

## **DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS**

EB-2021-0307

### **Reliability and Power Quality Review**

By Delegation Before: Brian Hewson

**Vice President, Consumer Protection &** 

**Industry Performance** 

#### **OVERVIEW**

On November 30, 2021, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a <u>letter</u> launching a comprehensive review of reliability and power quality (RPQR) in the Ontario electricity sector. The November 30 letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act) to eligible participants.

The OEB issued letters on December 17, 2021, January 10, 2022, and June 28, 2022, that determined the following participants in this consultation process were eligible to apply for an award of costs:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Anwaatin Inc. (Anwaatin)
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)

In the December 17 letter, the OEB granted cost awards eligibility for submissions on the topics and questions identified in the November 30 letter. The OEB determined that eligible parties would be eligible for up to eight hours for commenting on the topics and questions identified in the letter. The June 28 letter indicated that cost awards would be available to cover eligible parties' preparation, attendance and reporting time in relation to meetings of the RPQR working group and any sub-working group(s), up to 1.5 times of actual attended meeting time.

On May 31, 2023, the OEB issued a Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards in which it set out the process for cost claims in relation to the following eligible activities:

- Submissions on questions identified in the November 30, letter
- Participation in the RPQR working group meetings from August 3, 2022 to May 31, 2023
- Participation in the Loss of Supply sub-working group meetings from September 12, 2022 to February 13, 2023

The OEB received cost claims from Anwaatin, AMPCO, BOMA, Energy Probe, SEC and VECC. No objections were received from licensed electricity distributors or transmitters.

#### **Findings**

The OEB has reviewed the cost claims filed by Anwaatin, AMPCO, BOMA, Energy Probe, SEC and VECC to ensure they were compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The cost claims submitted by AMPCO, BOMA, Energy Probe, SEC and VECC are approved.

Anwaatin's claim of six hours for a working group meeting held on November 14, 2022 is reduced to one hour. According to Anwaatin, the amount was inadvertently claimed. The OEB has reduced Anwaatin's claim to reflect this error.

The OEB approves cost awards as follows:

| • | Anwaatin     | \$11,202.82 |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| • | AMPCO        | \$35,425.52 |
| • | BOMA         | \$30,950.72 |
| • | Energy Probe | \$1,757.25  |
| • | SEC          | \$33,581.34 |
| • | VECC         | \$1,286.26  |

This Decision and Order is in relation to activities undertaken in the initial phase of RPQR, which focused on the enhancement and improvement of reliability data reporting by distributors. Therefore, the OEB has determined that all costs awarded are to be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors. Within the distributor class, costs awarded will be apportioned based on respective customer numbers as per the OEB's cost assessment model. The OEB may find it appropriate to allocate costs between licensed electricity distributors and transmitters for future RPQR activities based on the scope of work.

The OEB also approves an amount of \$89,396 for recovery from licensed electricity distributors associated with the OEB's costs of and incidental to this consultation. This cost is related to the work conducted by London Economics International LLC for developing a reliability benchmarking model and setting performance expectations for licensed electricity distributors.

#### **Process for Paying the Cost Awards**

The amount payable by each licensed electricity distributor in relation to costs awarded 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 consultation. The payment shall be due at the same time as all other cost assessments under section 26 of the OEB Act.

#### THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Each licensed electricity distributor in Schedule A to this Decision and Order shall make a payment to the OEB in accordance with the amounts set out in Schedule A, upon receiving an invoice from the OEB.

