



Ontario  
Energy  
Board | Commission  
de l'énergie  
de l'Ontario

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# **DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS**

## **EB-2025-0204**

### **DISTRIBUTION CUSTOMER CONNECTIONS REVIEW**

**By Delegation Before: Kevin Mancherjee**  
Vice-President  
Electricity Networks

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**April 14, 2026**

## OVERVIEW

This Decision and Order provides the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) determination on cost claims submitted by eligible participants in relation to their participation on the Distribution Customer Connections Working Group (DCC WG), that was established to support the OEB in its review of electricity distributor connection procedures.

In its July 3, 2025 [letter](#), the OEB indicated that cost awards would be available to eligible participants under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act), for their participation on the DCC WG and that costs awarded would be recovered from all rate-regulated electricity distributors based on their respective customer numbers. The letter also stated that cost awards would be available to a maximum of actual DCC WG meeting time plus 1.5 times the actual meeting time for preparation and reporting.

The following participants were determined to be eligible for cost awards as stated in the OEB's July 31, 2025, August 11, 2025 and September 5, 2025 letters: Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD), Canadian Charging Infrastructure Council (CCIC), Consumers Council of Canada (CCC), Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe), Environmental Defence and School Energy Coalition (SEC).

On February 11, 2026, the OEB issued its [Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards](#) (Notice). Six meetings of the DCC WG were held from August 20, 2025 to November 12, 2025.

The OEB received cost claims from all six eligible participants. No objections to the cost claims were received from any rate-regulated electricity distributors.

This Decision and Order is issued by delegated authority under sections 6 and 30 of the OEB Act.

### Findings

The OEB has reviewed the claims filed to ensure that they are compliant with the *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* (Practice Direction).

For all participants that filed cost claims, the OEB has previously determined that these participants meet the criteria set out in the OEB's Practice Direction and are therefore eligible for cost awards (eligible participants).

The OEB notes that the Notice established a maximum number of hours that could be claimed for participation in the DCC WG meetings and related preparation and reporting

activities. The maximum hours in the Notice are a ceiling and not an automatic entitlement. The OEB must still assess whether the hours claimed are reasonable in the circumstances.

The OEB finds that the cost claims of BILD, CCC, Energy Probe, Environmental Defence and SEC are reasonable.

With respect to CCIC, although its claim was within the maximum hours set out in the Notice, the OEB is not satisfied that claiming the maximum hours for each of the six meetings is reasonable in the circumstances of this consultation. CCIC's claimed hours were materially higher than those of the other eligible participants on a meeting-by-meeting basis. Due to the need to ensure that cost awards remain reasonable and proportionate, the OEB reduces CCIC's compensable hours to align with the next-highest hours claimed for each meeting by an eligible participant. Accordingly, CCIC's compensable hours are reduced by 3.13 hours for Meeting #1, 2.50 hours for Meeting #2, 2.63 hours for Meeting #3, 2.50 hours for Meeting #4, 3.50 hours for Meeting #5, and 3.50 hours for Meeting #6.

The OEB approves cost awards for the eligible participants as follows:

• BILD	\$8,011.98
• CCIC	\$4,349.55
• CCC	\$7,707.73
• Energy Probe	\$6,896.40
• Environmental Defence	\$753.26
• SEC	\$5,352.57

The OEB also approves the amount of \$126,979.00 for recovery from rate-regulated electricity distributors associated with the OEB's costs of and incidental to this proceeding.

### **Process for Paying the Cost Awards**

The cost award amounts payable by rate-regulated electricity distributors to each eligible participant is set out in Schedule A to this Decision and Order.

The OEB collects and distributes payments for costs awarded in consultations through its clearing-house process, where each rate-regulated electricity distributor receives one invoice that may cover several proceedings and consultations, including this consultation. The invoice will be sent out at the same time as the invoices for cost

assessments under section 26 of the OEB Act. Each eligible participant will receive payment once 80% of the costs have been recovered by the OEB.

**THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:**

1. Each rate-regulated electricity distributor shall pay the amounts set out in Schedule A under the column Total Cost Awards, upon receipt of an invoice from the OEB that includes those costs. The payment shall be due at the same time as cost assessments under section 26 of the OEB Act.
2. Each rate-regulated electricity distributor shall pay the OEB's costs of, and incidental to, this proceeding immediately upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

**DATED** at Toronto April 14, 2026

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Kevin Mancherjee  
Vice-President  
Electricity Networks

