



**Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.**

**Application for electricity distribution rates beginning  
January 1, 2027**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1  
June 18, 2026**

Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc. (Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution) filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on April 30, 2026, under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c.15, Sched. B seeking approval for changes to the rates that Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution charges for electricity distribution, beginning January 1, 2027.

The application will be heard by commissioners: Allison Duff (presiding), James Sidlofsky, and Julia McNally.

A Notice of Hearing was issued on May 25, 2026. School Energy Coalition (SEC) Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) applied for intervenor status and cost eligibility

No objection was received from Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution.

SEC and VECC are approved as intervenors and are eligible to receive an award of costs under the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#). The list of parties in this proceeding is attached as Schedule A to this Procedural Order.

SEC and VECC should be aware that the OEB will not generally allow the recovery of costs for the attendance of more than one representative unless a compelling reason is provided when cost claims are filed.

Being eligible to apply for recovery of costs is not a guarantee of recovery of any costs claimed. Cost awards are made by way of OEB order at the end of a hearing.

## Request for Small Distributor Process

The OEB denies Rideau St. Lawrence's request to have its application reviewed under the Small Distributor Process.

In December 2025, the OEB announced that a streamlined process for very small electricity distributor (fewer than 5000 customers) cost of service applications would be expanded to include qualifying small electricity distributors (between 5,000 and 30,000 customers). The expanded process is called the Small Distributor Process.<sup>1</sup>

Eligibility for small distributors will take into consideration the following criteria:

- Subtotal A bill impacts are less than 10%
- Total Bill Impacts are less than 10%
- There is no request for an Advanced Capital Module or a true-up of a past Incremental Capital Module
- Based on past applications of a similar nature, there are expected to be three intervenors or less in the proceeding
- Requests for an investment(s) in unique or emerging areas such as non-wire solutions (NWSs), electric vehicles, Distributed Energy Resources, electrification, Vulnerability and System Hardening, or similar matters
- The evidence does not raise unique issues or requests that have not been previously adjudicated by the OEB in a cost of service proceeding

Rideau St. Lawrence is a small distributor with approximately 6000 customers.

Rideau St. Lawrence estimates that approving its application as-filed would result in Subtotal A bill impacts for residential customers of +29.5% and for general service customers less than 50kW of +25.7%. These Subtotal A bill impacts exceed the OEB's eligibility criteria.

## Issues List

OEB staff will canvas parties for any unique issues that warrant addition to the standard [Issues List](#) for electricity distribution rate applications. If parties recommend and agree to revisions, OEB staff will file a revised draft Issues List with the OEB. If there is no agreement on whether the standard Issues List should be revised, OEB staff will advise the OEB in writing. If intervenors and the applicant do not propose any amendments to

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<sup>1</sup> Chapter 2 of the OEB's distribution rates Filing Requirements has been updated to reflect these changes.

the standard Issues List, OEB staff will notify the OEB of this fact. The OEB will approve an issues list prior to the filing of interrogatories.

## Interrogatories

At this time, provision is being made for written interrogatories. In preparing interrogatories, parties should refer to the OEB's approved Issues List. Parties should consult sections 26 and 27 of the OEB's [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#) regarding required naming and numbering conventions and other matters related to interrogatories. The OEB will review the single test year application both in the context of the projects and programs that are requested for the test year and from the perspective of the distributor's plans for the subsequent four years until the next scheduled rebasing application.

Parties should examine the value presented by the proposed investments as opposed to focusing only on the costs. Parties should also assess the fit between the applicant's plans and its stated objectives and consider how the plans contribute to positive outcomes for customers, in particular those outcomes that arise from the asset management decisions reflected in the applicant's distribution system plan. The OEB will consider the entire five-year distribution system plan to assess the planning and pacing proposals of the applicant and whether the test year requests are appropriately aligned with the distribution system plan. The OEB will also consider productivity and benchmarking results in assessing cost forecasts, bill impacts and distributor performance.

