

BY E-MAIL

July 17, 2025

To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors

All Other Interested Parties

Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards

Engagement on Capacity Allocation Model File No.: EB-2024-0092

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is giving notice that eligible participants in the Engagement on Electricity Distribution System Expansion for Housing Development, OEB file no. EB-2024-0092, are invited to submit cost claims for eligible activities as follows:

- a. Participating in Capacity Allocation Model Advisory Group (CAMAG) meetings; and
- b. Providing written comments in response to the April 17, 2025 Notice of Proposed Amendments to the *Distribution System Code* (DSC) related to the CAM.

Background

One of the key recommendations that came out of this consultation was the development of a Capacity Allocation Model (CAM). On November 21, 2024, the OEB issued a <u>letter</u> initiating the Capacity Allocation Model Advisory Group (CAMAG). 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 letter also clarified that stakeholders deemed eligible for cost awards in the <u>April 2024 Decision</u>, in relation to the distribution system expansion for housing development consultation (EB-2024-0092), would be eligible for cost awards related to their participation in the CAMAG. It further noted that cost awards for CAMAG participation will be available to a maximum of actual meeting time plus 2 times the actual meeting time for preparation and reporting per eligible participant.

On April 17, 2025, the OEB released a Notice of Proposed Amendments to the DSC. This Notice provided that stakeholders eligible for costs under the <u>April 2024 Decision</u> would also be eligible for cost awards for submitting comments on the proposed amendments to a maximum of 16 hours.

The following parties were found eligible for cost awards in the April 2024 Decision and

were involved in the CAMAG and/or provided comments on the proposed DSC amendments:

- School Energy Coalition (SEC)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)
- Pollution Probe (PP)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Environmental Defense (ED)

Notice of Hearing

The OEB is initiating a hearing on its own motion to determine the cost awards to eligible participants for the following eligible activities:

- a. Participating in CAMAG meetings; and
- b. Providing written comments in response to the April 17, 2025 Notice of Proposed Amendments to the DSC for CAM.

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 July 29, 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 **August 5**, **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 **August 12, 2025** to file its reply to 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-2024-0092** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online</u> 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 <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 at all the parties required 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 the 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 project lead, Mansi Modi at Mansi.Modi@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Regards,

Brian Hewson

Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance.