



BY EMAIL AND WEBPOSTING

May 28, 2025

**To: All Regulated Entities
All Interested Stakeholders**

**Re: Launch of the Innovation Sandbox Challenge: Empowering Indigenous
Innovation and Leadership EB-2025-0174**

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is launching a second Innovation Sandbox Challenge to empower Indigenous innovation and support Indigenous leadership in the energy transition by identifying challenges, exploring emerging opportunities, enhancing energy services and building capacity. The Challenge will provide up to \$1.275 million in funding supported by the Government of Canada, along with regulatory guidance through the Innovation Sandbox to selected projects.

The Innovation Sandbox Challenge: Empowering Indigenous Innovation and Leadership will support projects that test scalable approaches to energy innovation within Indigenous communities. Through this Challenge, the OEB will seek submissions for projects with a two-year timeline that are either led by, developed in partnership with, or meaningfully engage Indigenous organizations/communities.

Submissions will be accepted this summer. An evaluation committee will assess submissions against each other using publicly available criteria. Successful applicants will be selected to proceed with their projects in the winter of 2025-2026, with those projects ending by the winter of 2027-28.

The OEB plans to release more details on the Innovation Sandbox Challenge process in the coming weeks.

Yours truly,

Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar