



September 19, 2025

**VIA RESS**

Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319,  
2300 Yonge Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4  
Attention: Acting Registrar

Dear Mr. Murray,

**Re: Hydro Ottawa Limited (“Hydro Ottawa”)  
Custom IR Application for 2026-2030 Electricity Distribution Rates and Charges  
Board File No.: EB-2024-0115**

We are counsel to the Distributed Resource Coalition (“**DRC**”) in the above-noted proceeding (the “**Proceeding**”). Further to DRC’s letter dated September 15, 2025 and the OEB’s hearing plan of the upcoming technical conference taking place from September 22–26, 2025, please see below DRC’s clarification questions for the upcoming technical conference on July 16, 2025. If Hydro Ottawa is willing to provide written responses to these questions through an undertaking, DRC will not require any time at the technical conference other than further relevant clarification questions based on responses from Hydro Ottawa to other parties.

**1. 1-DRC-1 c)**

- What would be the impacts on Hydro Ottawa’s ability to respond to wider adoption of distributed energy resources (“**DERs**”) and electric vehicles (“**EVs**”) (including low adoption and high adoption scenarios) in the event that funding for the 22 positions identified as associated with the Customer Connection and Capacity Program growth are not approved as part of this proceeding?

**2. 1-DRC-2 f)**

- Please elaborate on what Hydro Ottawa means by “As V2G matures and becomes more economically and technically feasible for widespread implementations”.
- Please discuss the economic and technical barriers that currently limit the implementation of V2G in Hydro Ottawa’s service area.
- Are there any leading jurisdictions or utilities that you are aware of with respect to procuring services from EV energy storage systems such as V2G?

**3. 1-DRC-4 e)**

- Does Hydro Ottawa have any further insights regarding the significant increase in Large Commercial consideration of electrifying company owned vehicles (42% -> 51%), including in relation to impacts on Hydro Ottawa's distribution system and load forecasts?

**4. 2-DRC-6 a)**

- Based on past experience, how has Hydro Ottawa's customer-satisfaction score changed when connection queues lengthened, and what would be the expected impact if new EV/DER connections begin to stall?
- Can you describe in a general sense what work Hydro Ottawa is doing to understand how customer preferences for DER and EV options may develop over the coming years?

**5. 2-DRC-6 b)**

- How will Hydro Ottawa pivot if EV and/or DER demand advances at more accelerated rates, consistent with a high electrification scenario?

**6. 2-DRC-6 c)**

- In capacity-constrained areas, how many new EV charger or DER interconnection requests would you anticipate could be deferred per year under a "reduced-spend" alternative?
- Given the documented shortage of skilled utility trades, what is Hydro Ottawa's contingency plan if investments are deferred through this Proceeding and then need to be executed on a compressed timeline?
- Which neighbourhoods would be most likely to face temporary pauses on new EV and/or DER connections (e.g., rooftop solar) if the planned investments are deferred?
- Is Hydro Ottawa aware of any specific commercial or industrial projects in growth areas that might be delayed or lost if sufficient hosting capacity for fleet EV chargers and on-site generation is not available?

**7. 2-DRC-8 b)-e)**

- In the event that the ODERA project is not approved, how many extra years would Hydro Ottawa need to validate a DER-management system before it could be safely rolled out across the whole service territory?
- To what extent could accurate, feeder-level load forecasts from the ODERA project defer or down-size traditional capacity upgrades that would otherwise be scheduled in the 2026-2030 window?

- If the ODERA project is delayed, what is the estimated rate impact (¢/kWh) on an average residential customer by 2030 compared with proceeding with the pilot today?
- What key performance indicators will Hydro Ottawa track over the pilot period to determine whether the technology can be rolled out cost-effectively across the entire distribution system?
- Which specific data gaps (e.g., missing interval data, DER telemetry) will the pilot seek to close, and how will that improved data flow enhance both local planning and coordination with the IESO?
- Can Hydro Ottawa provide how and when pilot results (e.g., forecasting accuracy and customer participation) will be shared with other LDCs to accelerate sector-wide learning?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DT Vollmer', with a stylized, cursive script.

DT Vollmer

- c. All parties  
Cara Clairman, Plug'n Drive  
Devin Arthur, Electric Vehicle Society