

BY EMAIL

September 12, 2025

Ritchie Murray
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Re: Regional and Bulk Planning Advisory Group Participation EB-2025-0248

Dear Mr. Murray,

This letter serves as the Electricity Distributors Association's (EDA) expression of interest in participating in the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) Regional and Bulk Electricity System Planning Advisory Group. The EDA is the voice of Ontario's local electricity distributors, representing the full spectrum of members across the province. The EDA represents Ontario's local hydro utilities, the part of our electricity system closest to customers. Publicly and privately owned utilities deliver electricity to residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional customers—powering every community in the province. The sector owns more than \$30 billion in electricity system infrastructure and invests more than \$2.5 billion annually in the electricity grid—that is the Power of Local Hydro.

Organization Name and address:

Electricity Distributors Association, 3700 Steeles Ave West, Suite 1100, Vaughan, ON, L4L 8K8

Proposed Advisory Group Members & Contact Information:

Brittany J Ashby
bashby@eda-on.ca
Direct / Cell: 416.886.4420

Rudra Mukherji
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Direct / Cell: 647-332-6323

EDA's Interest:

The EDA's perspective on and interest in regional and bulk planning is consistent with our submission to the Ministry of Energy and Mines on the Integrated Energy Plan. We believe that a robust and efficient energy system for Ontario is dependent upon a truly integrated planning framework. In our submission, we stated: "We support integrated planning and recommend that the government prioritize actions that promote coordination across sectors and levels and empower local entities to participate in planning and decision-making. An essential action should entail developing a formal and transparent coordination framework that outlines the scope and

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Electricity Distributors Association

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objectives for enhanced planning at the bulk, regional, and distribution levels. This will help ensure that planning for electricity and natural gas systems is aligned and that the impact of fuel switching on infrastructure needs is adequately considered". This core principle continues to guide our perspective on the issues outlined in the OEB's review, including planning timelines, load growth alignment, and the integration of distributed energy resources.

EDA's Experience:

The EDA is already actively supporting the OEB's review by helping its members complete the OEB's survey on regional planning. Where applicable, the EDA plans to utilize its Councils to present a consolidated perspective from the sector. Additionally, since not all EDA members have the resources to participate directly, they will depend on EDA representatives to coordinate and express their views in this process.

We thank you for the opportunity to participate in this proceeding and look forward to contributing to the Advisory Group's work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ted Wigdor', is centered below the word 'Sincerely,'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ted Wigdor
VP, Policy, Government & Corporate Affairs