Parties should not engage in detailed exploration of items that do not appear to be material. Parties should use the materiality thresholds documented in Chapter 2 of the Filing Requirements as a guide. In making its decision on cost awards, the OEB will consider whether intervenors made reasonable efforts to ensure that their participation in the hearing was focused on material issues.

The OEB is making provision for the following related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

### THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. OEB staff shall file a proposed issues list, or, alternatively, shall advise the OEB in writing that the parties and OEB staff have been unable to reach an agreement on a draft issues list by **June 29, 2026**.
2. OEB staff and intervenors shall request any relevant information and documentation from Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution that is in addition to the

evidence already filed, by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on all parties by **July 17, 2026**.

3. Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution shall file with the OEB complete written responses to all interrogatories and serve them on OEB staff and intervenors by **August 7, 2026**.

### Direction for preparing materials

- Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or any other type of document, **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](#).
- Filings should clearly state the filing date and the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Other than for applications or as otherwise required or directed by the OEB, parties are not required to submit a cover letter for materials that are self-evident (e.g., interrogatories, submissions) unless the cover letter includes a request or additional information not included in the materials themselves.
- Parties are strongly encouraged to use bookmarks in their filings to aid in navigation.
- Parties should not append to their evidence entire OEB documents (e.g., decisions, policy documents, guidelines). Rather, parties should provide citations to the documents and a clear and concise summary of the relevant part(s) of the document. Parties are encouraged to use hyperlinks for complete, permanent, and publicly available versions of the documents, when possible.
- Parties should refrain from quoting material from documents unless it is essential to support their interrogatories or arguments.
- Parties are not required to provide a summary of the procedural history of a proceeding but may refer to that history where and to the extent needed for context to orient an issue or discussion.
- Parties must: (a) disclose where generative artificial intelligence was used to generate content included in a filing and (b) confirm that the accuracy of the portion of the filing generated by generative artificial intelligence has been verified by the party or its representative without the assistance of generative artificial intelligence.

## How to file documents with the OEB

- Parties are required to quote file number (i.e., **EB-2026-0069**) for all materials filed and submit them in **searchable/unrestricted PDF format** (i.e., no printing or copying restrictions) with a digital signature through the [OEB's online filing portal](#).
- Parties should 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.
- Parties 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](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca) for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Parties are encouraged to visit the [File documents online page](#) of the OEB's website for more information. Parties that are eligible for a cost award and that do not currently have an account in the cost claim portal should create an account as soon as their cost award eligibility has been confirmed by the OEB. All parties shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim for the purposes of service on the party(ies) paying cost awards as per the [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).
- All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar and be received by **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 Case Manager, Arlene Bernardo at [Arlene.Bernardo@oeb.ca](mailto:Arlene.Bernardo@oeb.ca).

Email: [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)

Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

**DATED** at Toronto, **June 18, 2026**

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

**By delegation, before: Ritchie Murray**

Ritchie Murray  
Registrar

**SCHEDULE A**

**LIST OF APPLICANT AND INTERVENORS**

**RIDEAU ST. LAWRENCE DISTRIBUTION INC.**

**EB-2026-0069**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1**

**DATED: JUNE 18, 2026**

Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.  
EB-2026-0069

**APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

June 18, 2026

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**APPLICANT**

**Rep. and Contact Information for Service**

**Rideau St. Lawrence  
Distribution Inc.**

**Malcolm McCallum**

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Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution Inc.  
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**INTERVENORS**

**Rep. and Contact Information for Service**

**School Energy Coalition**

**Mark Rubenstein**

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**APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS**

June 18, 2026

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**School Energy Coalition**

**Brian McKay**

Ontario Education Services Corporation

Tel: 416-340-2540

[SEC@oesc-cseo.org](mailto:SEC@oesc-cseo.org)

**Vulnerable Energy  
Consumers Coalition**

**Mark Garner**

Consultant - Project Manager

Consultant

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**Bill Harper**

Consultant

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