

Tel: (613) 732-3687 • Fax: (613) 732-9838

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July 11, 2025

Nancy Marconi, Registrar Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 27th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Attention: Nancy Marconi, Registrar

Regarding: Ottawa River Power Corporation (Ottawa River Power)

**Application for Accounting Order Amendment** 

OEB File Number: EB-2025-0209

Dear Ms. Marconi,

Following receipt of an "Incomplete Letter" dated July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, ORPC submits this amended application which includes:

- A proposed accounting treatment with illustrative journal entries;
- · A discussion on the alternatives and mitigation factors considered; and
- A certification by the Chief Financial Officer stating that the application and any evidence filed in support of the application does not include any personal information.

No amendments or revisions were made to the original appendices provided and therefore are not resubmitted.

If there are any questions with respect to the application, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Allen President & CEO

Ottawa River Power Corporation

283 Pembroke Street West, P.O. Box 1087 Pembroke ON K8A 6Y6

Tel: (613) 732-3687 jallen@orpowercorp.com

#### Context

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Ontario Energy Board issued its Decision and Order for rates effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 (EB-2021-0052). The settlement proposal within the Decision and Order stated that "The parties have agreed that the amounts proposed for inclusion in rate based for the Incremental Capital Module approved in EB-2018-0063 are appropriate." Further to this, the settlement proposal stated that "the true-up recognizes, as recoverable the increased costs of the project relative to the approved amount in EB-2018-0063, for an approved ICM Project cost of \$2,059,754."

Following a review of the Fixed Asset Continuity Schedule in its filed and settled Chapter 2 Filing Requirements Appendices, it was noted that the worksheet 'App.2-BA\_Fixed Asset Cont' formulas contained in the 2022 Opening Balance cells D342, D343, D344, D345, D346, D347 and D361, (where the asset values of its ICM project were to be added) was incorrectly adding the 2022 Closing Balance in cells G384 to G390. These formulas were intended to add the 2021 Closing Balance in cells G323 to G329. ORPC noted that the formulas used to calculate the accumulated depreciation amounts correctly included the ICM accumulated depreciation and depreciation expense. The formula error appears to have been present from the initial application through to the Draft Rate Order and was inadvertently overlooked during the review process.

When the gross asset values are adjusted, the following amounts are recalculated:

Figure 1 – Recalculated Chapter 2 Appendices 2022 Gross Assets

Row Ref.	Description	Gross Assets Opening Balance	Gross Assets Closing Balance	Average Gross Balance
342	1820 - Distribution Station Equipment	\$3,437,506	\$3,647,506	\$3,542,506
343	1830 - Poles, Towers & Fixtures	\$3,117,914	\$3,488,890	\$3,303,402
344	1835 - Overhead Conductors & Devices	\$4,131,458	\$4,371,150	\$4,251,304
345	1840 - Underground Conduit	\$816,408	\$876,378	\$846,393
346	1845 - Underground Conductors&Devices	\$1,286,853	\$1,441,286	\$1,364,070
347	1850 - Line Transformers	\$2,848,375	\$3,159,987	\$3,004,181
361	1980 – System Supervisory Equipment	\$65,426	\$110,426	\$87,926
365	Subtotal	\$20,335,015	\$21,636,704	\$20,985,860

When the recalculated figures translate to the Rate Base Calculation in the 2022 Revenue Requirement Workform, the 'Total Rate Base' calculated in worksheet '4. Rate\_Base' increases by the value of the ICM project which in turn impacts worksheets '7. Cost\_of\_Capital' calculated Return on Equity, '6. Taxes\_PILs' calculated income taxes and '9. Rev\_Reqt' calculated Revenue Requirement as follows:

Figure 2 – Comparative Total Rate Base

Particulars	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Recalculated for inclusion of ICM
Gross Fixed Assets (Average)	\$18,926,106	\$20,985,860
Accum. Depreciation (Average)	\$(7,675,477)	\$(7,675,477)
Net Fixed Assets (Average)	\$11,250,629	\$13,310,383
Allowance for Working Capital	\$1,784,286	\$1,784,286
Total Rate Base	\$13,034,914	\$15,094,668

Figure 3 – Comparative Return on Deemed Equity

Particulars	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Recalculated for inclusion of ICM
Utility Rate Base	\$13,034,914	\$15,094,668
Deemed Equity Portion	40%	40%
Deemed Equity Portion	\$5,213,966	\$6,037,867
Deemed Return on Equity	8.66%	8.66%
Deemed Return on Equity	\$451,529	\$522,879

Figure 4 – Comparative Income Taxes

Particulars	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Recalculated for inclusion of ICM
Deemed Return on Equity	\$451,529	\$522,879
Adjustments Required	\$(390,128)	\$(389,674)
Taxable Income	\$61,401	\$133,205
Total Tax Rate	20.88%	26.50%
Income Taxes	\$12,821	\$35,299
Gross-up of Income Taxes	\$3,383	\$12,727
Grossed-up Income Taxes	\$16,204	\$48,026

