



Ontario
Energy
Board

Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY

EB-2025-0227

**Gas-Electric Co-ordination and Information
Sharing**

**By Delegation Before: Theodore Antonopoulos
Vice President,
Major Applications**

January 20, 2026

On December 4, 2025, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [letter](#) to initiate a consultation on gas-electric co-ordination and information sharing. Consultation activities include attending gas-electric co-ordination information sharing forum meetings and submitting responses to questions in a discussion paper released by the OEB. The OEB issued an additional [letter](#) on December 19, 2025, inviting Indigenous communities to participate in additional engagement activities: an energy planning workshop and pre-engagement meetings. The letters indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, which will be paid for by all rate-regulated electricity and natural gas utilities. The letters made provisions for stakeholders to apply for eligibility and for rate-regulated electricity and natural gas utilities to object.

The following organizations registered to participate in this consultation and did not apply for cost award eligibility:

- 3energy Solutions Inc
- Alectra Utilities
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- Association of Power Producers of Ontario
- Canadian Gas Association
- Cornerstone Hydro Electric Concepts
- City of Kitchener (Kitchener Utilities Natural Gas Distributor)
- Electricity Distributors Association
- Elexicon Energy
- Enbridge Gas Inc.
- ENWIN Utilities Ltd.
- EPCOR Ontario
- GrandBridge Energy Inc.
- Halton Hills Hydro Inc.
- Hydro One Networks Inc.
- Hydro Ottawa
- Independent Electricity System Operator
- Municipality of South Dundas
- Power Advisory
- Power Workers' Union
- Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited
- Utilis Consulting Inc.

The following organizations registered to participate in this consultation and applied for cost award eligibility:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- Canadian Urban Transit Research and Innovation Consortium (CUTRIC)
- Consumer Council Coalition (CCC)
- Distributed Resource Coalition (DRC)
- Energy Probe
- Environmental Defense
- Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario (FRPO)
- Industrial Gas Users Association (IGUA)
- Low Income Energy Network (LIEN)
- Pollution Probe
- Quinte Manufactures Association (QMA)
- Schools Energy Coalition (SEC)
- Vidya Enterprises Inc.

The following Indigenous groups applied for cost award eligibility to participate in the consultation and in the Indigenous energy planning workshop and pre-engagement meetings:

- Anishinabek Nation/Union of Ontario Indians (AN/UOI)
- Three Fires Group Inc. (TFG)
- Chiefs of Ontario
- Minogi Corp.

No objections were received in relation to these requests for cost award eligibility. This cost eligibility decision is being issued by delegated authority under section 6 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*.

OEB FINDINGS

The OEB has determined that all organizations that applied for cost award eligibility, except Vidya Enterprises, are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the OEB's Practice Direction on Cost Awards. Vidya Enterprises Inc., an independent consultant, is not eligible for an award of costs for this consultation. Vidya has confirmed that it is not representing any identifiable group of ratepayers or group representing a particular policy position; it is essentially participating on its own behalf. Under these circumstances the OEB does not believe that eligibility for an award of costs is

appropriate. Although not eligible for costs, Vidya Enterprises Inc. can participate in this consultation if it chooses to do so.

In evaluating CURTIC's request for cost eligibility, the OEB considered the Minister of Energy and Mines' June 12, 2025, Implementation Directive, which requires the OEB to encourage participation from different groups, including transportation planners.

CURTIC is the only organization that registered to participate in this consultation whose membership includes transportation planners. Without CURTIC's involvement, the perspective of transportation planners would be absent from the consultation.

Therefore, the OEB determined that CURTIC is eligible to apply for an award of costs, despite their membership also including natural gas and electricity distributors.

The OEB notes that cost award-eligible participants with similar viewpoints should coordinate their activities to reduce duplication and costs. Such efforts will be taken into account by the OEB as part of its decision on an award of costs. Being eligible to apply for recovery of costs is not a guarantee of recovery of any costs claimed. Cost awards are made by an order of the OEB at the end of the process. Participants should refer to and follow the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#) when submitting cost claims.

The consultation activities eligible for cost awards have been identified in letters issued on December 4 and December 19, 2025. Further information regarding subsequent consultation activities, including potential future forum meetings that may be eligible for cost awards, will be provided as the consultation progresses.

DATED at Toronto January 20, 2026

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Theodore Antonopoulos
Vice President,
Major Applications