

BY EMAIL

June 22, 2026

To: **Parties to EB-2026-0142**

Re: **Independent Electricity System Operator
2026, 2027 and 2028 Expenditures, Revenue Requirements and Fee Submissions
Ontario Energy Board File (EB-2026-0142)**

The OEB is in receipt of the above-noted application made by the Independent Electricity System Operator.

Commissioner Damien A. Côté has been assigned to the panel for this proceeding. One of the intervenors in this proceeding is the School Energy Coalition, represented by legal counsel Mr. Mark Rubenstein of Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation.

Commissioner Côté has known Mr. Rubenstein socially for approximately twenty years, as part of a broader group of university friends. Their interactions have always occurred within a larger social context and have never involved discussions related to specific adjudicative matters prior or since Commissioner Côté's appointment as Chief Commissioner at the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on April 1, 2025.

The OEB has not identified any policy or regulation that would disqualify Commissioner Côté from serving on the panel for this proceeding. However, in the interest of maintaining the integrity of the adjudicative process and avoiding any perception of bias, the OEB invites any party with concerns regarding Commissioner Côté's participation to submit a written objection to the Registrar no later than Friday, July 3, 2026 at 4:45 p.m.

Yours truly,

Ritchie Murray
Registrar