



Ontario  
Energy  
Board | Commission  
de l'énergie  
de l'Ontario

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## **DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY**

**EB-2023-0003**

**Engagement on Distributor Resilience,  
Responsiveness and Cost Efficiency**

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

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**March 2, 2023**

## INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On January 25, 2023, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [letter](#) to initiate a consultation on distributor resilience, responsiveness, and cost efficiency. The letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, which will be paid for by all rate-regulated licensed rate-regulated electricity distributors. The letter made provision for stakeholders to apply for eligibility and for rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors to object.

The following organizations applied for cost award eligibility:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- Coalition of Concerned Manufacturers and Businesses of Canada (CCMBC)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Environmental Defence
- London Property Management Association (LPMA)
- Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA)
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)

No objections were received in relation to these requests for cost award eligibility.

This cost eligibility decision is being issued by delegated authority under section 6 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*.

## OEB FINDINGS

The OEB has determined that all eight organizations are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the *OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

AMPCO, BOMA, CCMBC, CCC, LPMA, and SEC are granted eligibility given that they represent consumer groups which have an interest in this process. Environmental Defence and Pollution Probe are granted eligibility given that they represent an interest relevant to the consultation. While the OEB recognizes that some members of OSEA may have a commercial interest that relates to the deployment of climate resilience measures, the OEB accepts that OSEA's membership is in a position to contribute to the current consultation process by sharing perspectives on sustainable approaches to energy development. Accordingly, OSEA is also eligible for an award of costs in this proceeding under section 3.0.5 of the Practice Direction.

As indicated in the OEB's January 25, 2023 letter, the OEB expects that groups representing the same interests or class of persons will make every effort to communicate and co-ordinate their participation in this process. Such efforts will be taken into account by the OEB in making a decision on the award of costs.

The OEB reminds eligible participants that cost awards will be available for participation in the March 20, 2023 stakeholder meeting to a maximum of six hours for preparation and attendance. Details regarding future meetings and activities in regards to this consultation, and the eligibility for costs will be provided in a separate communication.

**DATED** at Toronto March 2, 2023

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Brian Hewson  
Vice President,  
Consumer Protection & Industry Performance