

EB-2024-0026

Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.

Application for electricity distribution rates beginning May 1, 2025

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 6 September 26, 2025

Greater Sudbury Hydro filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on October 30, 2024, under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, 1998, seeking approval for changes to the rates that Greater Sudbury Hydro charges for electricity distribution, beginning May 1, 2025.

In Procedural Order No. 2 dated April 24, 2025, the OEB established the timetable for additional procedural steps relating to the unsettled elements in this proceeding.^{1, 2} The unsettled elements relate to Greater Sudbury Hydro's transition from cash-based accounting to accrual-based accounting for Other Post-Employment Benefits.

On September 17, 2025 in Procedural Order No. 5, the OEB Panel posed further questions regarding the unsettled issues. The OEB also provided the parties with an opportunity to make submissions on an alternative proposal that was put forward by Greater Sudbury Hydro in its reply submission.

On September 23, 2025, Greater Sudbury Hydro filed a letter requesting a two-week extension for the filing of its responses to the panel's questions to October 15, 2025, for the reasons set out in the letter.³ Greater Sudbury Hydro also noted that it is facing methodological and data limitation regarding School Energy Coalition's (SEC) and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition's (VECC) proposed scenarios. In order to align with the panel's expectation, Greater Sudbury requested confirmation of the scope and methodology of the requested information as follows:

Question 1 a): Greater Sudbury Hydro will provide a projected, go forward comparative analysis of its proposal versus OEB Staff's proposal (on a best-

¹ The unsettled matters are part of Issue 6.1 of the OEB-approved Issues List. The Issues List was approved in the OEB's Decision on Issues List, dated December 19, 2025.

² EB-2024-0026, Procedural Order No. 5, September 17, 2025

³ EB-2024-0026, Extension Request Letter, September 23, 2025

efforts basis), showing the impacts on ROE, Debt/Equity ratio, cash flow, and any other key financial metrics if identified.

- 2. Greater Sudbury Hydro will prepare detailed bill impact calculations and propose a disposition period (with rationale consistent with the OEB's mitigation policy and intergenerational equity considerations) for OEB Staff's proposal.
- 3. Questions 1 b) and 3: Greater Sudbury Hydro may not be able to, subject to further review, file projections as contemplated under question 1 b) for the SEC and VECC scenarios, or file bill impact or disposition analyses for VECC/SEC proposals under question 3. To the extent GSHI can provide a representative or high-level calculation of the requested scenarios it will do so.

The OEB grants the Applicant's request for an extension. Greater Sudbury Hydro has described the approach it proposes to take in responding to the OEB's questions, based on the limitations it has identified in its September 23, 2025 letter. The OEB will review the responses as part of the evidentiary record on the basis that Greater Sudbury Hydro bears the burden of proof to establish that the rates it seeks to implement are just and reasonable. Greater Sudbury Hydro is to include explanations of any limitations on its responses in its filing.

As a result of Greater Sudbury Hydro's request, it is necessary to adjust the dates for other steps in this proceeding.

The OEB finds it is necessary to make provision for the matters set out below related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Greater Sudbury Hydro shall provide responses to the panel's questions by **October 15, 2025**
- 2. Intervenors and OEB staff shall file their written submissions on Greater Sudbury Hydro's alternative proposal with the OEB and serve them on all other parties by **October 30, 2025**.
- 3. Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc. shall file its reply submission with the OEB and serve it on all parties by **November 11, 2025.**

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or

any other type of document, **do not include personal information** (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB's <u>Rules of Practice and Procedure</u>.

Please quote file numbers, **EB-2024-0026** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online</u> filing portal.

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the <u>Regulatory Electronic Submission System (RESS)</u> <u>Document Guidelines</u> found at the <u>File documents online page</u> on the OEB's website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet <u>set up an account</u>, or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact <u>registrar@oeb.ca</u> for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the <u>File documents online page</u> of the OEB's website for more information. All participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all required parties as per the <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u>.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Georgette Vlahos at georgette.vlahos@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, James Sidlofsky at james.sidlofsky@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

DATED at Toronto, **September 26, 2025**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Ritchie Murray Acting Registrar