



October 1, 2025

VIA E-MAIL

Ritchie Murray  
Acting Registrar (registrar@oeb.ca)  
Ontario Energy Board  
Toronto, ON

Dear Mr. Murray:

**Re: EB-2025-0014 Oshawa PUC Networks Inc. (OPUCN)  
2025 Cost of Service Hearing format submissions**

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In accordance with Procedural Order No. 4 in the above noted proceeding these are VECC's submission with respect to the hearing of the unsettled issues.

We have reviewed the submissions of the School Energy Coalition (SEC) and are in agreement and endorse those submissions. Specifically, we agree that the unsettled issues as set out below may be addressed solely by written argument.

3.2 - Proposed PILs;  
4.1 - Load forecast;  
5.1 - Cost allocation;  
5.2 - Rate design including fixed variable splits;  
7.1 - Effective date; and,  
7.2 - Responding to all relevant OEB directions from previous proceedings.

We also agree that the balance of unsettled issues should be addressed in an oral hearing and that that hearing should be in person at the Board's offices.

We will not repeat SEC's arguments with respect to the need for an in person oral hearing. Our experience is that while virtual or hybrid formats can accommodate some regulatory processes on-line presence is a poor substitute for an actual hearing before Board Commissioners. The purpose of a hearing is to not only test evidence but to convey its weight and impact to decision makers. This is difficult to do virtually.

We also observe that an in-person hearing would align with the recently announced policy of the Government of Ontario for provincial agencies, boards and commission public bodies to return to the office full time.

We hope our comments are helpful.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Garner".

Mark Garner  
Consultants for VECC/PIAC

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