



Ontario
Energy
Board

Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY

EB-2026-0002

Next Generation Rate Framework

By Delegation Before: Theodore Antonopoulos

Vice President, Major Applications

January 30, 2026

OVERVIEW

On January 8, 2026, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [letter](#) inviting stakeholders to participate in the Next Generation Rate Framework consultation.

The letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, and that any costs awarded would be recovered from all rate-regulated entities and apportioned amongst them based on relevance to the consultation, with 70% of the costs being recovered from rate-regulated electricity distributors and 30% from the other rate-regulated entities.

The letter also indicated that participants eligible for cost awards for the following consultations are automatically eligible for this consultation (EB-2026-0002) and need not reapply for cost awards:

- Advancing Performance-based Rate Regulation (EB-2024-0129)
- Spending Pattern Analysis (EB-2025-0108)
- Total Cost Benchmarking (EB-2025-0102)
- Evaluation of ICM Policy (EB-2024-0236)

The OEB received one new request for cost award eligibility from the Low-Income Energy Network. No objections were received in relation to this request for cost award eligibility.

OEB FINDINGS

The OEB has determined that the Low-Income Energy Network are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*:

The OEB notes that cost award-eligible participants with similar viewpoints should coordinate their activities to reduce costs. Such efforts will be taken into account by the OEB during the decision on award of costs.

Consultation activities for which cost award-eligible participants may claim costs are described in the stakeholder meeting invitation letter referenced above.

How to File Materials

Please ensure that all materials filed include the file number **EB-2026-0002** and submit them in PDF format with a digital signature through the OEB's online filing portal.

- Please ensure that the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and email address are clearly stated in the filings.

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- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guide](#) 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 communication should be addressed to the Registrar and must be received by the close of business, 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

DATED at Toronto January 30, 2026

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Theodore Antonopoulos
Vice President, Major Applications