Figure 5 – Comparative Revenue Requirements

Particulars	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Recalculated for inclusion of ICM
OM&A Expenses	\$3,623,394	\$3,623,394
Amortization/Depreciation	\$950,237	\$950,237
Income Taxes (Grossed up)	\$16,204	\$48,026
Deemed Interest Expense	\$260,855	\$302,075
Return on Deemed Equity	\$451,529	\$522,879
Service Revenue Requirement	\$5,302,220	\$5,446,612
Revenue Offsets	\$(339,757)	\$(339,757)
Base Revenue Requirement	\$4,962,463	\$5,106,855

## **Materiality**

ORPC applies a materiality threshold of \$50,000, as prescribed by the Ontario Energy Board. Appendix K has been provided which details calculations of estimated fiscal year lost revenues if no corrective action is taken prior to May 1, 2026 which is the next effective date of new IRM rates. The estimated lost revenues calculated are summarized as follows:

Figure 6 – Estimated Lost Revenues by Fiscal Year

Year	Estimated Lost Revenues	
2022	\$93,118	
2023	\$142,859	
2024	\$143,533	
2025	\$148,767	
2026	\$50,510	
Total	\$578,786	

Under the currently approved rates, it is estimated that ORPC will have lost a total of \$578,786 which significantly exceeds the materiality threshold. The materiality threshold is also exceeded in any given year. Additionally, the estimated impacts to ORPC's achieved Return on Equity are summarized as follows:

Figure 7 – Recalculated Deviation from Target Return on Equity

Year	Reported Deviation from Target Return on Equity	Recalculated Deviation from Target Return on Equity
2022	1.93%	3.50%
2023	(4.82)%	(2.71)%
2024	(4.16)%	(2.15)%

Although 2022 results would have been outside the deadband of +/- 3%, the recalculated deviation for fiscal years 2023 and 2024, which were reported under the deadband, would improve ORPC's results and move the utility within the allowable range.

Overall, the error exceeds its \$50,000 materiality threshold and has challenged the utility financially resulting in reported under-earnings deviations outside of the allowable deadband.

#### **Alternatives**

ORPC has assessed its proposed deferral account approach in the context of the reasonableness of the recovery method, the associated ratepayer impacts, and the consideration of alternative mitigation measures including immediate implementation of the rate rider and foregoing all or part of the lost revenues.

ORPC submits that the recovery of lost revenue due to the omission of the ICM is appropriate given that: (i) the revenue shortfall is material, (ii) the recovery period would likely more than 1 year given the material amount; and (iii) delaying recovery until the next Cost of Service rebasing provides the most effective means to mitigate customer rate impacts since ORPC currently intends to submit a Cost of Service rebasing application in August 2026 for rates effective May 1, 2027. Delaying the recovery to the next Cost of Service provides greater clarity on the length of the recovery period to mitigate overall impacts.

#### **Proposal**

ORPC proposes the establishment of a deferral account to capture lost revenues resulting from the omission of the ICM in its rate base. Specifically, ORPC proposes that:

- the account capture the annual revenue requirement impact from May 1, 2022 to the effective date of ORPC's next rebasing application;
- the amounts be calculated based on the difference between recalculated fixed and variable distribution rates using actual monthly customer consumption by rate classification and adjusted for the price cap index; and
- the proper calculation of the tracked balance and ORPC's entitlement to recovery of all or some of that tracked balance be determined in its next Cost of Service rate application currently scheduled to be filed in August 2026 for rates effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2027.

To recalculate rates by rate class for the purposes of calculating the difference between recalculated and approved distribution rates, the 'Allocated Class Revenue Requirement' in

worksheet '11. Cost\_Allocation' of the Revenue Requirement Workform requires recalculated data from worksheet '01 Revenue to cost/RR' of the Cost Allocation Model which results in the following proposed allocations:

Figure 8 – Comparative Revenue Requirement by Rate Class

Customer Class	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Recalculated for inclusion of ICM
Residential	\$3,539,001	\$3,602,538
GS <50	\$833,501	\$861,508
GS>50-Regular	\$783,459	\$835,862
Street Light	\$119,616	\$120,055
Sentinel	\$14,688	\$14,570
Unmetered Scattered Load	\$11,954	\$12,078
Total	\$5,302,220	\$5,446,612

Figure 9 – Comparative Revenue-to-Cost Ratios

Customer Class	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Recalculated for inclusion of ICM
Residential	95.04%	94.96%
GS <50	100.00%	99.05%
GS>50-Regular	119.99%	120.00%
Street Light	116.94%	119.77%
Sentinel	95.00%	94.93%
Unmetered Scattered Load	95.00%	94.95%

