

June 13, 2024

Nancy Marconi  
Registrar  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street  
P.O. Box 2319  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms Marconi

**EB-2024-0136 – Review of Ontario Power Generation Inc. – Filing Guidelines**

We represent the Consumers Council of Canada (Council) in the above-referenced consultation process. By letter dated April 23, 2024, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) indicated that it is seeking stakeholder input on a proposed update to the OEB's Filing Guidelines for Ontario Power Generation (OPG). The proposed update is based on current legislative and OEB policy frameworks and general current practices. These are the comments of the Council regarding the proposed changes.

The Council participated in the Stakeholder Meeting on May 14, 2024. The Council is generally in favour of the proposed changes with a few exceptions.

**Thresholds for Capital Projects and OM&A Expenses:**

The current materiality thresholds were established in 2011. For capital projects of \$20 million or more OPG is required to file a Business Case. For projects between \$5 million and \$20 million OPG is required to provide a description of the project, in-service dates and the cost of the project. For projects less than \$5 million OPG is required to provide the number of projects in this category and the average cost of those projects.

The Council sees no reason to change the materiality thresholds. OPG should continue to be required to file a Business Case for all projects that exceed \$20 million. It is the Council's understanding that Business Case Summaries are generated internally for projects that exceed \$20 million. If this continues to be the case the threshold should not be increased. In any event, \$20 million is a significant amount, and projects exceeding this amount should be supported by comprehensive evidence to allow the OEB and intervenors to sufficiently scrutinize these projects in future proceedings.

The Council is also of the view that with respect to OM&A the \$20 million threshold should also be maintained. OPG should continue to be required to provide Business Case Summaries with respect to its OM&A programs. Programs with budgets of over \$20 million are significant and should be supported by comprehensive evidence in future proceedings.

**Year-over-Year OM&A Cost Variance Analysis:**

The Staff proposal is to eliminate year-over-year variance analysis for OM&A costs and replace it with term-analysis. The Council supports the inclusion of term-over term analysis, but does not support the elimination of a year-over-year variance analysis.

The Council finds this information useful in terms of assessing a payment amounts application. It is important in terms of seeing historical spending patterns and understanding the variances from year to year. This has been provided in the past and the Council sees no reason not to continue to require it.

**Year-over-Year Other Revenue Variance Analysis:**

OEB Staff is seeking input as to whether or not OPG should be required to provide year-over-year variance analysis with respect to Other Revenue. As with OM&A the Council is of the view that this should continue to be a requirement. Historical analysis is important in assessing a payment amounts application. Understanding historical revenue patterns and variances is important. The Council sees no reason why this information should not be provided.

Yours truly,

**Julie E. Girvan**

Julie E. Girvan

CC: All parties