

BY E-MAIL

June 10, 2025

To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors
All Other Interested Parties
All Cost Eligible Working Group Members

Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards

Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Connections Review

File No.: EB-2019-0207

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is giving notice that eligible participants in the Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Connections Review consultation, OEB file no. EB-2019-0207, are invited to submit cost claims for participating in the DER Connections Working Group for the period from July 16, 2024, to May 29, 2025.

### **Background**

On August 13, 2019, the OEB issued a <u>letter</u> commencing an initiative to review its requirements in regard to the connection of distributed energy resources (DERs) by licensed electricity distributors (DER Connections Review). The letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act) and that the OEB had determined licensed rate-regulated electricity distributors will pay the costs.

The OEB issued Decisions on September 10, 2019, September 13, 2019, September 23, 2019 and January 13, 2020 that determined the following participants in this consultation process were eligible for cost awards (eligible participants):

**T** 416-481-1967 1-888-632-6273

F 416-440-7656 OEB.ca

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)

- Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe)
- Environmental Defence (ED)
- London Property Management Association (LPMA)
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC)
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)

The Decisions noted that cost awards would be available in relation to participation in the Working Group up to a maximum number of hours per meeting. The maximum number of cost-eligible hours per participant to prepare for, attend and report on Working Group, Subgroup, and Small Group Meetings was limited to 1.5 times (or 2 times where one consultant was acting on behalf of two separate organizations) the meeting times. The meetings and corresponding times covered by the period July 16, 2024 to May 29, 2025 are outlined in Appendix A of this Notice.

The OEB has issued previous Decisions and Orders on Cost Awards that addressed costs in this consultation up to June 27, 2024.

## **Notice of Hearing**

The OEB is initiating a hearing on its own motion to determine the cost awards to eligible participants for participating in the DER Connections Working Group for the period from July 16, 2024, to May 29, 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 June 20, 2025. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served on each licensed electricity distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u> (Practice Direction).
- 2. Licensed electricity distributors will have until **June 27, 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 **July 4**, **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 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-2019-0207** 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) Document</u> Guidelines found at the File documents online page 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 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, Cathy Nguyen, at <a href="mailto:Cathy.Nguyen@oeb.ca">Cathy.Nguyen@oeb.ca</a> and OEB Counsel, James Sidlofsky, at <a href="mailto:James.Sidlofsky@oeb.ca">James.Sidlofsky@oeb.ca</a>.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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

Yours truly,

Brian Hewson Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

Attachment – Appendix A

# **Appendix A: Cost-Eligible Activities and Hours**

# Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Connections Review File No.: <u>EB-2019-0207</u>

Group	Meeting	Date	Hour	Max Hour
Main Working Group meetings - Tranche 5	Meeting #7	10/18/2024	2.75	4.13
	Meeting #8	3/26/2025	2.50	3.75
DER Connections Subgroup meetings - Tranche 5	Meeting #13	7/23/2024	2.25	3.38
	Meeting #14	9/4/2024	2.5	3.75
	Meeting #15	11/28/2024	2.25	3.38
	Meeting #16	4/30/2025	2.5	3.75
	Meeting #17	5/29/2025	2.5	3.75
EV Charging Connections Subgroup meetings - Tranche 5	Meeting #14	8/28/2024	2	3.00
	Meeting #15	9/25/2024	0.75	1.13
	Meeting #16	11/27/2024	1.75	2.63
Capacity Information Map Subgroup meetings - Tranche 5	Meeting #1	4/10/2025	2.00	3.00
	Meeting #2	4/24/2025	2.75	4.13
	Meeting #3	5/7/2025	3	4.50
	Meeting #4	5/15/2025	3	4.50
	Meeting #5	5/26/2025	3	4.50
DER Interconnection Considerations Small Group meetings - Tranche 5	Meeting #17	7/16/2024	2.00	3.00
	Meeting #18	8/9/2024	2.00	3.00
	Meeting #19	9/17/2024	2.00	3.00
	Meeting #20	9/24/2024	1.50	2.25
	Meeting #21	10/10/2024	2.00	3.00
	Meeting #22	10/29/2024	1.75	2.63
	Meeting #23	12/5/2024	1.50	2.25
	Meeting #24	1/21/2025	2.00	3.00
	Meeting #25	4/2/2025	2.00	3.00
	Meeting #26	4/8/2025	2.00	3.00
	Meeting #27	5/6/2025	2.00	3.00
	Meeting #28	5/20/2025	2.00	3.00