**Schedule A**  
**Decision and Order on Cost Awards**  
**EB-2025-0204**

<b>Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator</b>	<b>Building Industry and Land Development Association</b>	<b>Canadian Charging Infrastructure Council</b>	<b>Consumers Council of Canada</b>	<b>Energy Probe Research Foundation</b>	<b>Environmental Defence</b>	<b>School Energy Coalition</b>	<b>Cost Awards</b>	<b>OEB Costs</b>	<b>Total</b>
Alectra Utilities Corporation	1,579.90	857.70	1,519.90	1,359.91	148.54	1,055.48	6,521.43	25,039.22	<b>31,560.65</b>
Algoma Power Inc.	18.20	9.88	17.51	15.66	1.71	12.16	75.12	288.39	<b>363.51</b>
Atikokan Hydro Inc.	2.36	1.28	2.27	2.03	0.22	1.57	9.73	37.35	<b>47.08</b>
Bluewater Power Distribution Corporation	54.41	29.54	52.34	46.83	5.12	36.35	224.59	862.26	<b>1,086.85</b>
Burlington Hydro Inc.	101.18	54.93	97.34	87.09	9.51	67.60	417.65	1,603.56	<b>2,021.21</b>
Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	44.97	24.42	43.27	38.71	4.23	30.05	185.65	712.79	<b>898.44</b>
Centre Wellington Hydro Ltd.	10.99	5.96	10.57	9.46	1.03	7.34	45.35	174.12	<b>219.47</b>
Cooperative Hydro Embrun Inc.	3.93	2.14	3.79	3.39	0.37	2.63	16.25	62.36	<b>78.61</b>
E.L.K. Energy Inc.	18.53	10.06	17.83	15.95	1.74	12.38	76.49	293.74	<b>370.23</b>
Ellexicon Energy Inc.	260.39	141.36	250.50	224.13	24.48	173.96	1,074.82	4,126.81	<b>5,201.63</b>
Enova Power Corp.	237.69	129.04	228.66	204.59	22.35	158.79	981.12	3,767.00	<b>4,748.12</b>
Entegrus Powerlines Inc.	92.34	50.13	88.83	79.48	8.68	61.69	381.15	1,463.45	<b>1,844.60</b>
Enwin Utilities Ltd.	133.82	72.65	128.74	115.19	12.58	89.40	552.38	2,120.93	<b>2,673.31</b>

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Building Industry and Land Development Association	Canadian Charging Infrastructure Council	Consumers Council of Canada	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence	School Energy Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Costs	Total
EPCOR Electricity Distribution Ontario Inc.	27.71	15.04	26.66	23.85	2.61	18.51	114.38	439.20	<b>553.58</b>
ERTH Power Corporation	36.30	19.71	34.92	31.25	3.41	24.25	149.84	575.35	<b>725.19</b>
Essex Powerlines Corporation	45.88	24.91	44.14	39.49	4.31	30.65	189.38	727.15	<b>916.53</b>
Festival Hydro Inc.	32.85	17.83	31.60	28.27	3.09	21.94	135.58	520.55	<b>656.13</b>
Fort Frances Power Corporation	5.45	2.96	5.24	4.69	0.51	3.64	22.49	86.33	<b>108.82</b>
GrandBridge Energy Inc.	167.74	91.06	161.37	144.38	15.77	112.06	692.38	2,658.40	<b>3,350.78</b>
Greater Sudbury Hydro Inc.	70.15	38.08	67.49	60.38	6.60	46.87	289.57	1,111.83	<b>1,401.40</b>
Grimsby Power Incorporated	17.37	9.43	16.71	14.96	1.63	11.61	71.71	275.36	<b>347.07</b>
Halton Hills Hydro Inc.	33.64	18.26	32.36	28.96	3.16	22.47	138.85	533.16	<b>672.01</b>
Hearst Power Distribution Company Limited	3.90	2.12	3.75	3.36	0.37	2.60	16.10	61.78	<b>77.88</b>
Hydro 2000 Inc.	1.86	1.01	1.79	1.60	0.18	1.24	7.68	29.51	<b>37.19</b>
Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.	8.23	4.47	7.91	7.08	0.77	5.50	33.96	130.39	<b>164.35</b>

<b>Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator</b>	<b>Building Industry and Land Development Association</b>	<b>Canadian Charging Infrastructure Council</b>	<b>Consumers Council of Canada</b>	<b>Energy Probe Research Foundation</b>	<b>Environmental Defence</b>	<b>School Energy Coalition</b>	<b>Cost Awards</b>	<b>OEB Costs</b>	<b>Total</b>
Hydro One Networks Inc.	2,149.04	1,166.67	2,067.46	1,849.81	202.04	1,435.74	8,870.76	34,059.37	<b>42,930.13</b>
Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.	7.59	4.12	7.30	6.54	0.71	5.07	31.33	120.33	<b>151.66</b>
Hydro Ottawa Limited	540.73	293.55	520.19	465.44	50.84	361.24	2,231.99	8,569.79	<b>10,801.78</b>
Innpower Corporation	34.19	18.56	32.89	29.43	3.21	22.84	141.12	541.85	<b>682.97</b>
Kingston Hydro Corporation	41.34	22.44	39.77	35.59	3.89	27.62	170.65	655.22	<b>825.87</b>
Lakefront Utilities Inc.	16.54	8.98	15.91	14.24	1.56	11.05	68.28	262.13	<b>330.41</b>
Lakeland Power Distribution Ltd.	21.49	11.67	20.67	18.50	2.02	14.36	88.71	340.56	<b>429.27</b>
London Hydro Inc.	244.69	132.84	235.40	210.62	23.00	163.47	1,010.02	3,878.00	<b>4,888.02</b>
Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.	64.10	34.80	61.66	55.17	6.03	42.82	264.58	1,015.86	<b>1,280.44</b>
Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd.	65.51	35.56	63.02	56.39	6.16	43.77	270.41	1,038.27	<b>1,308.68</b>
Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	86.06	46.72	82.79	74.08	8.09	57.50	355.24	1,363.98	<b>1,719.22</b>
Niagara-on-the-Lake Hydro Inc.	14.67	7.96	14.11	12.62	1.38	9.80	60.54	232.44	<b>292.98</b>

