



Canadian Niagara Power Inc.

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

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1
July 8, 2026**

Canadian Niagara Power Inc. (Canadian Niagara Power) filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on May 20, 2026, under section 78 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Canadian Niagara Power charges for electricity distribution, beginning January 1, 2027.

This Procedural Order is being issued by the Registrar under delegated authority, pursuant to section 6 of the OEB Act. The application will be heard by commissioners: Robert Dodds (presiding), Allison Duff, and Julia McNally.

A Notice of Hearing was issued on June 15, 2026.

School Energy Coalition (SEC) and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) applied for intervenor status and cost eligibility.

No objection was received from Canadian Niagara Power.

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

Cost eligible intervenors should be aware that the OEB will not generally allow the recovery of costs for the attendance of more than one representative of any party 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.

Confidentiality

By separate [letter](#) dated May 19, 2026, Canadian Niagara Power requested confidential treatment of two attachments in Exhibit 4 of its application:

- Exhibit 4, Attachment 4-B2: 2027 CNP OPEB Expense
- Exhibit 4, Attachment 4-B3: 2027 CNP Pension Expense

Canadian Niagara Power stated that the attachments include actuarial evaluation and pension expense estimates. Canadian Niagara Power is requesting that the OEB approve the confidential treatment on the grounds that the redacted information is commercially sensitive, and is not relevant to the application. Canadian Niagara Power stated that it contains pension and benefit information for three affiliated companies for which rates are not being determined in this application, and two of which are not rate-regulated by the OEB.

In accordance with the OEB's [Practice Direction on Confidential Filings](#) (Practice Direction), Canadian Niagara Power included a redacted version as part of its application and filed an unredacted copy of the noted documents separately in confidence for the OEB's review.

Any objection by a party or OEB staff to the confidentiality requests must be submitted in accordance with sections 5.1.6 and 5.1.7 of the Practice Direction. Canadian Niagara Power may respond to any objections in accordance with section 5.1.8 of the Practice Direction. Parties wishing to see the documents will be provided access to the confidential documents in accordance with the process outlined in Part 6 of the Practice Direction.

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 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.

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.

Presentation of Settlement Proposal

The OEB is making provision for a settlement conference. Following the settlement conference, provision is being made for the filing of letters informing the OEB of the status of the settlement discussions, the presentation of any settlement proposal filed by Canadian Niagara Power, whether full or partial, and for the presentation of any unsettled issues to be adjudicated by the OEB. Canadian Niagara Power's presentation is intended to summarize and provide any salient information for the OEB's consideration in reviewing the settlement proposal.

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, or that no changes to the standard Issues List are being requested by **July 20, 2026**.
2. OEB staff and intervenors shall request any relevant information and documentation from Canadian Niagara Power Inc. that is in addition to the evidence already filed, by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on all parties by **August 5, 2026**.
3. Canadian Niagara Power Inc. shall file with the OEB complete written responses to all interrogatories and serve them on OEB staff and all intervenors by **August 26, 2026**.
4. A settlement conference among the parties and OEB staff will be convened on **September 9-10, 2026**, starting at 9:30 a.m. If necessary, the settlement conference will continue on **September 11, 2026**. This will be a virtual event and information on how to participate will be provided in advance of the conference. If OEB staff or intervenors intend to submit clarification questions to Canadian

Niagara Power as part of the settlement process, they are encouraged to submit these questions as far in advance as possible of the commencement of the settlement conference, in the interests of making the settlement process as efficient as possible.

5. **Within 48 hours** of the conclusion of the settlement conference, Canadian Niagara Power shall file a letter informing the OEB of the status of the settlement discussions including whether a tentative agreement had been reached or if the parties propose to continue the settlement discussions.
6. If there is no settlement proposal arising from the settlement conference, Canadian Niagara Power shall file a statement to that effect with the OEB by **September 14, 2026**. In that event, parties shall file and serve on the other parties by **September 21, 2026** any submissions on which issues shall be heard in writing, and for which issues the OEB should hold an oral hearing.
7. If there is a settlement, any settlement proposal arising from the settlement conference shall be filed with the OEB on or before **September 28, 2026**. In addition to outlining the terms of any settlement, the settlement proposal should contain a list of any unsettled issues, indicating with reasons whether the parties believe those issues should be dealt with by way of oral or written hearing.
8. Any submission from OEB staff on a settlement proposal shall be filed with the OEB and served on all parties by **October 7, 2026**.
9. The OEB is setting a tentative date of **October 14, 2026**, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for Canadian Niagara Power to present to the OEB any settlement proposal and a summary of any unsettled issues in the case. This will be a virtual event and OEB staff will, at the direction of the OEB, confirm or amend this date in subsequent correspondence.

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-2026-0029**) 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 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, Petar Prazic at Petar.Prazic@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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

DATED at Toronto, **July 8, 2026**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

By delegation, before: Ann Zeng

Ann Zeng
Deputy Registrar, Adjudicative Projects
Acting under delegated authority of the Registrar

**SCHEDULE A
TO
PROCEDURAL ORDER No. 1
EB-2026-0029
APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS
JULY 8, 2026**

Canadian Niagara Power Inc.
EB-2026-0029

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

July 8, 2026

APPLICANT	Rep. and Contact Information for Service
Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	Oana Stefan Manager, Regulatory Affairs Canadian Niagara Power Inc. Tel: 905-871-0330 RegulatoryAffairs@FortisOntario.com
APPLICANT COUNSEL	
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INTERVENORS	Rep. and Contact Information for Service
School Energy Coalition	Jay Shepherd Counsel Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation Tel: 416-804-2767 jay@shepherdrubenstein.com
	Mark Rubenstein Counsel Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation Tel: 647-483-0113 mark@shepherdrubenstein.com

Canadian Niagara Power Inc.
EB-2026-0029

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

July 8, 2026

School Energy Coalition

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**Vulnerable Energy
Consumers Coalition**

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