**DATED** at Toronto July 27, 2023

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** 

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

# Schedule A OEB's Decision and Order on Cost Awards EB-2021-0307

# Schedule A OEB's Decision and Order on Cost Awards EB-2021-0307

| Electricity Distribution<br>System Owner/<br>Operator | Anwaatin Inc. | Association of<br>Major Power<br>Consumers in<br>Ontario | Building<br>Owners &<br>Managers<br>Association | Energy Probe | School Energy<br>Coalition | Vulnerable<br>Energy<br>Consumers<br>Coalition | Cost Awards | OEB Cost  | Total Costs |
|---|---------------|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Algoma Power Inc.                                     | 25.50         | 80.64  | 70.46   | 4.00         | 76.45                      | 2.93   | 259.98      | 203.50    | 463.48      |
| Alectra Utilities Corporation                         | 2,231.10      | 7,055.17   | 6,163.99  | 349.97       | 6,687.90                   | 256.17   | 22,744.30   | 17,803.67 | 40,547.97   |
| Atikokan Hydro Inc.                                   | 3.38          | 10.68  | 9.33  | 0.53         | 10.12                      | 0.39   | 34.43       | 26.95     | 61.38       |
| Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation              | 77.21         | 244.14   | 213.30  | 12.11        | 231.43                     | 8.86   | 787.05      | 616.09    | 1,403.14    |
| Burlington Hydro Inc.                                 | 143.38        | 453.39   | 396.12  | 22.49        | 429.79                     | 16.46  | 1,461.63    | 1,144.13  | 2,605.76    |
| Canadian Niagara Power Inc.                           | 62.66         | 198.14   | 173.11  | 9.83         | 187.82                     | 7.19   | 638.75      | 500.00    | 1,138.75    |
| Centre Wellington Hydro Ltd.                          | 15.40         | 48.71  | 42.56   | 2.42         | 46.17                      | 1.77   | 157.03      | 122.92    | 279.95      |
| Chapleau Public Utilities<br>Corporation              | 2.55          | 8.07   | 7.05  | 0.40         | 7.65                       | 0.29   | 26.01       | 20.37     | 46.38       |
| EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario Inc.           | 38.56         | 121.92   | 106.52  | 6.05         | 115.57                     | 4.43   | 393.05      | 307.66    | 700.71      |
| Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc.                         | 5.10          | 16.13  | 14.09   | 0.80         | 15.29                      | 0.59   | 52.00       | 40.69     | 92.69       |
| E.L.K. Energy Inc.                                    | 25.50         | 80.62  | 70.44   | 4.00         | 76.43                      | 2.93   | 259.92      | 203.45    | 463.37      |
| Elexicon Energy Inc.                                  | 357.84        | 1,131.56   | 988.63  | 56.13        | 1,072.66                   | 41.09  | 3,647.91    | 2,855.49  | 6,503.40    |
| Enova Power Corp.                                     | 331.22        | 1,047.37   | 915.07  | 51.95        | 992.85                     | 38.03  | 3,376.49    | 2,643.03  | 6,019.52    |
| Entegrus Powerlines Inc.                              | 128.29        | 405.67   | 354.43  | 20.12        | 384.56                     | 14.73  | 1,307.80    | 1,023.71  | 2,331.51    |
| Enwin Utilities Ltd.                                  | 188.88        | 597.27   | 521.82  | 29.63        | 566.18                     | 21.69  | 1,925.47    | 1,507.20  | 3,432.67    |

i

| Electricity Distribution<br>System Owner/<br>Operator | Anwaatin Inc. | Association of<br>Major Power<br>Consumers in<br>Ontario | Building<br>Owners &<br>Managers<br>Association | Energy Probe | School Energy<br>Coalition | Vulnerable<br>Energy<br>Consumers<br>Coalition | Cost Awards | OEB Cost  | Total Costs |
|---|---------------|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| ERTH Power Corporation                                | 50.01         | 158.14   | 138.16  | 7.84         | 149.90                     | 5.74   | 509.79      | 399.05    | 908.84      |
| Essex Powerlines Corporation                          | 64.46         | 203.83   | 178.08  | 10.11        | 193.22                     | 7.40   | 657.10      | 514.36    | 1,171.46    |
| Festival Hydro Inc.                                   | 45.69         | 144.50   | 126.24  | 7.17         | 136.97                     | 5.25   | 465.82      | 364.63    | 830.45      |
| Fort Frances Power Corporation                        | 7.80          | 24.66  | 21.55   | 1.22         | 23.38                      | 0.90   | 79.51       | 62.23     | 141.74      |
| GrandBridge Energy Inc.                               | 226.52        | 716.29   | 625.81  | 35.53        | 679.00                     | 26.01  | 2,309.16    | 1,807.55  | 4,116.71    |
| Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.                            | 99.83         | 315.70   | 275.82  | 15.66        | 299.26                     | 11.46  | 1,017.73    | 796.66    | 1,814.39    |
| Grimsby Power Incorporated                            | 24.76         | 78.28  | 68.39   | 3.88         | 74.21                      | 2.84   | 252.36      | 197.55    | 449.91      |
| Halton Hills Hydro Inc.                               | 47.43         | 149.97   | 131.03  | 7.44         | 142.16                     | 5.45   | 483.48      | 378.45    | 861.93      |
| Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.                                 | 11.63         | 36.78  | 32.13   | 1.82         | 34.86                      | 1.34   | 118.56      | 92.81     | 211.37      |
| Hearst Power Distribution<br>Company Limited          | 5.66          | 17.91  | 15.65   | 0.89         | 16.97                      | 0.65   | 57.73       | 45.19     | 102.92      |
| Hydro 2000 Inc.                                       | 2.63          | 8.33   | 7.28  | 0.41         | 7.90                       | 0.30   | 26.85       | 21.02     | 47.87       |
| Hydro One Networks Inc.                               | 3,003.40      | 9,497.46   | 8,297.77  | 471.10       | 9,003.02                   | 344.78   | 30,617.53   | 23,966.77 | 54,584.30   |
| Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.                     | 9.09          | 28.76  | 25.12   | 1.43         | 27.26                      | 1.04   | 92.70       | 72.57     | 165.27      |
| Hydro Ottawa Limited                                  | 736.93        | 2,330.32   | 2,035.96  | 115.59       | 2,209.00                   | 84.61  | 7,512.41    | 5,880.53  | 13,392.94   |
| Innpower Corporation                                  | 41.10         | 129.95   | 113.54  | 6.45         | 123.19                     | 4.72   | 418.95      | 327.93    | 746.88      |
| Kingston Hydro Corporation                            | 58.39         | 184.64   | 161.31  | 9.16         | 175.02                     | 6.70   | 595.22      | 465.93    | 1,061.15    |
| Lakefront Utilities Inc.                              | 22.43         | 70.94  | 61.98   | 3.52         | 67.25                      | 2.58   | 228.70      | 179.02    | 407.72      |
| Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.                      | 29.58         | 93.53  | 81.71   | 4.64         | 88.66                      | 3.40   | 301.52      | 236.01    | 537.53      |
| London Hydro Inc.                                     | 342.35        | 1,082.58   | 945.84  | 53.70        | 1,026.23                   | 39.31  | 3,490.01    | 2,731.89  | 6,221.90    |

| Electricity Distribution<br>System Owner/<br>Operator | Anwaatin Inc. | Association of<br>Major Power<br>Consumers in<br>Ontario | Building<br>Owners &<br>Managers<br>Association | Energy Probe | School Energy<br>Coalition | Vulnerable<br>Energy<br>Consumers<br>Coalition | Cost Awards | OEB Cost  | Total Costs |
|---|---------------|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.                        | 87.77         | 277.55   | 242.50  | 13.77        | 263.11                     | 10.08  | 894.78      | 700.41    | 1,595.19    |
| Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd.                 | 92.86         | 293.63   | 256.54  | 14.57        | 278.34                     | 10.66  | 946.60      | 740.97    | 1,687.57    |
| Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.                         | 120.48        | 380.99   | 332.87  | 18.90        | 361.16                     | 13.83  | 1,228.23    | 961.43    | 2,189.66    |
| Niagara-on-the-lake Hydro Inc.                        | 20.30         | 64.18  | 56.07   | 3.18         | 60.84                      | 2.33   | 206.90      | 161.96    | 368.86      |
| North Bay Hydro Distribution Limited                  | 57.63         | 182.22   | 159.20  | 9.04         | 172.74                     | 6.62   | 587.45      | 459.84    | 1,047.29    |
| Northern Ontario Wires Inc.                           | 12.38         | 39.14  | 34.19   | 1.94         | 37.10                      | 1.42   | 126.17      | 98.76     | 224.93      |
| Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.          | 156.66        | 495.39   | 432.81  | 24.57        | 469.60                     | 17.99  | 1,597.02    | 1,250.10  | 2,847.12    |
| Orangeville Hydro Limited                             | 26.65         | 84.26  | 73.62   | 4.18         | 79.87                      | 3.06   | 271.64      | 212.63    | 484.27      |
| Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.                              | 125.21        | 395.94   | 345.93  | 19.64        | 375.33                     | 14.38  | 1,276.43    | 999.15    | 2,275.58    |
| Ottawa River Power Corporation                        | 24.09         | 76.17  | 66.55   | 3.78         | 72.21                      | 2.77   | 245.57      | 192.22    | 437.79      |
| PUC Distribution Inc.                                 | 70.63         | 223.36   | 195.15  | 11.08        | 211.73                     | 8.11   | 720.06      | 563.64    | 1,283.70    |
| Renfrew Hydro Inc.                                    | 9.10          | 28.78  | 25.15   | 1.43         | 27.28                      | 1.05   | 92.79       | 72.63     | 165.42      |
| Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.                 | 12.42         | 39.27  | 34.31   | 1.95         | 37.23                      | 1.43   | 126.61      | 99.10     | 225.71      |
| Sioux Lookout Hydro Inc.                              | 6.06          | 19.15  | 16.73   | 0.95         | 18.16                      | 0.70   | 61.75       | 48.33     | 110.08      |
| Synergy North Corporation                             | 118.77        | 375.58   | 328.14  | 18.63        | 356.03                     | 13.64  | 1,210.79    | 947.79    | 2,158.58    |
| Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.                                | 16.55         | 52.33  | 45.72   | 2.60         | 49.61                      | 1.90   | 168.71      | 132.05    | 300.76      |
| Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited                 | 1,638.71      | 5,181.92   | 4,527.37  | 257.04       | 4,912.16                   | 188.15   | 16,705.35   | 13,076.54 | 29,781.89   |
| Wasaga Distribution Inc.                              | 30.22         | 95.56  | 83.49   | 4.74         | 90.58                      | 3.47   | 308.06      | 241.14    | 549.20      |
| Welland Hydro-Electric System Corp.                   | 51.37         | 162.43   | 141.91  | 8.06         | 153.97                     | 5.90   | 523.64      | 409.89    | 933.53      |

| Electricity Distribution<br>System Owner/<br>Operator      | Anwaatin Inc. | Association of<br>Major Power<br>Consumers in<br>Ontario | Building<br>Owners &<br>Managers<br>Association | Energy Probe | School Energy<br>Coalition | Vulnerable<br>Energy<br>Consumers<br>Coalition | Cost Awards | OEB Cost  | Total Costs |
|--|---------------|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Wellington North Power Inc.                                | 8.22          | 26.00  | 22.72   | 1.29         | 24.65                      | 0.94   | 83.82       | 65.61     | 149.43      |
| Westario Power Inc.  | 50.48         | 159.62   | 139.46  | 7.92         | 151.31                     | 5.80   | 514.59      | 402.80    | 917.39      |
| Electricity Distribution<br>System Owner/Operator<br>Total | 11,202.82     | 35,425.52  | 30,950.72                                       | 1,757.25     | 33,581.34                  | 1,286.26                                       | 114,203.91  | 89,396.00 | 203,599.91  |

Note: Total costs of \$47.82 were reallocated to the companies listed in the Schedule A based on the Sec.26 Cost Assessment Model to eliminate charges under \$25. This option is in line with the Practice Direction on Cost Awards (section 12.02).

\$1,757.25

\$33,581.34

\$1,286.26 \$114,203.91

\$89,396.00

\$203,599.91

\$30,950.72

**Grand Total** 

\$11,202.82

\$ 35,425.52