Figure 10 – Comparative Distribution Rate Fixed Split

Customer Class	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Recalculated for inclusion of ICM
Residential	100.00%	100.00%
GS <50	45.99%	44.85%
GS>50-Regular	18.08%	16.89%
Street Light	67.51%	67.51%
Sentinel	56.81%	56.81%
Unmetered Scattered Load	52.46%	52.46%

This data results in the following comparative Fixed Monthly Service Charges and Volumetric Rates per worksheet '13. Rate Design' of the Recalculated Revenue Requirement Workform:

Figure 11 – Comparative Fixed Monthly Service Charge

Customer Class	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Recalculated for inclusion of ICM
Residential	\$25.57	\$26.04
GS <50	\$23.74	\$23.74
GS>50-Regular	\$89.34	\$89.34
Street Light	\$2.55	\$2.62
Sentinel	\$3.74	\$3.70
Unmetered Scattered Load	\$24.58	\$24.83

Figure 12 – Comparative Volumetric Rates

Customer Class	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Recalculated for inclusion of ICM
Residential	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
GS <50	\$0.0140	\$0.0147
GS>50-Regular	\$3.4192	\$3.7055
Street Light	\$13.9936	\$14.4013
Sentinel	\$11.5335	\$11.4245
Unmetered Scattered Load	\$0.0083	\$0.0084

Finally, ORPC analyzed the comparative monthly bill impacts utilizing the above recalculated rates in a Tariff and Bill Impact Model which demonstrated the following:

Figure 13 – Comparative Total Monthly Bill Impacts

Rate Classes	Per EB-2021-0052 Settlement Proposal on March 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2022		Recalculated for inclusion of ICM	
	\$	%	\$	%
Residential – RPP	\$(0.20)	(0.2)%	\$0.24	0.2%
GS <50 – RPP	\$6.00	2.0%	\$7.02	2.5%
GS50to4,999kW-Non-RPP (Dem)	\$(35.26)	(0.9)%	\$(2.91)	(0.1)%
Sentinel – Non-RPP	\$0.25	0.9%	\$0.11	0.4%
Street Lighting – Non-RPP	\$(578.38)	(8.3)%	\$(458.21)	(6.6)%
Unmetered – RPP	\$23.09	6.5%	\$22.56	6.7%
Residential – Non-RPP (Retail)	\$(0.21)	(0.2)%	\$0.23	0.2%
Residential – RPP (10 <sup>th</sup> Percent)	\$(1.23)	(2.0)%	\$(0.74)	(1.3)%
GS50to4,999kW-Non-RPP (Int.)	\$(167.07)	(0.9)%	\$(134.72)	(0.8)%

No rate plans or mitigation strategies would have been proposed under the recalculated rates as all bills impacts would have been maintained well below the 10% impact threshold.

## **Accounting Treatment**

ORPC proposes the introduction of a USofA 1508 "Other Regulatory Assets", sub-account Lost Revenues, with Carrying Charges to be calculated monthly at the OEB-prescribed interest rate on any balance held within the USofA 1508 Other Regulatory Assets", sub- account Lost Revenues, with the offsetting entries to be recorded in USofA Account 4080 Distribution Services Revenue. Below are illustrative examples of the proposed accounting treatment:

Date	Account	Description	Debit	Credit
Jun-25	4080	Distribution Services Revenue	-	10,000
	1508	Other Regulatory Assets	10,000	-
	Billing journal er	ntries to record incremental lost revenue	s	
		Other Regulatory Assets - Carrying		
30-Jun-25	1508	Charges	-	200
	4405	Interest Income	200	-
	To record carryi	ng charges on balances from customers a	at month end	

### Certification

In accordance with filing requirements for Electricity Distribution Rate Applications, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information and evidence contained in this application are accurate, complete and consistent with filing requirements. I further certify that the documents filed in support of this application do not include any personal information in accordance with rule 9A of the Ontario Energy Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Jeffrey Roy

Chief Financial Officer

Ottawa River Power Corporation

283 Pembroke Street West, Pembroke ON K8A 6Y6

# **List of Appendices**

Appendix A	EB-2021-0052 Decision and Order
Appendix B	Approved 2022 Chapter 2 Filing Requirements
Appendix C	Approved 2022 Cost Allocation Model
Appendix D	Approved 2022 PILs Model
Appendix E	Approved 2022 Revenue Requirement Workform
Appendix F	Approve 2022 Tariff and Bill Impact Model
Appendix G	Recalculated 2022 Chapter 2 Filing Requirements
Appendix H	Recalculated 2022 Cost Allocation Model
Appendix I	Recalculated 2022 PILs Model
Appendix J	Recalculated 2022 Revenue Requirement Workform
Appendix K	Recalculated 2022 Tariff and Bill Impact Model
Appendix L	Distribution Revenue Impact Analysis