



EB-2022-0028

EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario Inc.

Application for electricity distribution rates and other charges beginning January 1, 2023

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 5
December 20, 2022**

EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario Inc. (EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario) filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on May 27, 2022 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario charges for electricity distribution in the service area comprised of Collingwood, Stayner and Creemore (part of Clearview Township) and Thornbury (part of The Town of the Blue Mountains), beginning January 1, 2023.

EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario subsequently filed additional evidence on September 14, 2022, in support of an effective date of October 1, 2023. In Procedural Order No. 3, the OEB made provision for discovery on the new evidence and rescheduled the settlement conference process along with the settlement proposal presentation day.

In Procedural Order No. 4 dated October 4, 2022, the OEB rescheduled the dates for the settlement conference and subsequent procedural steps, including a submission from OEB staff on the settlement proposal due to a scheduling conflict for School Energy Coalition (SEC) and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC). The settlement conference convened on November 7-9, 2022. EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario, Environmental Defence (ED), SEC and VECC participated in the settlement conference. OEB staff attended the settlement conference but was not a party to the settlement proposal (partial).

Small Business Utility Alliance (SBUA) and ED, both intervenors in this proceeding, took no position on the issues that were either settled or partially settled.

On December 9, 2022, EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario filed a settlement proposal and responses to pre-settlement conference clarification questions with the OEB. The settlement proposal reflects a partial settlement agreed to by the parties in the proceeding. The settlement proposal addresses three settled issues, two partially settled and seven issues for which no settlement was reached. The parties to the settlement proposal agreed that the unsettled issues would be most efficiently disposed of by way of an oral hearing.

On December 15, 2022, OEB staff filed its submission on the settlement proposal.

After reviewing the settlement proposal and OEB staff's submission, the OEB accepts the settlement reached on the issues identified in the settlement proposal. The OEB also agrees with the parties regarding the form of hearing, and will hold an oral hearing on the remaining issues. The OEB will also provide for the filing of written argument.

Parties are expected to work with the Hearings Advisor to develop a hearing schedule.

The OEB considers it necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. The OEB may issue further procedural orders from time to time.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. A transcribed oral hearing will be held on **February 14-15, 2023** starting at 9:30 a.m. This event will be conducted by way of a virtual hearing. Further information on how to connect to the proceeding will be communicated to parties closer to the date. The hearing will continue, if required, on **February 16, 2023**.
2. EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario shall file its Argument-in-Chief with the OEB and deliver to all parties by **February 27, 2023**.
3. OEB staff and intervenors shall file submissions with the OEB and deliver them to all other parties by **March 9, 2023**.
4. EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario shall file its reply submission with the OEB and deliver it to all other parties by **March 20, 2023**.

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-2022-0028** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the [OEB's online filing portal](#).

- 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 [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guidelines](#) found at the [File documents online page](#) on the OEB's website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#), or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the [File documents online page](#) 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 [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

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, Katherine Wang at Katherine.Wang@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, James Sidlofsky at James.Sidlofsky@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca
Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

DATED at Toronto, December 20, 2022

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi
Registrar