



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

BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

December 10, 2025

**To: All Rate-regulated Electricity Distributors
All Participants in EB-2025-0083
All Other Interested Parties**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards related to the Framework for Energy
Innovation 2.0: Non-Wires Solution Incentives (Margin on Payments)
Ontario Energy Board File No. EB-2025-0083**

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is inviting eligible participants to submit cost claims in relation to proposed amendments to the Distribution System Code (DSC) regarding a margin on payments incentive mechanism for the use of third-party distributed energy resources as non-wires solutions, OEB file no. EB-2025-0083.

Background

On May 16, 2025, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [Notice of Proposed Amendments to the DSC](#) (the Notice) to establish a methodology for the setting of rates to include a margin on payments incentive for using third-party distributed energy resources as non-wires solutions to meet an electricity distribution system need. All interested parties were invited to submit written comments on the proposed amendments. The Notice confirmed cost awards in relation to the written comments will be available to eligible participants under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the Act), and that costs would be recovered from all rate-regulated electricity distributors.

On May 30, 2025, the OEB issued a [Decision and Order](#) confirming the following stakeholders are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#) (Practice Direction):

- Consumers Council of Canada
- Energy Probe Research Foundation
- Environmental Defence
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition

Eligible Activities

Cost awards are available for providing comments on the proposed DSC amendments set out in the Notice, to a maximum of 5 hours.

Notice of Hearing

The OEB is initiating a hearing on its own motion to determine the cost awards to participants eligible for costs. The decision on costs will be made by a delegated authority under section 6 of the Act. The hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. Eligible participants intending to claim cost awards shall submit their cost claims by **January 7, 2026**. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served on each rate-regulated electricity distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the Practice Direction.
2. Rate-regulated electricity distributors will have until **January 16, 2026**, to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. The objection must be filed with the OEB and one copy must be served on the eligible participant against whose claim the objection is being made.
3. The eligible participant whose cost claim was objected to will have until **January 23, 2026**, to file a reply submission with the OEB as to why its cost claim should be allowed. One copy of the reply submission is to be served on the objecting party.
4. The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of the Practice Direction to implement the payment of the cost awards. The OEB will therefore act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process.

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-2025-0083** 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 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.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include Andrew.Brinn@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance