[redacted]

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From: Ontario Energy Board <webmaster@oeb.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 5, 2026 5:59 PM
To: Office of the Registrar <Registrar@oeb.ca>
Subject: Redacted - Letter of Comment - EB-2025-0312

-- Name --
Alan Lawee

-- Do you reside in the impacted service area? -- Yes

-- Comments --
I am a full-time resident and the satisfied owner of a four-year-old 18 kW solar shingle array with 42 kWh of battery backup. When I made this investment, I expected the system to protect me from all but the rarest outages lasting more than 24 hours.

That expectation has not matched reality. Since installation, I have experienced a half dozen major outages lasting between two and six days. I am now installing a generator simply to cope with these increasingly frequent events.

When I recently explored adding more PV, wind, micro hydro, and storage capacity, I learned that current OEB regulations would prevent me from even matching my existing system. My generation and storage would exceed the allowable export limit—effectively blocking further investment.

Going off grid is not realistic. My winter electricity demand is extremely high due to snow-covered panels and the need to heat a water line to my barns.

It is unacceptable that, despite being willing to invest significantly in additional clean generation and storage, the OEB constrains me with outdated regulations. Electricity producers and distributors should be building a bi directional grid with the storage capacity needed to absorb substantial consumer-generated energy.

PV technology is advancing rapidly. Soon, walls and windows will generate power, and battery technology is lowering costs while increasing efficiency and density. Building materials are already starting to incorporate photovoltaics, and new developments will require far less energy than current forecasts assume. Overbuilding grid capacity and enabling distributed generation are not mutually exclusive goals.

A grid built around localized micro grids, distributed storage, and consumer generation would be far more resilient. If utilities are planning major upgrades, those plans should not be based on outdated assumptions.

Given that this application proposes rate hikes for grid-wide distribution, the OEB should ensure that planning reflects the future we are rapidly approaching—one where distributed generation reduces long term costs. The OEB should encourage regulated companies to move in this direction and should advocate for federal funding to support bi directional grid and storage investments at this politically opportune moment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

-- Was AI used for the letter of comment? -- Yes