Via RESS

May 21, 2026

Mr. Ritchie Murray, Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
PO Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Mr. Murray:

Subject: Hydro Ottawa Limited (Hydro Ottawa)
Custom Incentive Rate-Setting (Custom IR) Application for 2026-2030
Electricity Distribution Rates and Charges
OEB File: EB-2024-0115

Pursuant to the Decision and Order issued on May 12, 2026, Hydro Ottawa hereby submits its Draft Rate Order. This submission incorporates the terms of the approved Settlement Agreement and the Board's findings regarding the unsettled matters, specifically:

- The approval of a $129.0M budget for the 2026 Test Year pertaining to operating, maintenance, and administrative expenditures;
- The approval to remove the existing net metering charge; and
- Denial of the Shared Savings Mechanism incentive payment proposed by Hydro Ottawa under the Non-Wires Customer Solutions Program.

Clarification Requested: Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) Rate Implementation Date

Hydro Ottawa respectfully requests clarification regarding the effective and implementation date of the Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) rate.

In November 2025, anticipating that a final decision would not be issued prior to January 1, 2026, Hydro Ottawa sought guidance from OEB Staff on whether the EVC rate should apply as of January 1, 2026 or the implementation date. Specifically, the question was to confirm that while distribution rates would be *effective* January 1, 2026, but would be *implemented* after January 1, should the EVC rate be implemented January 1 or once a Decision and Order was received. OEB Staff responded with the following clarification on November 24, 2025 via email:

> "The question Hydro Ottawa raised is how the EV Rate would be handled if an LDC gets its rate decision to be implemented some time in 2026, but effective as of January 1, 2026. In this case the EVC Rate would start at the implementation date in 2026. Customers who sign up for the EVC Rate would not be able to attain any benefits prior to the implementation date."

However, Directive #9 of the OEB's Decision and Order states that Hydro Ottawa will provide eligible customers with the EVC rate option "as of the effective date**"** (i.e. January 1, 2026).

Consistent with OEB Staff's prior guidance, as well as the *Electric Vehicle Charging Rate Overview - Final Report*, which makes it clear that the EVC rate should not be offered retroactively, it is Hydro Ottawa's understanding that the EVC rate will be both effective and implemented concurrent with the implementation of its distribution rates. Hydro Ottawa requests that the Board confirm that the effective date of the EVC rate is the implementation date.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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