

### BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

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December 14, 2022

To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors
All Licensed Electricity Transmitters
All Participants in EB-2021-0118
All Other Interested Parties

Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards

**OEB/IESO Joint Engagement Session on Distributed Energy Resources** 

Integration, April 13, 2022

This notice invites eligible participants to submit cost claims for participation in the OEB/IESO Joint Engagement on Distributed Energy Resources Integration Session (Joint Session) on April 13, 2022.

## **Background**

On March 23, 2021, the OEB issued a <u>letter</u> confirming that cost awards for the Framework for Energy Innovation (FEI) consultation (EB-2021-0118) would be available to eligible participants under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act,* 1998, and costs would be recovered as follows:

- 80% from all rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors
- 20% from all rate-regulated licensed electricity transmitters

On October 14, 2021, the OEB issued a <u>letter</u> confirming that the OEB and the IESO would jointly host bi-annual stakeholder meetings, leveraging existing stakeholder activities already underway through FEI. The letter also confirmed that cost awards for the first Joint Session held on October 20, 2021, would be available to participants who had been determined by the OEB to be eligible for costs in the FEI consultation. Costs related to the first Joint Session were awarded in a previous <u>Decision and Order</u> on FEI cost awards, issued on March 24, 2022.

On March 8, 2022, the OEB issued a <u>letter</u> inviting interested stakeholders to participate in the second Joint Session on April 13, 2022. The letter also confirmed that cost awards for the April 2022 Joint Session will be available to participants who have been determined by the OEB to be eligible for costs in the FEI consultation. This eligible activity was inadvertently excluded from the <u>Notice of Hearing</u>, issued on September 12, 2022, addressing FEI cost claims for eligible activities that took place between February 1, 2022, and September 2, 2022.

The following organizations have previously been found to be eligible for an award of costs in relation to cost eligible activities (collectively the Eligible Participants):<sup>1</sup>

- Anwaatin Inc.
- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario
- Building Owners and Managers Association Toronto
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters
- Consumers Council of Canada
- Energy Probe Research Foundation
- Electric Vehicle Society
- Environmental Defence
- Industrial Gas Users Association
- London Property Management Association
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition

### **Eligible Activities**

The eligible activities are as follows:

Activities Eligible for Cost Awards	Maximum number of hours
Attendance and participation in the April 13, 2022,	Two hours
OEB/IESO Joint Engagement Session	

# **Notice of Hearing**

The OEB is initiating a hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards that will be made in accordance with section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. The decision on costs will be made under delegated authority under section 6 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. The hearing will follow the process set out below.

- Eligible participants intending to claim cost awards shall submit their cost claims by January 16, 2023. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards. Any cost claims will be available for review by licensed electricity distributors and transmitters through the OEB's website under file number EB-2021-0118.
- 2. Rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors and transmitters will have until **January 23, 2023,** to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. The objection

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EB-2021-0118 – OEB Letter re: Cost Awards Process Framework for Energy Innovation: Distributed Resources and Utility Incentives (April 22, 2021) and EB-2021-0118 Decision on Cost Eligibility Framework for Energy Innovation: Distributed Resources and Utility Incentives (May 10, 2021)

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 **January 30**, **2023**, 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.
- 4. The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards. The OEB's costs will also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of its <u>Practice Direction on Cost</u> <u>Awards</u> to implement the payment of the cost awards. The OEB will therefore act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process.

### **How to File Materials**

Stakeholders 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 Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Please quote file number, **EB-2021-0118** 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> <u>Document Guidelines</u> found at the <u>File documents online page</u> on the OEB's website.
- Stakeholders are expected to use RESS. Those who have not yet <u>set up an account</u>, or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact <u>registrar@oeb.ca</u> for assistance.
- Cost claims are now filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the <u>File documents online page</u> of the OEB's website for more information. All participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all required parties as per the <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u>.

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

Any questions related to this consultation should be directed to FEI@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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

**DATED** at Toronto on December 14, 2022

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** 

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance