

# DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

EB-2023-0125

**Benefit-Cost Analysis Framework for Addressing Electricity System Needs** 

By Delegation Before: Theodore Antonopoulos

**Vice President, Major Applications** 

August 12, 2024

### **OVERVIEW**

On September 20, 2023, the OEB issued a letter initiating a consultation for the Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) Framework for Addressing Electricity System Needs. Development of the BCA Framework is divided into two phases. Phase One advanced guidance, methodologies and tools for distribution impacts, as well as a simplified assessment of energy system impacts. Phase Two will focus on broader energy system impacts. In that same letter, participants that were previously found eligible for cost awards in the consultation on the Framework for Energy Innovation: Distributed Resources and Utility Incentives and in the consultation on Updating the CDM Guidelines for Electricity Distributors<sup>1</sup> were made automatically eligible for cost awards in this consultation. The letter also indicated that costs awarded will be recovered from all rate-regulated electricity distributors.

By letter dated November 3, 2023, the OEB confirmed 55 registered parties and noted 10 of the following organisations are automatically eligible for cost awards<sup>2</sup>:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)<sup>3</sup>
- Building Owners & Managers Association (BOMA)
- Consumer Council of Canada (CCC)
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)
- Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe)
- Environmental Defence Canada (Environmental Defence)
- Industrial Gas Users Association (IGUA)
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

The OEB finds that the approved costs are to be apportioned amongst all of the rate-regulated utilities based on customer numbers consistent with the OEB's Cost Assessment Model.

On June 13, 2024, the OEB issued its Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards in which it set out, among other matters, the process for cost claims. Eligible participants were directed to file cost claims by June 27, 2024. Any objections from rate-regulated electricity distributors were due by July 11, 2024, and any reply submissions to cost

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EB-2021-0118 and EB-2021-0106 respectively

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> OEB letter, November 3, 2023, Appendix A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> AMPCO and IGUA are jointly represented in the consultation.

claim objections were due by July 18, 2024. The Notice also indicated the eligible activities and the maximum number of hours for which costs can be claimed:

- October 13, 2023: Draft project plan webinar Maximum of 2 hours
- November 9, 2023: Draft BCA Framework project plan review Maximum of 4 hours
- February 1, 2024: Draft BCA Framework review Maximum of 4 hours

The OEB received cost claims from all eligible intervenors. No objections to the cost claims filed by eligible participants were received from rate-regulated electricity distributors.

#### **Findings**

The OEB has reviewed the cost claims filed to ensure they were compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*. The OEB finds that the claims are reasonable and within the maximum number of hours eligible for cost awards.

The OEB approves cost awards for the eligible participants as follows:

•	AMPCO	\$2,703.53
•	BOMA	\$1,491.60
•	CCC	\$2,610.30
•	CME	\$2,237.40
•	Energy Probe	\$3,514.50
•	Environmental Defence	\$2,958.50
•	IGUA	\$2,703.53
•	Pollution Probe	\$3,729.00
•	SEC	\$2,654.37
•	VECC	\$3,430.02

The OEB also approves an amount of \$100,000.00 for recovery from rate-regulated distributors associated with the OEB's costs of and incidental to this consultation.

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

The amount payable by each distributor in relation to costs awarded to each eligible participant is listed in Schedule A to this Decision and Order. However, the amounts will not be paid directly by the rate-regulated electricity distributors 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 rate-regulated electricity 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 invoice will be sent out at the same time as the invoices for cost assessments under section 26 of the Ontario Energy Board Act are sent out, and payment will be due at the same time that cost assessments are due.

The OEB makes payment to each eligible participant once 80% of the costs have been recovered by the OEB.

#### THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Each rate-regulated 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.
- 2. Pursuant to section 30 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, each rate-regulated licensed electricity distributor shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

**DATED** at Toronto August 12, 2024

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** 

Theodore Antonopoulos
Vice President, Major Applications

# Schedule A OEB's Decision and Order on Cost Awards EB-2023-0125

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	Building Owners & Managers Association	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Consumer Council of Canada	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence Canada	Industrial Gas Users Association	Pollution Probe	School Energy Coalition	Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Cost	Total
Alectra Utilities Corporation	\$538.23	\$296.96	\$445.43	\$519.67	\$699.68	\$588.99	\$538.23	\$742.39	\$528.45	\$682.87	\$5,580.90	\$19,908.49	\$25,489.39
Algoma Power Inc.	\$6.17	\$3.40	\$5.10	\$5.95	\$8.02	\$6.75	\$6.17	\$8.50	\$6.05	\$7.82	\$63.93	\$228.06	\$291.99
Atikokan Hydro Inc. Bluewater Power	\$0.81	\$0.45	\$0.67	\$0.78	\$1.05	\$0.89	\$0.81	\$1.12	\$0.79	\$1.03	\$8.40	\$29.94	\$38.34
Distribution Corporation	\$18.66	\$10.29	\$15.44	\$18.02	\$24.26	\$20.42	\$18.66	\$25.74	\$18.32	\$23.67	\$193.48	\$690.18	\$883.66
Burlington Hydro Inc.	\$34.44	\$19.00	\$28.50	\$33.25	\$44.77	\$37.68	\$34.44	\$47.50	\$33.81	\$43.69	\$357.08	\$1,273.79	\$1,630.87
Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	\$15.22	\$8.39	\$12.59	\$14.69	\$19.78	\$16.65	\$15.22	\$20.99	\$14.94	\$19.30	\$157.77	\$562.80	\$720.57
Centre Wellington Hydro Ltd.	\$3.73	\$2.06	\$3.09	\$3.60	\$4.85	\$4.08	\$3.73	\$5.14	\$3.66	\$4.73	\$38.67	\$137.94	\$176.61
Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation	\$0.61	\$0.34	\$0.51	\$0.59	\$0.80	\$0.67	\$0.61	\$0.84	\$0.60	\$0.78	\$6.35	\$22.64	\$28.99
Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc.	\$1.29	\$0.71	\$1.07	\$1.24	\$1.67	\$1.41	\$1.29	\$1.78	\$1.26	\$1.63	\$13.35	\$47.62	\$60.97
E.L.K. Energy Inc.	\$6.21	\$3.43	\$5.14	\$6.00	\$8.08	\$6.80	\$6.21	\$8.57	\$6.10	\$7.88	\$64.42	\$229.83	\$294.25
Elexicon Energy Inc.	\$87.07	\$48.04	\$72.06	\$84.07	\$113.19	\$95.28	\$87.07	\$120.10	\$85.49	\$110.47	\$902.84	\$3,220.63	\$4,123.47
Enova Power Corp.	\$80.24	\$44.27	\$66.40	\$77.47	\$104.31	\$87.81	\$80.24	\$110.67	\$78.78	\$101.80	\$831.99	\$2,967.90	\$3,799.89
Entegrus Powerlines Inc.	\$31.22	\$17.22	\$25.84	\$30.14	\$40.58	\$34.16	\$31.22	\$43.06	\$30.65	\$39.61	\$323.70	\$1,154.75	\$1,478.45
Enwin Utilities Ltd.	\$45.56	\$25.14	\$37.71	\$43.99	\$59.23	\$49.86	\$45.56	\$62.84	\$44.73	\$57.80	\$472.42	\$1,685.24	\$2,157.66
EPCOR Electricity	\$9.35	\$5.16	\$7.74	\$9.03	\$12.15	\$10.23	\$9.35	\$12.90	\$9.18	\$11.86	\$96.95	\$345.84	\$442.79