<b>Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator</b>	<b>Building Industry and Land Development Association</b>	<b>Canadian Charging Infrastructure Council</b>	<b>Consumers Council of Canada</b>	<b>Energy Probe Research Foundation</b>	<b>Environmental Defence</b>	<b>School Energy Coalition</b>	<b>Cost Awards</b>	<b>OEB Costs</b>	<b>Total</b>
North Bay Hydro Distribution Limited	40.51	21.99	38.97	34.87	3.81	27.06	167.21	642.06	<b>809.27</b>
Northern Ontario Wires Inc.	8.66	4.70	8.33	7.45	0.81	5.78	35.73	137.21	<b>172.94</b>
Oakville Hydro Electricity Distribution Inc.	113.99	61.88	109.66	98.12	10.72	76.15	470.52	1,806.56	<b>2,277.08</b>
Orangeville Hydro Limited	18.94	10.28	18.22	16.30	1.78	12.65	78.17	300.17	<b>378.34</b>
Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.	91.46	49.65	87.99	78.73	8.60	61.10	377.53	1,449.55	<b>1,827.08</b>
Ottawa River Power Corporation	17.13	9.30	16.48	14.74	1.61	11.44	70.70	271.44	<b>342.14</b>
PUC Distribution Inc.	49.66	26.96	47.78	42.75	4.67	33.18	205.00	787.06	<b>992.06</b>
Renfrew Hydro Inc.	6.43	3.49	6.18	5.53	0.60	4.29	26.52	101.85	<b>128.37</b>
Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.	8.83	4.80	8.50	7.60	0.83	5.90	36.46	140.02	<b>176.48</b>
Sioux Lookout Hydro Inc.	4.32	2.35	4.16	3.72	0.41	2.89	17.85	68.54	<b>86.39</b>
Synergy North Corporation	83.45	45.30	80.28	71.83	7.85	55.75	344.46	1,322.60	<b>1,667.06</b>

Electricity Distribution System Owner/Operator	Building Industry and Land Development Association	Canadian Charging Infrastructure Council	Consumers Council of Canada	Energy Probe Research Foundation	Environmental Defence	School Energy Coalition	Cost Awards	OEB Costs	Total
Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.	12.44	6.75	11.97	10.71	1.17	8.31	51.35	197.17	<b>248.52</b>
Toronto Hydro-Electric System Limited	1,156.94	628.08	1,113.00	995.85	108.77	772.92	4,775.56	18,335.91	<b>23,111.47</b>
Wasaga Distribution Inc.	22.80	12.38	21.93	19.63	2.14	15.23	94.11	361.35	<b>455.46</b>
Welland Hydro-Electric System Corp.	38.19	20.73	36.74	32.87	3.59	25.51	157.63	605.20	<b>762.83</b>
Wellington North Power Inc.	6.38	3.46	6.14	5.49	0.60	4.26	26.33	101.15	<b>127.48</b>
Westario Power Inc.	36.11	19.61	34.74	31.09	3.40	24.13	149.08	572.37	<b>721.45</b>
<b>Electricity Distribution</b>	<b>8,011.98</b>	<b>4,349.55</b>	<b>7,707.73</b>	<b>6,896.40</b>	<b>753.26</b>	<b>5,352.57</b>	<b>33,071.49</b>	<b>126,979.00</b>	<b>160,050.49</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,011.98</b>	<b>\$ 4,349.55</b>	<b>\$ 7,707.73</b>	<b>\$ 6,896.40</b>	<b>\$ 753.26</b>	<b>\$ 5,352.57</b>	<b>\$33,071.49</b>	<b>\$ 126,979.00</b>	<b>\$160,050.49</b>

**Note:** Participant costs totaling \$38.70 were reallocated from the three rate-regulated electricity distributors noted below that are liable to pay cost assessments under section 26 of the OEB Act to the rate-regulated electricity distributors listed in the table above to avoid any distributor paying costs that are less than \$25 in the aggregate for this case. This approach is in line with the Practice Direction on Cost Awards (section 12.02)

Attawapiskat Power Corp.	\$ 15.49
Fort Albany Power Corporation	\$ 9.97
Kashechewan Power Corporation	\$ 13.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 38.70</b>

