

Annual Filing of Frequent Intervenor

Intervenor Name:

Pollution Probe

Mandate and Objectives:

Since 1969, Pollution Probe has been a recognised leader in defining progress through policy development and intervention, research, awareness, education and pressing for practical balanced solutions in a collaborative manner. Pollution Probe continues to be relied upon by consumers/ratepayers, industry, regulators, and governments at all levels for creating balanced and practical solutions to consumer and environmental issues through our evidence-based collaborative approach. Pollution Probe works on behalf of its members, partners and consumers/ratepayers to ensure that environmental, community and consumer/ratepayer issues are considered in balance with economic considerations.

Pollution Probe is a national charitable organization based in Toronto that works productively with governments, industry and the public, with a goal of Clean Air, Clean Water, and a Healthy Planet. We work to achieve that by advancing policy and action that achieve positive, tangible outcomes in favour of consumers/ratepayers, communities and the environment. Pollution Probe represents its stakeholders and the public at large on energy, environmental, community/regional planning, public health, transportation and other related issues.

Membership of the Intervenor and Constituency Represented:

Pollution Probe's supporters and partners include consumers/ratepayers, non-profit sector partners and industry across Canada. Pollution Probe also works directly with all levels of government on issues related to the transition in the energy system and shares those perspectives to support integrated policy development. Pollution Probe has a joint venture with QUEST Canada and works collaboratively with QUEST and other sector partners to achieve the goals and objectives stated above. Pollution Probe often represents or partners with other stakeholders such as the Clean Air Partnership to provide an efficient and cost-effective approach.

Programs or Activities Carried Out by the Intervenor:

Pollution Probe has a broad program portfolio and is actively working with stakeholders

(including energy consumers/ratepayers), communities and policy makers on the transition in the energy system including issues such as regulatory sandboxes, low-carbon innovation, fuel switching, distributed energy resources, energy efficiency, community energy planning, infrastructure planning, transportation and related economic, environmental and health impacts. For example, we continue working on issues related to the effective introduction of EVs in Canada, and have been conducting research on innovation and regulated utilities, and the future of energy in a low carbon energy system. Part of our mandate is to enhance energy systems learning among stakeholders and the public, and to enable well-informed energy dialogues and decisions to help create societal or system benefits. We also run a consumer energy literacy program that engages citizens and communities across Canada on the present and future of our energy system.

Governance Structure:

[Note: The following includes enhanced information from the January 10, 2025 filing. This filing replaces the version filed January]

Pollution Probe's Director of Energy is the primary contact for issues and instructions for regulatory initiatives and proceedings. The Director of Energy reports to the President and CEO who is informed and active in meetings and discussions, as appropriate. Additional Pollution Probe staff are included when relevant to the initiative or proceeding (for example, EV enablement). Regular communication ensures clear direction and enhances the ability to share current and valuable information with the OEB. Where appropriate, Pollution Probe staff have attended or participated directly in initiatives or proceedings (e.g. OEB Policy Day, hearings, policy initiatives, OEB meetings, etc.). The consultant working on behalf of Pollution Probe is in regular contact with the Director of Energy via phone, email, text or in person discussions. Coordination is typically on a weekly to monthly basis depending on the level of activity. Given that Pollution Probe has typically intervened in less proceedings than some other frequent intervenors, this can lead to some periods during the year where there is little or no regulatory activity impacting Pollution Probe. In other cases, a higher frequency is required (e.g. during a settlement process if the content of a draft settlement has significantly changed outside the boundaries previously discussed). This can require immediate real-time communications between Pollution Probe and its consultant where deadlines require such immediacy. The frequency of coordination is correlated to the decision points in the process defined by the OEB. As noted, the President and CEO and/or additional Pollution Probe staff are included depending on the subjects of the discussion. The Director of Energy works with Pollution Probe staff and ensures that information and direction for OEB initiatives and hearings remain coordinated effectively in order to meet the timelines defined by the OEB.

Representatives:

Michael Brophy
michael.brophy@rogers.com
6473301217

Other Contacts:

Richard Carlson
rcarlson@pollutionprobe.org
416-926-1907