



Ontario
Energy
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SUPPLEMENTAL DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY

EB-2025-0227

Gas-Electric Co-ordination and Information Sharing

**By Delegation Before: Theodore Antonopoulos
Vice President
Natural Gas & Energy Integration**

September 11, 2026

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On January 20, 2026, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a Decision on Cost Eligibility [letter](#) regarding the [Gas-Electric Co-ordination and Information Sharing](#) consultation, approving cost eligibility for several stakeholders and Indigenous groups.

Since that date, the OEB received the following late requests for participation and cost award eligibility in this consultation.

- On May 14, 2026, the Ontario Energy Collaborative Association (OECA) registered to participate in this consultation and applied for cost award eligibility.
- On July 28, 2026, the Ontario Petroleum Institute registered to participate in this consultation but did not apply for cost award eligibility.
- On August 12, 2026, the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) registered to participate in this consultation and applied for cost award eligibility.

Consistent with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*, the OEB posted the OECA and MNO late requests and provided rate-regulated electricity and natural gas utilities with an opportunity to file objections. No objections were received.

The OEB will host a meeting on September 14, 2026, to provide Indigenous participants with an update on the consultation. A broader forum meeting will be held in fall 2026 for all consultation participants (see Appendix A).

OEB FINDINGS

The OEB has determined that MNO and OECA are eligible to apply for an award of costs on a go-forward basis under the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB encourages stakeholders and Indigenous participants to submit their written comments on time so that they can be reviewed and considered and can help inform consultations.

In assessing the OECA's request for cost eligibility, the OEB has considered that OECA's membership may include individuals or organizations affiliated with electricity distributors, retailers, municipalities or municipally-controlled entities. Section 3.04(a) of the Practice Direction provides that, in the case of an association or other organization composed of two or more members, the OEB may consider whether the individual members would themselves be eligible or ineligible. Section 3.05 also identifies categories of parties that are generally ineligible for cost awards, including electricity

distributors and retailers under section 3.05(b), municipalities under section 3.05(h) and certain government- or municipally-controlled corporations under section 3.05(j).

The OECA has been an active participant in the consultation to date and has attended meetings and submitted written feedback. While some OECA members are affiliated with parties listed under section 3.05, the OEB understands this reflects a small proportion of the OECA's total membership. The OECA also notes that their members participate in OECA activities related to this consultation independently and that their involvement reflects a broader interest in supporting co-ordinated energy planning in Ontario.

The OEB reminds the OECA that any cost claim must comply with the Practice Direction on Cost Awards and will be assessed at the cost claim stage. In particular, section 6.05 of the Practice Direction states that a party will not be compensated for time spent by its employees or officers in preparing for or attending OEB processes.

DATED at Toronto September 11, 2026

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD



Theodore Antonopoulos
Vice President,
Natural Gas & Energy Integration

Appendix A – Cost Award Matters

Eligible Activities

The OEB plans to hold the following gas-electric co-ordination information sharing forum meetings with stakeholders and Indigenous participants:

- An Indigenous pre-engagement meeting on September 14, 2026, to provide an update on the consultation and solicit their feedback.
- A meeting in fall 2026 with all consultation participants.
- Additional meetings in 2026 and 2027, as needed.

The activities eligible for cost awards are:

Activities Eligible for Cost Awards	Maximum number of Hours
Participation in Indigenous pre-engagement meetings, plus preparation	Actual meeting time plus 1 hour
Participation (including preparation and reporting back) in forum meetings	Actual meeting time plus 2 hours