



January 19, 2026

Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
27<sup>th</sup> Floor - 2300 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Submitted via email and RESS

**Subject: Follow-up and Escalation – EB-2025-0031 Hydro Hawkesbury 2026 IRM**

Dear Registrar,

We are writing to follow up and escalate concerns regarding the status of Hydro Hawkesbury's 2026 IRM application (EB-2025-0031). This matter has been raised repeatedly with OEB staff and management over several months without progress or procedural clarity, prompting this escalation.

The application was filed on August 14, 2025, and responses to OEB Staff questions were submitted on October 16, 2025. As of today, approximately 150 days have elapsed since the application was filed and over 90 days since interrogatory responses were submitted. During that time, the only procedural step taken has been the issuance of an Interim Rate Order on December 18, 2025. There has been no further movement on the file or indication of next steps.

For context, as part of the interrogatory process, OEB Staff asked whether Hydro Hawkesbury was considering an adjustment to its 2025 base rates to reflect the Board's March 27, 2025, Cost of Capital Decision. In response, we outlined an approach consistent with what was accepted for Centre Wellington Hydro: recalculating the embedded 2025 cost of capital using the Board's final parameters, preserving the approved rate design, and flowing the adjustment through the IRM process. At Staff's request, the rate model was also updated to reflect the proposed revised rates.

Unbeknownst to Hydro Hawkesbury at the time, this OEB initiated request caused the application to move from "Delegated Authority" to "Panel" and has remained inactive since. At this stage, it is unclear whether the Board expects an amendment to the IRM application, a separate filing, or another procedural step.

We recognize that the OEB was shut down from December 19 to January 5. However, even accounting for that period, the application has now far exceeded the Board's recently published service timelines for processing IRM applications. Small utilities rely heavily on timely rate decisions to function properly. Prolonged reliance on interim rates can result in lost revenue, and

the need to later seek recovery is administratively burdensome and challenging for a small utility with limited staff capacity, particularly following the recent retirement of Hydro Hawkesbury's General Manager.

We are not seeking special treatment, but we would appreciate clarity on the intended path forward and an indication of timing so the utility can plan accordingly.

Thank you for your attention. We would welcome any guidance you can provide.

Kind regards,

Jacinthe Chabot  
General Manager  
Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.  
850 Tupper St.  
Hawkesbury, ON  
K6A 3S7  
Tel: 613-632-6689  
[JacintheChabot@hydrohawkesbury.ca](mailto:JacintheChabot@hydrohawkesbury.ca)

**CC:**

Manuela Ris, Regulatory Consultant (TESI)

David Martinello, Manager, Incentive Rate-Setting (OEB)

Cecilia Wang, Analyst, Natural Gas, Applications (OEB)