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	Building Owners & Managers Association	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Consumer Council of Canada	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence Canada	Industrial Gas Users Association	Pollution Probe	School Energy Coalition	Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Cost	Total
Distribution Ontario Inc.													
ERTH Power Corporation	\$12.19	\$6.73	\$10.09	\$11.77	\$15.85	\$13.34	\$12.19	\$16.82	\$11.97	\$15.47	\$126.42	\$450.97	\$577.39
Essex Powerlines Corporation	\$15.57	\$8.59	\$12.88	\$15.03	\$20.24	\$17.03	\$15.57	\$21.47	\$15.28	\$19.75	\$161.41	\$575.78	\$737.19
Festival Hydro Inc.	\$11.10	\$6.13	\$9.19	\$10.72	\$14.44	\$12.15	\$11.10	\$15.32	\$10.90	\$14.09	\$115.14	\$410.75	\$525.89
Fort Frances Power Corporation	\$1.87	\$1.03	\$1.55	\$1.81	\$2.43	\$2.05	\$1.87	\$2.58	\$1.84	\$2.37	\$19.40	\$69.24	\$88.64
GrandBridge Energy Inc.	\$55.52	\$30.63	\$45.95	\$53.60	\$72.17	\$60.75	\$55.52	\$76.58	\$54.51	\$70.44	\$575.67	\$2,053.55	\$2,629.22
Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.	\$23.98	\$13.23	\$19.84	\$23.15	\$31.17	\$26.24	\$23.98	\$33.07	\$23.54	\$30.42	\$248.62	\$886.97	\$1,135.59
Grimsby Power Incorporated	\$5.93	\$3.27	\$4.91	\$5.73	\$7.71	\$6.49	\$5.93	\$8.19	\$5.83	\$7.53	\$61.52	\$219.51	\$281.03
Halton Hills Hydro Inc.	\$11.45	\$6.32	\$9.48	\$11.06	\$14.89	\$12.53	\$11.45	\$15.80	\$11.24	\$14.53	\$118.75	\$423.64	\$542.39
Hearst Power Distribution Company Limited	\$1.36	\$0.75	\$1.13	\$1.31	\$1.77	\$1.49	\$1.36	\$1.88	\$1.34	\$1.73	\$14.12	\$50.30	\$64.42
Hydro 2000 Inc.	\$0.63	\$0.35	\$0.52	\$0.61	\$0.82	\$0.69	\$0.63	\$0.87	\$0.62	\$0.80	\$6.54	\$23.45	\$29.99
Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.	\$2.81	\$1.55	\$2.33	\$2.72	\$3.66	\$3.08	\$2.81	\$3.88	\$2.76	\$3.57	\$29.17	\$104.06	\$133.23
Hydro One Networks Inc.	\$719.99	\$397.24	\$595.86	\$695.17	\$935.97	\$787.90	\$719.99	\$993.09	\$706.90	\$913.47	\$7,465.58	\$26,631.62	\$34,097.20
Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.	\$2.20	\$1.21	\$1.82	\$2.12	\$2.86	\$2.41	\$2.20	\$3.03	\$2.16	\$2.79	\$22.80	\$81.35	\$104.15
Hydro Ottawa Limited	\$179.44	\$99.00	\$1.82	\$173.25	\$233.26	\$196.36	\$179.44	\$247.50	\$176.18	\$2.79	\$22.60 \$1,860.59	\$6,637.19	\$8,497.78
Innpower Corporation	\$179.44	\$5.66	\$148.30	\$9.90	\$13.33	\$190.30	\$179.44	\$14.15	\$170.18	\$13.01	\$1,860.39	\$379.35	\$485.70

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	Building Owners & Managers Association	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Consumer Council of Canada	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence Canada	Industrial Gas Users Association	Pollution Probe	School Energy Coalition	Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Cost	Total
Kingston Hydro Corporation	\$14.00	\$7.72	\$11.58	\$13.51	\$18.19	\$15.31	\$14.00	\$19.30	\$13.74	\$17.76	\$145.11	\$517.66	\$662.77
Lakefront Utilities Inc.	\$5.42	\$2.99	\$4.48	\$5.23	\$7.04	\$5.93	\$5.42	\$7.47	\$5.32	\$6.87	\$56.17	\$200.37	\$256.54
Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.	\$7.18	\$3.96	\$5.94	\$6.93	\$9.33	\$7.85	\$7.18	\$9.90	\$7.04	\$9.10	\$74.41	\$265.39	\$339.80
London Hydro Inc.	\$83.02	\$45.80	\$68.70	\$80.15	\$107.92	\$90.85	\$83.02	\$114.51	\$81.51	\$105.32	\$860.80	\$3,070.67	\$3,931.47
Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.	\$21.32	\$11.76	\$17.64	\$20.58	\$27.71	\$23.33	\$21.32	\$29.40	\$20.93	\$27.04	\$221.03	\$788.43	\$1,009.46
Newmarket- Tay Power Distribution Ltd.	\$22.40	\$12.36	\$18.53	\$21.62	\$29.11	\$24.51	\$22.40	\$30.89	\$21.99	\$28.41	\$232.22	\$828.40	\$1,060.62
Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	\$29.11	\$16.06	\$24.09	\$28.11	\$37.84	\$31.85	\$29.11	\$40.15	\$28.58	\$36.93	\$301.83	\$1,076.70	\$1,378.53
Niagara-on- the-lake Hydro Inc.	\$4.91	\$2.71	\$4.06	\$4.74	\$6.38	\$5.37	\$4.91	\$6.77	\$4.82	\$6.23	\$50.90	\$181.53	\$232.43
North Bay Hydro Distribution									·				
Limited Northern Ontario Wires	\$13.84	\$7.63	\$11.45	\$13.36	\$17.99	\$15.14	\$13.84	\$19.09	\$13.59	\$17.56	\$143.49	\$511.85	\$655.34
Inc. Oakville Hydro Electricity	\$2.97	\$1.64	\$2.46	\$2.87	\$3.86	\$3.25	\$2.97	\$4.10	\$2.92	\$3.77	\$30.81	\$109.87	\$140.68
Distribution Inc. Orangeville	\$37.94	\$20.93	\$31.40	\$36.63	\$49.32	\$41.52	\$37.94	\$52.33	\$37.25	\$48.13	\$393.39	\$1,403.33	\$1,796.72
Hydro Limited Oshawa PUC	\$6.42	\$3.54	\$5.32	\$6.20	\$8.35	\$7.03	\$6.42	\$8.86	\$6.31	\$8.15	\$66.60	\$237.56	\$304.16
Networks Inc. Ottawa River	\$30.42	\$16.78	\$25.17	\$29.37	\$39.54	\$33.29	\$30.42	\$41.96	\$29.86	\$38.59	\$315.40	\$1,125.10	\$1,440.50
Power Corporation	\$5.82	\$3.21	\$4.82	\$5.62	\$7.56	\$6.37	\$5.82	\$8.03	\$5.71	\$7.38	\$60.34	\$215.22	\$275.56
PUC Distribution Inc.	\$16.97	\$9.36	\$14.04	\$16.38	\$22.06	\$18.57	\$16.97	\$23.40	\$16.66	\$21.53	\$175.94	\$627.62	\$803.56

