



BY E-MAIL

February 11, 2026

**To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors
All Other Interested Parties**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards
Distribution Customer Connections Review
File No.: EB-2025-0204**

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is giving notice that eligible participants in the Distribution Customer Connections (DCC) Review consultation, OEB file no. EB-2025-0204, are invited to submit cost claims in relation to their participation in the DCC Working Group (WG) meetings for the period from August 20, 2025 to November 12, 2025.

Background

On July 3, 2025 the OEB issued a [letter](#) launching a comprehensive review of electricity distributor processes and requirements for connecting load customers. The OEB launched this review in response to stakeholder feedback and the Minister of Energy and Mines' June 2025 [Integrated Energy Plan Directive](#), which called on the OEB to conduct a review of electricity distributor connection procedures and report back by December 31, 2025.

OEB staff established the WG with representatives of customers, distributors and other interested parties. The July 3rd letter indicated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act); that the OEB had determined licensed rate-regulated electricity distributors would be responsible for paying the cost awards for eligible participants, with costs apportioned among them based on customer numbers; and that cost awards would be implemented using the process in section 12 of the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#) (Practice Direction). The letter also clarified that stakeholders deemed eligible for cost awards in the OEB's System Expansion for Housing Developments consultation¹ and EV Charging Connections Subgroup under the DER Connections Review consultation² would be eligible for cost awards related to their participation in the DCC WG.

¹ EB-2024-0092

² EB-2019-0207

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Cost awards for DCC WG participation were limited to a maximum of actual meeting time plus 1.5 times the actual meeting time for preparation and reporting per eligible participant. The meetings and corresponding times are outlined in Appendix A of this Notice.

The following parties were determined to be eligible for cost awards in the OEB's [July](#), [August](#) and [September](#) 2025 Decisions:

- Energy Probe Research Foundation;
- Environmental Defense (ED);
- School Energy Coalition (SEC);
- Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD);
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC); and
- Canadian Charging Infrastructure Council (CCIC).

Notice of Hearing

The OEB is initiating a hearing on its own motion to determine the cost awards to eligible participants for their participation in the DCC WG for the period from August 20, 2025 to November 12, 2025.

The decision on costs will be made by an OEB staff member with delegated authority under Section 6 of the OEB Act. The hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. Eligible participants that intend to seek a cost award shall submit their cost claims by **February 24, 2026**. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#) (Practice Direction). All cost claims will be available for review by licensed rate-regulated distributors through the OEB's website under file number [EB-2025-0204](#).
2. Licensed rate-regulated electricity distributors will have until **March 3, 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 **March 13, 2026** to file its reply to submission, if any, with the OEB, with a copy of the reply submission 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-2025-0204** 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 now 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 at all the parties required as per the [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below and be received by the 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 the project lead, Ahmet Erdem at Ahmet.Erdem@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca
Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD



Theodore Antonopoulos
Vice President, Major Applications

Attachment – Appendix A

Appendix A: Meeting Durations for Cost Awards

Meeting	Date	Hours	Max Hours
Meeting #1	8/20/2025	2.75	6.88
Meeting #2	9/9/2025	2.5	6.25
Meeting #3	9/26/2025	2.75	6.88
Meeting #4	10/14/2025	2.5	6.25
Meeting #5	10/29/2025	3	7.50
Meeting #6	11/12/2025	3	7.50