



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

EB-2019-0207

Distributed Energy Resources Connections Review

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

September 28, 2022

OVERVIEW

On August 13, 2019, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [letter](#) commencing an initiative to review its requirements in regard to the connection of distributed energy resources (DERs) by licensed electricity distributors (DER Connections Review). The letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act) and that the OEB had determined that licensed, rate-regulated electricity distributors would pay the costs.

The OEB issued Decisions on September 10, 2019, September 13, 2019, September 23, 2019, and January 13, 2020, that determined the following participants in this consultation process were eligible to apply for an award of costs (eligible participants):

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe)
- Environmental Defence
- London Property Management Association (LPMA)
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC)
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)

The Decisions noted that cost awards would be available in relation to participation in the Working Group. In the Decisions, the OEB requested that participants with similar viewpoints coordinate their activities to reduce costs and advised that this effort will be taken into account during the decision on awards of costs.

The maximum number of cost-eligible hours per participant to prepare for, attend and report on Working Group Meetings was limited to 1.5 times (or 2 times where one consultant was acting on behalf of two separate organizations) the meeting time.

The OEB has issued three prior Decisions & Orders on Cost Awards in this proceeding: a June 25, 2020 Decision & Order in relation to DER Connections Review activities from August 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020; an April 29, 2021 Decision & Order on Cost Awards for DER Connections Review activities from August 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020; and a March 25, 2022 Decision and Order in relation to DER Connections Review activities from March 2, 2021 to February 2, 2022.

On August 24, 2022, the OEB issued a Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards (the Notice) in relation to DER Connections Review activities from February 3, 2022 to June 30, 2022.

The OEB received cost claims from CME, Energy Probe, Environmental Defence, OCC and Pollution Probe. AMPCO, BOMA, CCC, LPMA and SEC did not file a cost claim. No objections were received.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed the cost claims filed by CME, Energy Probe, Environmental Defence, OCC and Pollution Probe to ensure they are compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The claims by CME, Energy Probe, Environmental Defence, and OCC are approved.

With respect to Pollution Probe, the submitted cost claim exceeds the maximum number of hours set out in the OEB's Notice. Specifically, Pollution Probe claimed 4.75 hours for a "Tranche 3 Process SubGroup Meeting #4" held on March 29, 2022, while the maximum number of cost-eligible hours for this activity was 4.5 hours. The OEB has, accordingly, reduced Pollution Probe's claim.

The OEB finds that the claims of CME, Energy Probe, Environmental Defence and OCC, and the adjusted claim of Pollution Probe, are reasonable and within the maximum number of hours eligible for cost awards. These claims shall be apportioned

to, and reimbursed by, each licensed, rate-regulated electricity distributor based on their respective number of customers. The OEB approves cost awards as follows:

• Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	\$2,889.99
• Energy Probe Research Foundation	\$1,581.53
• Environmental Defence	\$9,891.47
• Ontario Chamber of Commerce	\$2,796.76
• Pollution Probe	\$8,110.58

Process for Paying the Cost Awards

The amount payable by each licensed, rate-regulated electricity distributor in relation to costs awarded to each eligible participant is listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order. The amounts will not be paid directly by the distributor to the eligible participants.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of the Practice Direction on Cost Awards to implement the payment of the approved cost awards whereby the OEB will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards. Consistent with this process, each distributor is issued one invoice that covers all cost awards payable for the relevant period. As a result, the invoice may cover cost awards payable in relation to a number of proceedings and consultations, including this proceeding.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Each licensed distributor in Schedule A to this Decision and Order shall make a payment to the OEB in accordance with the invoice set out in Schedule A. The payment shall be due at the same time as all other cost assessments under section 26 of the OEB Act.