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario	Building Owners & Managers Association	Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters	Consumer Council of Canada	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence Canada	Industrial Gas Users Association	Pollution Probe	School Energy Coalition	Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Cost	Total
Renfrew Hydro Inc.	\$2.19	\$1.21	\$1.81	\$2.12	\$2.85	\$2.40	\$2.19	\$3.02	\$2.15	\$2.78	\$22.72	\$81.07	\$103.79
Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.	\$2.19	\$1.65	\$2.47	\$2.89	\$3.89	\$3.27	\$2.99	\$4.12	\$2.13	\$3.79	\$31.00	\$110.59	\$141.59
Sioux Lookout Hydro Inc.	\$1.46	\$0.80	\$1.21	\$1.41	\$1.89	\$1.59	\$1.46	\$2.01	\$1.43	\$1.85	\$15.11	\$53.91	\$69.02
Synergy North Corporation	\$28.54	\$15.75	\$23.62	\$27.56	\$37.10	\$31.23	\$28.54	\$39.37	\$28.02	\$36.21	\$295.94	\$1,055.73	\$1,351.67
Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.	\$4.09	\$2.26	\$3.39	\$3.95	\$5.32	\$4.48	\$4.09	\$5.65	\$4.02	\$5.19	\$42.44	\$151.44	\$193.88
Toronto Hydro- Electric System Limited	\$395.21	\$218.06	\$327.08	\$381.61	\$513.80	\$432.52	\$395.21	\$545.13	\$388.05	\$501.46	\$4,098.13	\$14,619.11	\$18,717.24
Wasaga Distribution Inc.	\$7.43	\$4.10	\$6.15	\$7.17	\$9.66	\$8.13	\$7.43	\$10.25	\$7.30	\$9.43	\$77.05	\$274.86	\$351.91
Welland Hydro- Electric System Corp.	\$12.53	\$6.91	\$10.37	\$12.10	\$16.29	\$13.71	\$12.53	\$17.28	\$12.30	\$15.90	\$129.92	\$463.49	\$593.41
Wellington North Power Inc.	\$2.03	\$1.12	\$1.68	\$1.96	\$2.63	\$2.22	\$2.03	\$2.79	\$1.99	\$2.57	\$21.02	\$74.95	\$95.97
Westario Power Inc.	\$12.21	\$6.74	\$10.11	\$11.79	\$15.88	\$13.37	\$12.21	\$16.85	\$11.99	\$15.50	\$126.65	\$451.77	\$578.42

Electricity
Distribution
System
Owner/Operator

Total	\$2,703.53	\$1,491.60	\$2,237.40	\$2,610.30	\$3,514.50	\$2,958.50	\$2,703.53	\$3,729.00	\$2,654.37	\$3,430.02	\$28,032.75	\$100,000.00	\$128,032.75
Grand Total	\$2,703.53	\$1,491.60	\$2,237.40	\$2,610.30	\$3,514.50	\$2,958.50	\$2,703.53	\$3,729.00	\$2,654.37	\$3,430.02	\$28,032.75	\$100,000.00	\$128,032.75

Note: Total intervenor costs of \$30.16 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).

Attawapiskat Power Corp. 12.41
Fort Albany Power Corporation 10.34
Kashechewan Power Corporation 10.34

Total 30.16