



Hydro Ottawa Limited

**Application for electricity distribution rates and other
charges beginning January 1, 2026**

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1

June 3, 2025

Hydro Ottawa Limited (Hydro Ottawa) filed a custom incentive rate-setting application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on April 15, 2025 under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, seeking approval for changes to the rates that Hydro Ottawa charges for electricity distribution, beginning January 1, 2026.

A Notice of Hearing was issued on May 9, 2025. To date, the OEB has received 90 letters of comment from Hydro Ottawa customers. The letters have been placed on the record of this proceeding and are publicly available on the OEB's website. Hydro Ottawa is required to address the issues raised in letters of comment by way of a document filed before the record of this proceeding is closed.

The following parties applied for intervenor status:

- Building Owners and Managers Association Ottawa (BOMA Ottawa)
- Coalition of Concerned Manufacturers and Businesses of Canada (CCMBC)
- Community Action for Environmental Sustainability (CAFES Ottawa)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Distributed Resource Coalition (DRC)
- Enbridge Gas Inc. (EGI)
- Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe)
- Environmental Defence
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

BOMA Ottawa, CCMBC, CAFES Ottawa, CCC, DRC, Environmental Defence, Energy Probe, Pollution Probe, SEC, and VECC also applied for cost award eligibility.

Hydro Ottawa had no objections to the requests for intervenor status in this proceeding.

All requests for intervenor status are approved. The list of parties to this proceeding is attached as Schedule A to this Procedural Order.

BOMA Ottawa, CCMBC, CAFES Ottawa, CCC, DRC, Environmental Defence, Energy Probe, Pollution Probe, SEC, and VECC are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

Parties with common interests should coordinate their participation in this proceeding. The OEB draws the attention of intervenors to sections 5.01 (d), (e) and (f) of the *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

Cost eligible intervenors should be aware that the OEB will not generally allow the recovery of costs for the attendance of more than one representative of any party. If a party intends to have more than one representative attend an event, the party should file a letter explaining why that is necessary.

Being eligible to apply for recovery of costs is not a guarantee of recovery of any costs claimed. Cost awards are made by way of OEB order at the end of a hearing.

CAFES Ottawa and Pollution Probe

The OEB notes that Michael Brophy is listed as a representative for both CAFES Ottawa and Pollution Probe. In making its decision on cost awards, the OEB will consider whether the representatives of CAFES Ottawa and Pollution Probe made reasonable efforts to avoid duplication and double billing. When submitting their cost claims, CAFES Ottawa and Pollution Probe should explain how they coordinated efforts in this proceeding, or if not, why that was not appropriate in their view.

CCMBC and Energy Probe

The OEB notes that Tom Ladanyi and Michael Ladanyi are listed as representatives for both CCMBC and Energy Probe. In making its decision on cost awards, the OEB will consider whether the representatives of CCMBC and Energy Probe made reasonable efforts to avoid duplication and double billing. When submitting their cost claims, CCMBC and Energy Probe should explain how they coordinated efforts in this proceeding, or if not, why that was not appropriate in their view.

Issues List

OEB staff will canvas parties for any unique issues that warrant addition to the standard [Issues List](#) for electricity distribution rate applications. If parties recommend and agree to revisions, OEB staff will file a draft issues list with the OEB. If there is no agreement on whether the standard Issues List should be revised, OEB staff will advise the OEB in

writing. If intervenors and the applicant do not propose any amendments to the standard Issues List, OEB staff will notify the OEB of this fact. The OEB will approve an issues list prior to the filing of interrogatories.

Confidentiality

By letter dated April 15, 2025, Hydro Ottawa requested the OEB allow for certain information to be redacted from the public record in Attachment 1-3-4(A) - Corporate Productivity Scorecard:

- Attachment 1-3-4(A) - Asset Efficiency - operational information regarding generation activities of an affiliate
- Attachment 1-3-4(A) - Profitability Metrics - co-mingled financial information of affiliates

By letter dated April 28, 2025, Hydro Ottawa requested the OEB allow for certain information to be redacted from the public record:

- Attachment 6-2-1(A) - pages 27-181 of Exhibit 6 - Revenue Requirement and Revenue Deficiency or Surplus
- Attachment 8-2-3(C) - pages 45-117 of Exhibit 8 - Rate Design

In accordance with the OEB's [Practice Direction on Confidential Filings](#), Hydro Ottawa provided reasons for the redactions, which include requests related to personal information and relevance.

