

BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

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February 3, 2022

To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors

Participants in the Stakeholder Engagement on Class B Pricing

Participants in the Stakeholder Meeting on the RPP Pilot Meta-Analysis Final

Report

Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards Related to Stakeholder Engagements for

the RPP Roadmap

Ontario Energy Board File No. EB-2016-0201

In 2021, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) conducted two engagements related to electricity pricing. This letter addresses cost awards under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998 (the Act) for eligible activities related to those engagements.

## **Cost Award Eligible Activities**

On December 14, 2020, the OEB issued a letter inviting non-Regulated Price Plan (RPP) Class B customers to meet with OEB staff to discuss the policy and economic merits of new alternative price designs for non-RPP Class B customers. Throughout January and February 2021, 11 meetings with 17 participating customer groups were conducted, producing valuable feedback and insight into the alternative price designs presented. The invitation letter made provision for cost awards for eligible participants of up to 3 hours for preparation and attendance at a stakeholder meeting.

On December 16, 2021, the OEB held a meeting to present and discuss the RPP Pilot Meta-Analysis Final Report. The Report provides an analysis of the results of four pilot projects testing ten alternative RPP price plans and non-price features, along with recommendations stemming from that analysis. The invitation letter made provision for cost awards of up to 12 hours for preparation, attendance and reporting on the stakeholder meeting for eligible participants.

The OEB issued Decisions on March 21, 2019, April 11, 2019, March 4, 2021 and December 13, 2021 that determined the following participants in this consultation process are eligible for cost awards:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario
- Building Owners and Managers Association, Greater Toronto
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters
- · Consumers Council of Canada
- London Property Management Association
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce
- Quinte Manufacturers Association
- School Energy Coalition

In the invitation letters for both engagements, the OEB identified that costs would be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors.

## **Cost Award Process**

The decision on costs will be made under delegated authority under section 6 of the Act. In order to determine the cost awards for these activities, the OEB will follow the process set out below.

- 1. Eligible participants shall submit their cost claims by **February 17, 2022**. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served on each licensed electricity distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards.
- 2. Rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors will have until **March 3, 2022** to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. The objection must be filed with the OEB and one copy must be served on the eligible participant against whose claim the objection is being made.
- 3. The eligible participant whose cost claim was objected to will have until **March 10**, **2022** to file a reply submission with the OEB as to why its cost claim should be allowed. One copy of the reply submission is to be served on the objecting party.

The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards. The OEB's costs will also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

## **How to File Materials**

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB **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 <u>Rules of Practice and Procedure</u>.

Please quote file number **EB-2016-0201** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online</u> filing portal.

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number, fax 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 www.oeb.ca/industry.
- Stakeholders are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet <u>set up an account</u>, or require assistance using the web portal can contact <u>registrar@oeb.ca</u> for assistance.

All communications regarding cost award matters should be directed to the attention of the Registrar and be received at the address below by end of business on the required date.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll-free)

Dated at Toronto, February 3, 2022

## ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

Attachment: Cost Claim Form