47	111.32	79.51	18.88	120.45	417.64	3,871.43	4,289.07
Niagara-on-the-lake Hydro Inc.	14.96	19.04	13.60	3.23	20.60	71.43	662.16	733.59
North Bay Hydro Distribution Limited	38.56	49.08	35.06	8.33	53.10	184.12	1,706.79	1,890.91
Northern Ontario Wires Inc.	9.53	12.13	8.67	2.06	13.13	45.52	421.98	467.51
Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	112.66	143.39	102.42	24.32	155.15	537.95	4,986.66	5,524.61
Orangeville Hydro Limited	19.69	25.06	17.90	4.25	27.12	94.02	871.52	965.54
Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.	92.27	117.43	83.88	19.92	127.07	440.57	4,083.98	4,524.55
Ottawa River Power Corporation	17.77	22.62	16.16	3.84	24.48	84.86	786.65	871.51
PUC Distribution Inc.	53.65	68.29	48.78	11.58	73.89	256.19	2,374.79	2,630.98
Renfrew Hydro Inc.	6.87	8.74	6.24	1.48	9.46	32.79	303.98	336.77

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	Consumers Council of Canada	London Property Management Association	Pollution Probe	School Energy Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Costs	Total Costs
Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.	9.42	11.99	8.56	2.03	12.97	44.98	416.96	461.94
Sioux Lookout Hydro Inc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	199.81	199.81
Synergy North Corporation	90.21	114.81	82.01	19.48	124.23	430.73	3,992.75	4,423.47
Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.	11.41	14.53	10.38	2.46	15.72	54.50	505.23	559.73
Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited	1,227.02	1,561.67	1,115.48	264.93	1,689.78	5,858.87	54,310.56	60,169.44
Wasaga Distribution Inc.	21.70	27.62	19.73	4.69	29.89	103.63	960.66	1,064.29
Waterloo North Hydro Inc.	90.99	115.81	82.72	19.65	125.31	434.47	4,027.42	4,461.89
Welland Hydro-Electric System Corp.	36.91	46.98	33.56	7.97	50.83	176.26	1,633.85	1,810.11
Wellington North Power Inc.	6.03	7.67	5.48	1.30	8.30	28.79	266.87	295.66
Westario Power Inc.	37.35	47.54	33.96	8.06	51.44	178.34	1,653.22	1,831.56
Electricity Distribution Total (100%)	8,203.80	10,441.20	7,458.00	1,771.28	11,297.74	39,172.02	364,025.26	403,197.28
Grand Total	\$ 8,203.80	\$ 10,441.20	\$ 7,458.00	\$ 1,771.28	\$ 11,297.74	\$ 39,172.02	\$ 364,025.26	\$ 403,197.28

**total intervenor costs of \$100.02 was reallocated to the companies listed in the Appendix A based on the s.26 Cost Assessment Model to eliminate charges under \$25. This option is in line with the Practice Direction on Cost Awards (section 12.02).*

***total board costs of \$20.90 was reallocated to the companies listed in the Appendix A based on the s.26 Cost Assessment Model to eliminate charges under \$25. This option is in line with the Practice Direction on OEB Cost (section 12.02).*