



Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.

**Application for electricity distribution rates and other
charges beginning January 1, 2026**

DECISION & PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 5
October 20, 2025

BEFORE: Patrick Moran
Presiding Commissioner

Anthony Zlahtic
Commissioner

Robert Dodds
Commissioner

Oshawa PUC Networks Inc. filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board on April 30, 2025, under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, seeking approval for changes to the rates that Oshawa PUC Networks charges for electricity distribution, beginning January 1, 2026.

In accordance with Procedural Order No. 1, dated June 13, 2025, and Procedural Order No. 2, dated June 30, 2025, the OEB directed parties to file consolidated interrogatories by July 10, 2025, and Oshawa PUC Networks to file its responses by July 30, 2025.

Interrogatory Responses - Confidentiality Requests

Oshawa PUC Networks filed its interrogatory responses on July 30, 2025. Included as part of its filings was a request for confidential treatment of certain portions of 12 interrogatory responses. Redacted versions of the interrogatory responses were filed for the public record of this proceeding and unredacted versions of the documents were filed confidentially with the OEB pursuant to the OEB's [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#) and the *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings* (Practice Direction). The OEB will issue a separate ruling on Oshawa PUC Networks' confidentiality request.

SEC Motion for Further Disclosure

On August 18, 2025, an intervenor to the proceeding, School Energy Coalition (SEC), filed a motion under Rule 27 of the OEB's [*Rules of Practice and Procedure*](#). In its motion, SEC sought further disclosure from Oshawa PUC Networks in relation to:

- a. Interrogatory 1-SEC/Staff/CCMBC-7(b)
- b. Interrogatory 1-SEC/Staff/CCC/PP/CCMBC/VECC-9(a), (f), (g) and (h)
- c. Interrogatory 1-SEC-17
- d. Interrogatory 1-SEC-26
- e. Interrogatory 4-SEC-169

An oral hearing of SEC's motion was held on September 29, 2025. At the hearing, the OEB directed SEC and Oshawa PUC Networks to attempt to resolve the disclosure issues and report back to the OEB the issues that were resolved and the issues that still require OEB determination.

On October 2, 2025, SEC filed a letter outlining the issues that SEC and Oshawa PUC Networks had resolved and those that remained.

As a further response to interrogatory 4-SEC-169, Oshawa PUC Networks agreed to file the cost allocation model used to allocate costs between affiliates for shared services and corporate cost allocations.

As a further response to interrogatory 1-SEC/Staff/CCMBC-7(b), Oshawa PUC Networks agreed to file a risk register that was prepared during the development of the business transformation plan by Oshawa PUC Networks' new management team. Oshawa PUC Networks filed the risk register on October 10, 2025.

Regarding interrogatory responses 1-SEC/Staff/CCC/PP/CCMBC/VECC-9(a), (f), (g), and (h), SEC sought documentation associated with the new head office building.

Counsel for the Oshawa PUC Networks advised SEC that his client had already produced all documents related to how the new head office (i) affects changes the rest of the capital plan and the Distribution System Plan and (ii) impacts the OM&A.

Outstanding Disclosure Issues

- (a) 1-SEC/Staff/CCC/PP/CCMBC/VECC-9(a), (f), (g), and (h)

While SEC sought options analysis and benchmarking on the new head office building, Oshawa PUC Networks objected to the relevance of such requests on the basis that such evidence would be better suited for a future Incremental Capital Module application.

SEC also requested the revenue requirement and rate impacts for all rate classes resulting from the new head office. Oshawa PUC Networks agreed to provide that analysis with explicit assumptions.

On October 10, 2025, Oshawa PUC Networks provided rate impacts for residential customers and the revenue requirement amount pertaining to the new head office but no underlying analysis of how this was calculated. On October 14, 2025, SEC filed a letter noting that it has asked for the calculations behind the revenue requirement and the rate impacts for other rate classes. In a reply letter dated October 14, 2025, Oshawa PUC Networks responded by noting that it believed that SEC was amending the original interrogatory and that it would be prepared to provide that information at the hearing.

The OEB requires that as part of its response to 1-SEC/Staff/CCC/PP/CCMBC/VECC-9(a), (f), (g), and (h), Oshawa PUC Networks should state whether it has conducted an options analysis or benchmarking regarding the proposed head office building, and if so, Oshawa PUC Networks should disclose that information. The OEB also requires that Oshawa PUC Networks disclose the supporting calculation behind the revenue requirement pertaining to the new head office building at this time, along with rate impacts for all rate classes with the underlying calculations. It is more efficient to provide that information now, rather than waiting until the hearing.

(b) 1-SEC-17

In relation to interrogatory 1-SEC-17, SEC sought the financial statements of Oshawa PUC Networks' various affiliates. Oshawa PUC Networks objected to providing these documents on the basis of relevance to this proceeding.

The OEB finds that as part of reviewing Oshawa PUC Networks' affiliate relations, financial statements between the utility and its affiliates will provide context to assist the OEB in determining that ratepayers are being appropriately treated. Oshawa PUC Networks shall provide these financial statements in response to 1-SEC-17.

(c) 1-SEC-26

In relation to interrogatory 1-SEC-26, SEC sought information on the business arrangements between Oshawa PUC Networks and its affiliates, and Lakefront Utilities.

Oshawa PUC Networks objected to providing these documents on the basis of relevance to this proceeding.

The OEB wants to understand the nature of the relationship between Oshawa PUC Networks and its affiliates and Lakefront Utilities to ensure ratepayers are being appropriately treated. Oshawa PUC Networks shall provide copies of all agreements, MOUs, letters of intent, or similar documents between Lakefront Utilities and Oshawa PUC Networks or any of its affiliates as requested in the original interrogatory.

Settlement Proposal

On September 22, 2025, Oshawa PUC Networks filed a settlement proposal and responses to pre-settlement conference clarification questions with the OEB. The settlement proposal reflects a partial settlement agreed to by the parties in the proceeding. The settlement proposal addresses six settled issues, five partially settled issues, and nine issues for which no settlement was reached. The parties to the settlement proposal did not agree to a form of hearing for the partially settled or unsettled issues. On September 26, 2025, OEB staff filed its submission on the settlement proposal supporting the partial settlement proposal as it believed the settlement proposal would reflect the public interest and that the settled issues would result in just and reasonable rates for customers.

Findings

After reviewing the settlement proposal and OEB staff's submission, the OEB accepts the settlement reached on the issues identified in the settlement proposal.

Hearing on Unsettled Issues

In accordance with Procedural Order No. 4 dated September 25, 2025, the OEB directed parties to provide a written submission on the form of hearing for the unsettled issues identified in the settlement proposal.

On October 1, 2025, the parties provided their submissions on what unsettled issues should be held through written hearing and which unsettled issues should be heard through an oral hearing. The parties also provided their recommendations on whether the proposed oral hearing be held in-person or virtually.

Findings

The OEB finds that the following unsettled issues will be dealt with by way of a written hearing:

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

The remaining unsettled issues will be dealt with by way of an in-person oral hearing:

- 1.1 Capital and in-service additions
- 1.2 Rate base and depreciation
- 2.1 OM&A
- 2.2 Shared service cost allocation methodology
- 3.5 Revenue requirement determination
- 5.6 Rate mitigation
- 6.1 Deferral and variance accounts
- 7.3 Plan to seek additional funding for a new operational and administrative building in subsequent IRM application

The OEB expects parties to work directly with OEB staff to develop an effective hearing schedule. The OEB also expects parties to coordinate efforts and be mindful of the amount of hearing time available.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Oshawa PUC Networks shall file the information below by **October 22, 2025**. If Oshawa PUC Networks plans to file requests for confidential treatment for any of the items listed below, Oshawa PUC Networks shall provide unredacted versions to the OEB and all parties who have filed a declaration and undertaking:
 - a) In response to 1-SEC/Staff/CCC/PP/CCMBC/VECC-9(a), (f), (g), and (h), Oshawa PUC Networks shall state whether it has conducted options analysis and/or benchmarking on the new head office building, and if so, Oshawa PUC Networks shall disclose that documentation.
 - b) In response to 1-SEC/Staff/CCC/PP/CCMBC/VECC-9(a), (f), (g), and (h), Oshawa PUC Networks shall provide a breakdown of the calculation behind the revenue requirement pertaining to the new head office building and the rate impacts for all rate classes with the underlying calculations.

- c) In response to 1-SEC-17, Oshawa PUC Networks shall provide the most recent financial statements for its various affiliates.
- d) In response to 1-SEC-26, Oshawa PUC Networks shall provide copies of all agreements, MOUs, letters of intent, or similar documents between Lakefront Utilities and Oshawa PUC Networks or any of its affiliates.
2. The OEB is scheduling a transcribed oral hearing on unsettled issues for **October 28, 2025, starting at 9:30 a.m. to October 30, 2025**. This event will be conducted by way of an in-person hearing. Further details on the hearing will be communicated to parties closer to the date.
3. Oshawa PUC Networks shall file any undertakings resulting from the oral hearing by **November 4, 2025**.
4. Oshawa PUC Networks shall file its Argument-in-Chief with the OEB and deliver to all parties by **November 11, 2025**.
5. OEB staff and intervenors shall file any submissions with the OEB and deliver them to all other parties by **November 21, 2025**.
6. Oshawa PUC Networks shall file any reply submission with the OEB and deliver it to all other parties by **December 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 [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#).

Please quote file numbers, **EB-2025-0014** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the [OEB's online 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 [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guidelines](#) found at the [File documents online page](#) on the OEB's website.

- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#), or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the [File documents online page](#) 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 [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

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.

For all electronic correspondence and materials relating to the cost of service application, parties must include Tyler Davids at Tyler.Davids@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Lawren Murray at Lawren.Murray@oeb.ca and Tobias Hobbins at Tobias.Hobbins@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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

DATED at Toronto, **October 20, 2025**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar