

BY EMAIL

August 25, 2025

Ritchie Murray Acting Registrar Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto, ON M4P 1E4 Registrar@oeb.ca

Dear Ritchie Murray:

Re: Ontario Energy Board (OEB) Staff Submission

Hydro Ottawa Limited (Hydro Ottawa)

2026-2030 Custom Rate Application for Electricity Distribution Rates and

Charges

OEB File Number: EB-2024-0115

Please find attached OEB staff's submission in the above referenced proceeding, pursuant to the OEB's Practice Direction on Confidential Filings, Section 5.1.6.

Yours truly,

Narisa Jotiban Senior Advisor, Electricity Distribution

Encl.

cc: All parties in EB-2024-0115



ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

OEB Staff Submission on Confidentiality

Hydro Ottawa Limited

2026-2030 Electricity Distribution Rates

EB-2024-0115

August 25, 2025

Introduction

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 it charges for electricity distribution, beginning January 1, 2026 (Application).

As part of its interrogatory responses, Hydro Ottawa filed a letter to the OEB dated August 18, 2025¹ requesting confidential treatment for specific information. On August 21, 2025, Hydro Ottawa filed a further letter to the OEB requesting to redact additional information.² Redacted versions of the interrogatory responses were filed on the public record of this proceeding and un-redacted versions of the documents were filed confidentially with the OEB pursuant to the OEB's *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings* (Practice Direction).³

Hydro Ottawa's letters provide a table that includes references, general descriptions and rationale for the requested redactions for portions of the following interrogatory responses:

- 2-SEC-40
- 2-Staff-69
- 2-Staff-87
- 2-Staff-122
- 6-Staff-184
- 4.0-VECC-39 part (b)

OEB Staff Submission

OEB staff submits that it has no concerns with Hydro Ottawa's proposed redactions.

OEB staff notes that for 2-Staff-87 and 2-Staff-122, the "Explanations and Rationale" provided in Hydro Ottawa's August 18 and August 21 letters contains multiple reasons that are not specific to each redaction. In reviewing the reasons and redactions, OEB staff agrees that at least one of the multiple reasons listed does apply to each redaction. However, for ease of review, OEB staff encourages Hydro Ottawa to identify the specific reason for each redaction in future filings.

As part of Hydro Ottawa's original request for confidential treatment for specific

¹ EB-2024-0115, <u>Letter to OEB</u>, August 18, 2025

² EB-2024-0115, <u>Letter to OEB</u>, August 21, 2025

Ontario Energy Board, Practice Direction on Confidential Filings, December 17, 2021

information (from the letter dated August 18, 2025), OEB staff notes that Hydro Ottawa submitted a single document containing the un-redacted pages from multiple documents instead of the entire documents. Hydro Ottawa's follow up request (from the letter dated August 21, 2025), included files which contain the entire documents. Section 5.1.4 part (c) of the Practice Direction states that a request for confidentiality must include a confidential, un-redacted version of the document containing all the information for which confidentiality is requested. OEB staff appreciates that the updated request included files containing the complete un-redacted documents in accordance with the Practice Direction, unlike the initial request. However, OEB staff encourages Hydro Ottawa to submit all un-redacted documents in full in future filings.

OEB staff further notes that page 3 of the letter dated August 21, 2025, contains two typographical errors: '2-Staff-184(A)' should read '6-Staff-184(A)' and one instance of '2-staff-122(C)' should read '2-staff-122(D)'.

~All of which is respectfully submitted~