Any objection by a party or OEB staff to the confidentiality requests must be submitted in accordance with sections 5.1.6 and 5.1.7 of the *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings*. Hydro Ottawa may respond to any objections in accordance with section 5.1.8 of the *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings*. Parties will be provided access to the confidential documents in accordance with the process outlined in Part 6 of *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings*.

Interrogatories

At this time, provision is being made for written interrogatories. In preparing interrogatories, parties should refer to the OEB's approved Issues List. Parties should consult sections 26 and 27 of the OEB's [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#) regarding required naming and numbering conventions and other matters related to interrogatories.

Parties should examine the value presented by the proposed investments as opposed to focusing only on the costs. Parties should also assess the fit between the applicant's plans and its stated objectives and consider how the plans contribute to positive outcomes for customers, in particular those outcomes that arise from the asset management decisions reflected in the applicant's distribution system plan. The OEB will consider the entire five-year distribution system plan to assess the planning and pacing proposals of the applicant and whether the test year requests are appropriately aligned with the distribution system plan. The OEB will also consider productivity and benchmarking results in assessing cost forecasts, bill impacts, and distributor performance.

Parties should not engage in detailed exploration of items that do not appear to be material. Parties should use the materiality thresholds documented in Chapter 2 of the Filing Requirements as a guide. In making its decision on cost awards, the OEB will consider whether intervenors made reasonable efforts to ensure that their participation in the hearing was focused on material issues.

Format of the Hearing

In its application, Hydro Ottawa requested the application be disposed of by way of an oral hearing.

In its Notice of Hearing, the OEB invited parties to state their preference for the format of the hearing. Most parties did not express a preference for the type of proceeding or submitted that it was premature to determine the type of hearing until after the discovery process has been completed. Pollution Probe supported Hydro Ottawa's request for an oral hearing. The OEB will make its determination on the format of the hearing at a later date.

The OEB is making provision for the following related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

Issues List

1. OEB staff shall file a proposed issues list, or, alternatively, shall advise the OEB in writing that the parties and OEB staff have been unable to reach an agreement on a draft issues list by **June 10, 2025**.

Confidentiality

2. OEB staff and intervenors who wish to make written submissions on Hydro Ottawa's confidentiality request shall file such submissions with the OEB and serve them on all parties by **June 10, 2025**.
3. If Hydro Ottawa wishes to respond to any of the submissions, the reply submission shall be filed with the OEB and served on all intervenors by **June 17, 2025**.

Interrogatories

4. OEB staff and intervenors shall request any relevant information and documentation from Hydro Ottawa that is in addition to the evidence already filed, by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on all parties by **July 22, 2025**.
5. Hydro Ottawa shall file with the OEB complete written responses to all interrogatories and serve them on OEB staff and all intervenors by **August 12, 2025**.

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or any other type of document, **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-2024-0115** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the [OEB's online filing portal](#).

- 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 [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guidelines](#) found at the [File documents online page](#) on the OEB's website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#), or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the [File documents online page](#) 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 [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below and be received by 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 the Case Manager, Margaret DeFazio, at 416-440-7674 or Margaret.DeFazio@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Michael Millar at Michael.Millar@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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

DATED at Toronto, **June 3, 2025**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

By delegation, before: Ritchie Murray

Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar

SCHEDULE A
LIST OF APPLICANT AND INTERVENORS
PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1
HYDRO OTTAWA LIMITED
EB-2024-0115
DATED: JUNE 3, 2025

APPLICANT & LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, INTERVENORS

June 3, 2025

APPLICANT

Rep. and Contact Information for Service

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APPLICANT & LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, INTERVENORS

June 3, 2025

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APPLICANT & LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, INTERVENORS

June 3, 2025

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June 3, 2025

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