

September 12, 2025

registrar@oeb.ca
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Re: Regional and Bulk Electricity System Planning Review (EB-2025-0248) – Request to Participate on Advisory Group

On behalf of **Vidya Enterprises Inc.**, we are writing in response to the request to participate in the upcoming Ontario Energy Board’s advisory committee for the Regional and Bulk Electricity System Planning Review (EB-2025-0248).

Vidya Enterprises Inc. is an independent infrastructure and advisory firm with expertise in OEB regulatory proceedings, municipal linear civil programs, right-of-way (ROW) management, utility coordination, and multi-year capital program delivery.

Vidya has significant cross sectoral infrastructure planning experience, advising and delivery of provincial scale infrastructure programs. This experience allows us to provide unbiased insights that ensure planning processes remain aligned with government priorities while being feasible in practice under fiscal, operational, and stakeholder constraints.

Vidya’s contribution to the Advisory Group will be to bring an accelerated delivery lens forward — promoting planning improvements that are grounded in best practices. These include:

- aligning system planning with municipal infrastructure pipelines and long-range master plans;
- ensuring that timelines and coordination account for ROW realities and stakeholder constraints;
- Innovation in standards, pre-approvals and resource management;
- embedding innovation through digital tools such as GIS and digital twins to improve transparency and shorten cycles;
- applying program management practices that balance affordability with delivery certainty, so recommendations can be implemented cost-effectively in the field.

Proposed Advisory Group Member:

- Name: Gordon McGuire
- Phone: 905-973-0802
- Email: gord.mcguire61@outlook.com

Mr. McGuire is Director and Senior Industry Advisor at Vidya Enterprises Inc. and brings over 30 years of experience in Ontario’s infrastructure and utility sectors. His career has focused on making large-scale

programs deliverable in practice, balancing policy direction with municipal realities. His expertise lies in weaving strategic planning, regulatory expectations, and program execution together under constrained environments.

Mr. McGuire has actively engaged in regulatory and cost of service proceedings before the OEB and CRTC, giving him direct insight into how regulatory frameworks shape delivery outcomes. He led the City of Hamilton LED Street Light conversion while acting as part of the Unmetered Load Working Group (EB-2012-0383), he acted as a catalyst advancing the Street Lighting Adjustment Factor and associated Navigant report.

As Director of Engineering Services for the City of Hamilton, he oversaw multi-billion-dollar capital programs across water, roads, and utilities. In this role, he led integration of cross sectoral long-range servicing and master planning into day-to-day capital delivery, meeting both municipal priorities and provincial growth objectives.

He has also led utility coordination for transformative programs, including Bell's \$500M Hamilton fibre deployment, which became a foundational element of Ontario's \$4B AHSIP broadband initiative.

Vidya also supports application of the 'beneficiary pays' principle, ensuring that costs are fairly allocated and planning outcomes remain affordable for ratepayers while still enabling timely infrastructure delivery.

This background positions him to provide the Advisory Group with an accelerated delivery-focused perspective — helping ensure that recommendations are transparent, actionable, and resilient against the practical challenges of implementing Ontario's regional and bulk electricity planning framework.

Vidya Enterprises Inc. hereby also requests eligibility for cost awards under Section 30 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, and in accordance with Section 3 of the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards. Vidya represents delivery interests of municipalities, communities, and consumers indirectly impacted by electricity planning decisions, ensuring that the Advisory Group's recommendations account for the realities of constrained budgets, ROW congestion, and multi-stakeholder coordination.

We thank you for considering this request and look forward to the opportunity to contribute to this important process. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D McGuire".

Dawn McGuire
Director, Vidya Enterprises Inc.
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