

VIA EMAIL

September 12, 2025

Mr. Ritchie Murray  
Acting Registrar  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street, Suite 2700  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Mr. Murray,

**RE: EB-2025-0248 – Regional and Bulk Electricity System Planning Review**

On August 29, 2025, the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) issued a letter announcing its intention to undertake a review of regional and bulk electricity planning processes. As part of this initiative, the OEB will establish an advisory group comprised of stakeholders from across the energy sector to support the review. The letter invites stakeholders interested in participating in the advisory group to submit a letter of intent to the OEB.

Alectra Utilities Corporation (“Alectra”) provides electricity distribution services within the Greater Golden Horseshoe to the Cities of Mississauga, Hamilton, St. Catharines, Brampton, Alliston, Aurora, Barrie, Beeton, Bradford, Guelph, Markham, Penetanguishene, Richmond Hill, Thornton, Tottenham and Vaughan. Given such a large regional span of service, Alectra has a particular interest in participating in the review of regional planning processes.

Alectra wishes to nominate Mr. Riaz Shaikh, P. Eng., to the advisory group. Mr. Shaikh has over 25 years of progressive and diversified experience in Electrical Distribution and Control in the areas of System Planning, Asset Management, Design, Reliability and Quality Management, and Product development. In his role as Manager, Distribution System Planning for Alectra, Mr. Shaikh is primarily responsible for the development of both short- and long-term planning to ensure the efficiency, effectiveness, and reliability of Alectra’s distribution system. Mr. Shaikh has previously supported and participated in IESO regional planning activities for six planning regions and nine sub-regions. He has also been a key contributor to DER integration and planning within Alectra’s system.

Mr. Shaikh holds a Master of Applied Science, Electrical & Computer Engineering degree, with a specialization in High Voltage and Power Systems. In addition, he has an expert level of understanding and knowledge of technical specifications and standards (CSA, IEEE, and ESA). Mr. Shaikh is a registered member of the Professional Engineers Ontario, is Six Sigma Black Belt Trained and is the past chair of the Canadian Energy Association-Standards Council of Canada working group.

**Alectra Utilities Corporation**

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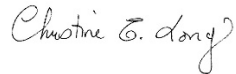
[alectrautilities.com](https://alectrautilities.com)

Mr. Shaikh's other industry affiliations include the Centre for Energy Advancement through Technological Innovation ("CEATI"), and participation in the OEB's Regional Planning Process Advisory Group ("RPPAG").

Mr. Shaikh's detailed resume outlining his work experience, education, and affiliations is attached. Mr. Shaikh can be reached by email at [riaz.shaikh@alectrautilities.com](mailto:riaz.shaikh@alectrautilities.com) or by phone at 905-798-2930.

Alectra is confident that Mr. Shaikh's background aligns well with the intended purpose of the advisory group and looks forward to continuing to support the OEB in advancing this important policy initiative. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,



Christine E. Long  
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs  
Alectra Utilities Corporation

Attachment: Resume – Riaz Shaikh, P.Eng.

### **Profile**

- Over 20 years of progressive and diversified experience in Electrical Distribution and Control industry in areas of System Planning, Asset Management, Design, Reliability & Quality Management and Product development.
- Master's degree in Electrical & Computer Engineering with specialization in High Voltage and Power systems.
- Excellent understanding and knowledge of technical specifications & standards (CSA, IEEE, and ESA).
- Proven ability to work independently; and effectively manage multiple projects and teams; strong facilitation; and written & oral communication skills.
- Strong background in business processes and engineering.
- Registered as **Professional Engineer and Six Sigma Black Belt** Trained.
- Industry Affiliations such as CEATI, past chair of CEA-SCC and co-founder of the IUSF (Inter Utility Standards Forum), member of RPPAG.

### **Professional Experience**

#### **Alectra Utilities Corporation**

Manager, Distribution System Planning

May 17- Present

- Lead the long term and short term Distribution System Planning activities for 5000 MW peak system.
- Lead the Alectra Utilities Distribution System Plan development.
- Actively supported the IESO lead regional planning activities for six planning regions and nine regional planning sub-regions within Alectra's service territory.
- Lead the Grid 2.0 activities which include Distribution Automation, key member of the DER integration
- Lead the project portfolio of over \$50MM which include New Feeders, Stations, Distribution Automation and Voltage conversion projects triggered due to capacity shortfall.

