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September 29, 2025

To: All Parties in EB-2025-0156

Re: Consultation on the Regulatory Treatment of Local Electricity Demand-side Management (Stream 2) Programs

On July 23, 2025, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a <u>letter</u> (OEB Letter) initiating a consultation on the regulatory treatment of electricity demand-side management (eDSM) programs delivered by local distribution companies that provide both local and system wide benefits.

The OEB's Letter outlined a consultation process. OEB staff prepared an initial series of written questions about the proposed framework detailed in the eDSM Stream 2 Report and filed them to the OEB, Working Group and participants on August 28, 2025. On September 25, 2025, the Working Group filed responses to OEB staff questions.

The OEB's Letter announced that there would be a transcribed stakeholder session beginning on October 8, 2025, continuing on October 9, 2025 if necessary. This includes a presentation on the eDSM Stream 2 Report by the Working Group and an opportunity for stakeholders and OEB staff to ask questions of the Working Group. Invitations to the stakeholder session have been sent by OEB staff.

It is expected that the Working Group representatives at the stakeholder session will be as follows:

- Andrew Bishop, Independent Electricity System Operator
- Michael Lister, Alectra Utilities
- Evelyn Lundhild, Independent Electricity System Operator
- Andrew Mandyam, Utilis Consulting
- Tina Wong, Electricity Distributors Association

The OEB requires that stakeholders who intend to ask questions to the Working Group at the stakeholder session email registrar@oeb.ca by Friday, October 3, 2025. Emails should include "EB-2025-0156: Consultation on the Regulatory Treatment of Local Electricity Demand-side Management (Stream 2) Programs" and provide the following information:

- a time estimate and planned topics of questioning (stakeholders may choose to provide specific questions)
- Name of individual(s) asking the questions on behalf of their stakeholder interest

To avoid duplication, stakeholders are asked to review OEB staff's questions and Working Group responses prior to preparing questions (if required) for the stakeholder session.

As indicated in the OEB Letter, the OEB expects that groups representing similar interests or class of persons will make every effort to communicate and co-ordinate their participation in this process. The OEB also reminds prospective participants that the OEB's Letter set out maximum total eligible hours per participant for eligible consultation activities.

The OEB Letter indicated that should time not permit all stakeholders to ask their questions (or should some questions require further consideration from the Working Group), stakeholders and OEB staff may submit any outstanding questions in writing by October 16, 2025.

To clarify, the OEB's goal is to provide all stakeholders with an opportunity to ask their questions within the stakeholder session, with limited follow-up written questions, likely only in the event that the Working Group requests clarification. The Working Group will file written responses with the OEB and participants by October 30, 2025 to any questions asked at the stakeholder session for which it committed to respond to by way of written follow-up.

Please direct any questions relating to this consultation to the Project Lead, Michael Parkes, at michael.parkes@oeb.ca. or Michael Bell at michael.bell@oeb.ca.

Yours truly,

Ritchie Murray Acting Registrar