

BY E-MAIL

May 8, 2025

To: All Licensed Electricity Transmitters

All Cost Eligible Participants in EB-2024-0126

All Other Interested Parties

Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards

Transmission Connections Review

OEB File No.: EB-2024-0126

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is giving notice that eligible participants are invited to submit cost claims for eligible activities in the Transmission Connections Review.

Background

On April 24, 2024, the OEB issued a <u>letter</u> commencing a review of the Transmission System Code's (TSC) connection related sections (<u>Transmission Connections Review</u>). The letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act) based on the criteria set out in the OEB's <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u>. The cost awards will be paid for by all licensed rate-regulated electricity transmitters.

The OEB issued a <u>Decision on Cost Eligibility</u> on August 6, 2024, that determined the following participants in the Transmission Connections Review were eligible for cost awards (eligible participants):

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Canadian Renewable Energy Association, Energy Storage Canada, and the Ontario Waterpower Association (jointly referred to as REASCWA)
- Distributed Resources Coalition (DRC)
- Energy Probe
- Minogi Corp. representing the interests of Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and its members
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)

In the April 24, 2024, letter the OEB stated that the maximum number of cost-eligible hours per participant for commenting on the topics and questions identified in the letter would be 5 hours.

In the August 16, 2024, <u>letter</u> the OEB stated that the maximum number of cost-eligible hours per participant to prepare for and attend the Transmission Connections Review's working group meetings would be limited to 1.5 times the meeting duration. The number of meetings and corresponding times are outlined in Appendix A of this Notice.

Additionally, the OEB issued a <u>Notice of Proposal to Amend the Transmission System Code</u> on January 27, 2025, to enable the connection of energy storage. Cost eligible participants in the Transmission Connections Review were invited to comment on the proposed amendments and cost awards could be availed up to a maximum of 5 hours.

Notice of Hearing

The OEB is initiating a hearing on its own motion to determine the cost awards to eligible participants for the following eligible activities:

- a) Providing written comments on the OEB letter dated April 24, 2024.
- b) Participation in the Transmission Connections Review's working group meetings from August 26, 2024, to April 30, 2025.
- c) Providing written comments to OEB's Notice of Proposal to Amend the Transmission System Code dated January 27, 2025.

The decision on costs will be made by an OEB staff member with delegated authority under section 6 of the OEB Act. The hearing will follow the process set out below.

- Eligible participants that intend to seek a cost award shall submit their cost claims by May 29, 2025. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB, and one copy is to be served on each licensed electricity transmitter. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u>.
- Licensed electricity transmitters will have until June 12, 2025, to object to any
 aspect of the costs claimed. The objection must be filed with the OEB, and one
 copy must be served on the eligible participant against whose claim the objection
 is being made.
- 3. The eligible participant whose cost claim was objected to will have until **June 19**, **2025**, to file its reply submission, if any, with the OEB, with a copy of the reply submission to be served on the objecting party.
- 4. The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of the *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* to implement the payment of the cost awards. The OEB will therefore act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process.

How to File Materials

Stakeholders are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB **do not include personal information** (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB's *Rules of Practice and Procedure*.

Please quote file number **EB-2024-0126** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online filing portal</u>.

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the <u>Regulatory Electronic Submission System (RESS)</u> <u>Document Guidelines</u> found at the <u>File documents online page</u> on the OEB's website.
- Stakeholders are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet <u>set up an account</u>, or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance.
- Cost claims are now filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the
 <u>File documents online page</u> of the OEB's website for more information. All
 participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all
 required parties as per the <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u>.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below and be received by the end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include Tayyab Chaudhry, Advisor, Transmission Policy & Compliance, at Tayyab.Chaudhry@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Brian Hewson

Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

Attachment – Appendix A: Cost-Eligible Working Group Meetings

Appendix A: Cost-Eligible Working Group Meetings

Transmission Connections Review File No.: EB-2024-0126

Group	Meeting	Date	Duration Hours	Max Hours
Transmission Connections Working Group meetings	Meeting #1	August 26, 2024	2.5	3.75
	Meeting #2	October 28, 2024	2.5	3.75
	Meeting #3	December 2, 2024	2	3
	Meeting #4	April 9, 2025	2	3
	Meeting #5	April 30, 2025	1.5	2.25