#### **PowerStream Inc.**

Manager, System Planning

May '14- May '17

Manager, System Planning and Standards

April '13 – May '14

Reliability Engineer

Nov '10- April '13

- Lead the Distribution System Planning, Asset Condition Assessment, Maintenance & Reliability and ESA Compliance activities.
- Member of the core team that supported PowerStream rate applications: COS (2012), ICM (2013) and Five year Custom IR (2015).
- Led the load forecast and true up verifications for CCRA's and the asset verification's for the LTLT.
- Led the short-term and long-term planning of PowerStream distribution assets. Manage a capital portfolio of approximately \$50M (system service and system renewal).
- Led the development of PowerStream's Asset Condition Assessment Report for Station and Distribution Assets resulting in a significant expansion of capital program (11M to 39M) to manage long term risk.
- Led the class EA process for New Transformer Station and land acquisitions (site selection, realtor liaison) for TS and MS stations
- Led a company- wide PAS 55 asset management assessment initiative.
- Developed a cable testing program (Tan delta) which is estimated to save over 700k over a 7 year period making PowerStream the first Utility in Canada to have in house cable testing program.

- Led Reliability programs and projects and instituted Five year Reliability work plan to achieve corporate reliability targets.
- Developed the Distribution Automation Plan and key member of developing the DA Strategy.
- Led Regional Planning activities for RIP and IRRP activities with significant interactions with Municipalities and IESO/Working group members/LAC's.
- Developed the C55 risk and benefit section in conjunction with Copperleaf.
- Led the development of maintenance policy, defined optimum proactive maintenance plans and programs (Vegetation management, Distribution assets) and harmonization of Inspection and Maintenance.
- Established the Distribution Transformer C2C program with the vendor and successful approval of the program requirements with the ESA leading to significant cost savings.
- Developed the Failure Analysis Reporting and Corrective Action System.
- Investigated and supported innovative enhancement technologies (e.g. smart grid projects, cable testing, injection, GIL (transmission Undergrounding)).

**Rockwell Automation (Allen-Bradley), Cambridge, Canada** 2005-2010

Project/Quality Engineer

- Led the MV distribution system analysis for projects (Short Circuit Analysis, Protection Coordination)
- Member of team involved in advanced research into magnetics and Medium Voltage AC Drive Technology. Filed Patent *US8283578- Electrical device, system and method for operating with reduced acoustic noise generation.*
- Led the failure analysis for MV Distribution and Control equipment and systems and drive root cause corrective action to address reliability issues. (Transformers, MV Cables).

**Hydrogenics Corporation, Mississauga, Canada** 2002-2005

Systems Test Engineer (Fuel Cell Stack and Power Module Development)

- Led the development testing of hydrogen fuel cell stack and power module for back up power and automotive application.
- Research and investigation in the fuel cell module development and lead the first trials of sub zero operation of hydrogen fuel cell (Design of Experiments).

**Adwan Company Ltd, K.S.A** 1996-1999

Project Manager

- Managed the Design Integration, procurement and commissioning of Medium Voltage Distribution systems for generating stations, utilities and Oil and Refinery projects. The major projects worked are Riyadh Power plant PP-9 project, Yanbu Refinery, Rabigh Refinery.
- Defined the rules and guidelines for the integration and commissioning for Power and Distribution transformers, Power Cables (Commissioning and Acceptance Tests).

**Electric Control Gear India Ltd, India** 1994-1996

Project Engineer

- Simulation, analysis and design of solid state protection relay for medium voltage distribution and control.
- Research (new development & patent search) and investigation of hardware and new control techniques for protection relays and automatic transfer switches.

**Computer Skills****Applications** MS office, MS Project, Minitab, AutoCAD, ETAP, CYME**Relevant Training****Design for Six Sigma Black Belt** Sigma Breakthrough Technologies, U.S.A

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**Internal Quality Systems Auditing** S.G. S. Yarsely International, U.K

**Education**

**Master of Applied Science, Electrical & Computer Engineering** 2002  
University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, GPA 3.75/4.00

**Bachelor of Electrical Engineering** 1994  
North Gujarat University, India

**Technical Publication and Presentations**

IEEE Transactions on Dielectric and Electric Insulation –Paper 1695 and 1696 2007  
9<sup>TH</sup> International Conference on Solid Dielectrics- Winchester, Hampshire, UK 2007  
Cable Rehabilitation program based on Tan- Delta Testing (EDIST) 2013  
Cable Testing Methodology (CEATI) 2014  
Distribution Automation (CEA-SCC) 2016