



Ontario  
Energy  
Board | Commission  
de l'énergie  
de l'Ontario

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# DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY

## EB-2025-0083

### Framework for Energy Innovation 2.0: Non- Wires Solution Incentives (Margin on Payments)

By Delegation Before: **Brian Hewson**  
Vice President,  
Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

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May 30, 2025

## OVERVIEW

On May 16, 2025, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [Notice of Proposed Amendments to the Distribution System Code](#) (the Notice). The proposed amendments establish a methodology for the setting of rates to include a margin on payments incentive to use third-party distributed energy resources as non-wires solutions to meet an electricity distribution system need. The OEB invited comments from all interested parties on the proposed amendments set out in Appendix A of the Notice.

The Notice indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, and that any costs awarded would be recovered from all rate-regulated electricity distributors. Appendix B of the Notice directed participants intending to request cost awards to file a written submission to the OEB by May 26, 2025, identifying the grounds on which they are eligible for cost awards. Electricity distributors were given until May 29, 2025, to object to any of the cost eligibility requests prior to the OEB's final determination on the cost eligibility of the requesting participants.

The OEB received five requests for cost award eligibility from:

- Consumers Council of Canada
- Energy Probe Research Foundation
- Environmental Defence
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition

No objections were received in relation to these requests for cost award eligibility.

## OEB FINDINGS

The OEB has determined that the five organizations listed above are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB notes that cost award-eligible participants with similar viewpoints should coordinate their activities to reduce duplication and costs. Such efforts will be taken into account by the OEB as part of its decision on an award of costs. Being eligible to apply for recovery of costs is not a guarantee of recovery of any costs claimed. Cost awards are made by an order of the OEB at the end of the process.

Activities for which cost award-eligible participants may claim costs, and the maximum number of hours that can be claimed, are described in Appendix B of the Notice.

**DATED** at Toronto May 30, 2025

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Brian Hewson  
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance