

## BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

September 6, 2024

TO: All participants in Vulnerability Assessment and System Hardening Initiative (EB-2024-0199)

All Rate-regulated Electricity Distributors

All Other Interested Parties

RE: Cost Awards for Vulnerability Assessment and System Hardening Initiative Ontario Energy Board File Number: EB-2024-0199

On June 27, 2024, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a <u>letter</u> launching the Vulnerability Assessment and System Hardening (VASH) project. The letter indicated that cost awards would be available to eligible parties for participation in the initial stakeholder meeting that was to be held on July 31, 2024.

Subsequently, the OEB published its <u>decision</u> on cost awards on July 18, 2024 (amended on July 19, 2024) establishing the list of eligible parties. The decision also indicated that any further consultation activities for which cost-award eligible participants may claim costs will be announced as the consultation progresses.

The OEB is now convening a second stakeholder meeting on September 9, 2024, which will be eligible for cost awards. All future stakeholder meetings for this project will also be eligible for cost awards for eligible participants identified in the July 18<sup>th</sup> decision to cover preparation and attendance time for each meeting. The maximum number of cost eligible hours to prepare for and to attend meetings is up to 1.5 times of actual attended meeting time per eligible participant. Further consultation activities such as reviewing draft report(s) or providing written comments for which cost-award eligible participants may claim costs will be announced as the consultation progresses.

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Any questions relating to this letter should be directed to Zubin Panchal at <a href="mailto:zubin.panchal@oeb.ca">zubin.panchal@oeb.ca</a> or at 416-440-8113. The Board's toll-free number is 1-888-632-6273.

Yours truly,

Theodore Antonopoulos Vice President Major Applications