



PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE
LE CENTRE POUR LA DÉFENSE DE L'INTÉRÊT PUBLIC

July 4, 2025

OEB VIA – RESS

Mr. Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON
M4P 1E4

Dear Mr. Murray:

**RE: DER Connections Review Policy Consultation Project
VECC Participation & Cost Eligibility Request
EB-2019-0207**

The OEB initiated a review of the requirements for the connection of DERs by licensed electricity distributors in 2019. The DER Connections Review focused on addressing any barriers to the connection of DERs, and where appropriate, how to standardize and improve the connection process. The OEB established the DER Connections Working Group made up of distributors, transmitters, DER providers and consumer groups to provide advice and recommendations. During the last 6 years a series of changes have been made to streamline the process of connecting DERs.

A technical advisory group, the DER Cost Responsibility (CR) Small Group, is being established by OEB staff to further the review of issues related to DER connections.

The Vulnerable Energy Consumer Coalition (VECC) nominates Mr. Bill Harper, Regulatory Consultant for VECC, to participate on the Working Group. Through Mr. Harper's regulatory work reviewing electricity distribution and transmission rate applications on behalf of VECC, he understands regulatory policy and connection processes. He has advised on numerous submissions by VECC related to energy policy and has been involved in many OEB policy consultation Working Groups most recently in EB-2022-0325 to consider various issues related to Ontario's Uniform Transmission Rates. In the event Mr. Harper is unable to attend any Working Group meetings, we would like to put forward Ms. Shelley Grice as an alternate. Ms. Grice is a Regulatory Consultant for VECC and has participated in many recent OEB policy consultation Working Groups such as the Reliability and Power Quality Review, Transmission Connections Review, Vulnerability Assessment and System Hardening and Capacity Allocation Model Advisory Group (CAMAG).

VECC Representatives:

Bill Harper (bharper.consultant@bell.net)

Shelley Grice (Alternate) (shelley.grice@rogers.com)

VECC was formed in 1999 with the intent of representing the interests of residential consumers in matters of energy regulation and policy where those consumers, by reason of age, income, tenure or place of residence, language, literacy, or other infirmity may experience greater hardship than other residential consumers as a result of increased rates or policies that place demands on customers. These same consumers may have difficulty, or lack the resources to ensure that their voice is heard by regulators and policy makers deciding upon energy issues.

VECC is seeking cost recovery for its participation. VECC is a well know intervenor in OEB proceedings and its eligibility for cost awards are provided as part of its annual frequent Intervenor filing.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. White'.

Geoff White
VECC Counsel