



Ontario  
Energy  
Board | Commission  
de l'énergie  
de l'Ontario

**BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING**

December 4, 2025

**To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors  
All Licensed Electricity Transmitters  
All Natural Gas Distributors  
Independent Electricity System Operator  
All Registered Participants in EB-2025-0248 (Regional and Bulk Electricity  
System Planning Process Review)  
All Registered Participants in EB-2025-0125 (Review and Evaluation of the  
Integrated Resource Planning Framework for Enbridge Gas)  
All Other Interested Parties**

**Re: Gas-Electric Co-ordination and Information Sharing (EB-2025-0227)**

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#### **What You Need to Know**

- Co-ordination between energy planners will support rational infrastructure buildout in the natural gas and electricity sectors, supporting economic growth and affordability in Ontario.
- The OEB is initiating a consultation to set a framework to facilitate the sharing of natural gas and electricity planning information to support energy planning processes.
- As part of this consultation, the OEB will release a discussion paper in December 2025 and initiate a forum in January 2026 to solicit input from stakeholders and Indigenous communities on developing a framework for ongoing gas-electric information sharing and co-ordination.

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is launching this consultation in response to the directive regarding the implementation of [Energy for Generations](#), the Government of Ontario's Integrated Energy Plan. The directive, among other things, requires the OEB

to establish an ongoing gas-electric co-ordination information sharing forum to set expectations for gas-electric information sharing. This project will strengthen energy planning, making it more responsive to economic growth and supportive of affordability.

Through this consultation, the OEB is inviting stakeholders and Indigenous communities to provide feedback on setting a framework to facilitate gas-electric information sharing. Participants of this consultation may provide input by:

- Submitting written responses to questions in a discussion paper that the OEB will release in December 2025.
- Participating in gas-electric co-ordination information sharing forum meetings that will begin in January 2026.

## **Background**

Electricity distributors and transmitters and natural gas distributors each develop discrete system plans. These plans include information such as demand forecasts and solutions for meeting anticipated demand to inform utilities' investment proposals. These plans are filed as evidence to support utilities' applications to the OEB, such as applications for leave to construct and rate applications. The OEB has established some requirements for planning, such as filing requirements for electricity and natural gas rate applications, to ensure the consistency, completeness and rigour of electricity and natural gas plans. The OEB considers these plans in its decision-making to better understand the rationale and assess prudence, among other objectives, of utilities' proposed investments.

Electricity and natural gas planning have primarily occurred in isolation in Ontario. However, there are increasing interplays between electricity and natural gas, increasing the need for greater co-ordination between both sectors. Improved information sharing and co-ordination between electricity and natural gas planning (i.e., co-ordinated planning) is intended to ensure these interplays are considered appropriately.

The OEB is establishing a new gas-electric co-ordination information sharing forum to:

- Set the expectations for information sharing.
- Facilitate the sharing of technical information to support energy planning processes in the short term.
- Establish the use of consistent assumptions and scenarios in the medium term.

The forum is to be initiated by January 31, 2026. The OEB will report back to the Minister of Energy and Mines on progress, outcomes and modelling best practices by September 30, 2026.

## Invitation to Participate

The OEB invites stakeholders and Indigenous communities to participate in this consultation.

The OEB will issue a discussion paper that provides background on energy planning and co-ordinated planning and the OEB's proposed framework for ongoing gas-electric information sharing, along with discussion questions.

An OEB-led gas-electric co-ordination information sharing forum will hold its first meeting on **January 27, 2026**, and subsequent meetings may be scheduled as needed. The OEB will share terms of reference with participants ahead of the first meeting. The purpose of this first forum meeting will be to discuss the OEB's discussion paper and respond to stakeholder and Indigenous communities' comments and questions.

The forum will focus on advising the OEB on how a framework for gas-electric information sharing should be designed and implemented. It will not be a venue for sharing gas-electric technical information.

Following the first forum meeting on January 27, 2026, written comments to the discussion paper will be due **February 16, 2026**. Subsequent forum meetings will be scheduled to discuss these comments as needed.

The OEB will consider the written comments to the discussion paper and discussions in the forum in the development of a framework to facilitate the ongoing sharing of gas-electric technical information and other co-ordination to support energy planning processes.

## Participation in Consultation

The OEB expects the Independent Electricity System Operator, natural gas distributors and licensed electricity distributors and transmitters, or their representative(s) such as associations, to respond to the questions in the discussion paper and participate in the gas-electric co-ordination forum. The OEB encourages interested municipalities, Indigenous communities, transportation planners, urban planners and intervenors in OEB proceedings to respond to the discussion questions and participate in the forum as well.

Planning entities, stakeholders and Indigenous communities interested in participating in the consultation are requested to register by emailing [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca) by **January 5, 2026**.

Please include in the email:

- Subject line: "**Gas-Electric Co-ordination and Information Sharing (EB-2025-0227)**"
- Organization/participant name
- Names of attendees
- Contact name, telephone number and email address
- Organization/participant's interest and expertise in natural gas and electricity planning and gas-electric co-ordinated planning.

### **Cost Award Matters**

Cost awards will be available to eligible participants under section 30 of *the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. Detailed information regarding cost awards, including how to apply for cost eligibility and filing instructions is included in **Appendix A** to this letter. Costs will be recovered from **all rate-regulated electricity and natural gas utilities**.

### **Contact Information**

We encourage stakeholders and Indigenous communities to register by emailing [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca) to be notified of future updates.

For questions regarding this consultation, please contact:

Email: [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)

Phone: 1-888-632-6273 (toll-free)

Yours truly,

Ritchie Murray  
Acting Registrar

## Appendix A – Cost Award Matters

### Cost Award Eligibility

The OEB will determine eligibility for costs in accordance with guidelines outlined in the Practice Direction on Cost Awards. Anyone seeking to request an award of costs must submit a written request to the OEB by **January 5, 2026**, outlining the reasons they believe they qualify under Section 3 of the Practice Direction, an explanation of any other available funding sources and the name and qualifications of any lawyer, analyst or consultant they intend to retain, if known.

All requests will be published on the OEB's website and any objections from rate-regulated electricity and natural gas utilities must be filed by **January 9, 2026**, with such objections also published on the OEB's website.

Costs awarded will be recovered from all rate-regulated electricity and natural gas utilities and the OEB will make a final decision on cost eligibility for each participant thereafter.

### Eligible Activities

The activities eligible for cost awards are:

<b>Activities Eligible for Cost Awards</b>	<b>Maximum number of Hours</b>
Review of discussion paper to be released in December 2025	<b>4 hours</b>
Participation (including preparation and reporting back) in forum meeting that will occur on January 27, 2026	<b>Actual meeting time plus 2 hours</b>
Develop and submit written comments to discussion paper due on February 16, 2026	<b>8 hours</b>

Further information regarding any subsequent consultation activities, such as future forum meetings, that are eligible for cost awards will be communicated later.

When calculating the amount of the cost awards, the OEB will adhere to the principles outlined in section 5 of its Practice Direction on Cost Awards. The maximum hourly rates set out in the Cost Awards Tariff will also be applied. The OEB expects that groups representing the same interests or class of persons will make every effort to communicate and co-ordinate their participation in this process. As per section 12 of its

Practice Direction on Cost Awards, the OEB will serve as the central entity for all disbursements of cost awards in this process. For further details about this process, please refer to the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards.

## How to File Materials

Stakeholders are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB **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 number, **EB-2025-0227** 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.
- Stakeholders 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](mailto: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 and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

Email: [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)

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