DATED at Toronto September 28, 2022

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-2019-0207

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence	Ontario Chamber of Commerce	Pollution Probe	Cost Awards	Total Costs
Algoma Power Inc.	6.64	3.63	22.73	6.43	18.64	58.07	58.07
Alectra Utilities Corporation	581.83	318.40	1,991.41	563.06	1,632.87	5,087.57	5,087.57
Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation	20.22	11.07	69.22	19.57	56.76	176.84	176.84
GrandBridge Energy Inc.	59.15	32.37	202.44	57.24	165.99	517.19	517.19
Burlington Hydro Inc.	37.56	20.56	128.57	36.35	105.42	328.46	328.46
Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	16.28	8.91	55.72	15.76	45.69	142.36	142.36
Centre Wellington Hydro Ltd.	3.99	2.18	13.66	3.86	11.20	34.89	34.89
EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario Inc	9.97	5.46	34.13	9.65	27.99	87.20	87.20
E.L.K. Energy Inc.	6.91	3.78	23.65	6.69	19.39	60.42	60.42
Entegrus Powerlines Inc.	33.19	18.16	113.61	32.12	93.15	290.23	290.23
Enwin Utilities Ltd.	49.36	27.01	168.95	47.77	138.53	431.62	431.62
ERTH Power Corporation	12.90	7.06	44.15	12.48	36.20	112.79	112.79
Essex Powerlines Corporation	16.80	9.19	57.49	16.26	47.14	146.88	146.88
Elexicon Energy	92.85	50.81	317.80	89.86	260.59	811.91	811.91

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence	Ontario Chamber of Commerce	Pollution Probe	Cost Awards	Total Costs
Festival Hydro Inc.	11.86	6.49	40.60	11.48	33.29	103.72	103.72
Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.	26.22	14.35	89.75	25.38	73.59	229.29	229.29
Grimsby Power Incorporated	6.40	3.50	21.91	6.19	17.96	55.96	55.96
Halton Hills Hydro Inc.	12.36	6.76	42.31	11.96	34.69	108.08	108.08
Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.	3.00	1.64	10.26	2.90	8.42	26.22	26.22
Hydro One Networks Inc.	774.18	423.67	2,649.73	749.19	2,172.63	6,769.40	6,769.40
Hydro Ottawa Limited	189.74	103.84	649.43	183.62	532.50	1,659.13	1,659.13
Innpower Corporation	10.56	5.78	36.15	10.22	29.64	92.35	92.35
Kingston Hydro Corporation	15.19	8.31	51.97	14.70	42.62	132.79	132.79
Enova Power Corp. (Formerly Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc.)	54.25	29.69	185.68	52.50	152.25	474.37	474.37
Lakefront Utilities Inc.	5.83	3.19	19.95	5.64	16.36	50.97	50.97
Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.	7.63	4.18	26.13	7.39	21.43	66.76	66.76
London Hydro Inc.	88.83	48.61	304.02	85.96	249.29	776.71	776.71
Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.	22.58	12.36	77.29	21.85	63.38	197.46	197.46
Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd.	24.21	13.25	82.85	23.43	67.94	211.68	211.68
Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	31.21	17.08	106.83	30.21	87.59	272.92	272.92
Niagara-on-the-lake Hydro Inc.	5.28	2.89	18.06	5.11	14.81	46.15	46.15
North Bay Hydro Distribution Limited	13.31	7.28	45.55	12.88	37.35	116.37	116.37

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence	Ontario Chamber of Commerce	Pollution Probe	Cost Awards	Total Costs
Northern Ontario Wires Inc.	3.25	1.78	11.12	3.14	9.12	28.41	28.41
Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	40.54	22.19	138.76	39.23	113.78	354.50	354.50
Orangeville Hydro Limited	6.96	3.81	23.81	6.73	19.52	60.83	60.83
Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.	32.59	17.83	111.54	31.54	91.46	284.96	284.96
Ottawa River Power Corporation	6.27	3.43	21.45	6.07	17.59	54.81	54.81
PUC Distribution Inc.	18.49	10.12	63.29	17.89	51.89	161.68	161.68
Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.	3.23	1.77	11.06	3.13	9.07	28.26	28.26
Synergy North Corporation	31.17	17.05	106.67	30.16	87.46	272.51	272.51
Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.	4.23	2.31	14.47	4.09	11.87	36.97	36.97
Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited	426.86	233.60	1,461.01	413.09	1,197.97	3,732.53	3,732.53
Wasaga Distribution Inc.	7.80	4.27	26.70	7.55	21.89	68.21	68.21
Enova Power Corp. (Formerly Waterloo North Hydro Inc.)	32.01	17.52	109.58	30.98	89.85	279.94	279.94
Welland Hydro-Electric System Corp.	13.18	7.21	45.10	12.75	36.98	115.22	115.22
Westario Power Inc.	13.12	7.18	44.91	12.70	36.83	114.74	114.74
Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator Total	\$ 2,889.99	\$ 1,581.53	\$ 9,891.47	\$ 2,796.76	\$ 8,110.58	\$ 25,270.33	\$ 25,270.33

**total intervenor costs of \$156.51 were reallocated to the companies listed in the Schedule 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).*