



**BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING**

April 22, 2021

**To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors  
All Licensed Electricity Transmitters  
All Participants in EB-2021-0118  
All Other Interested Stakeholders**

**Re: Cost Awards Process  
Framework for Energy Innovation: Distributed Resources and Utility  
Incentives (EB-2021-0118)  
Formerly: Utility Remuneration (EB-2018-0287) and Responding to  
Distributed Energy Resources (EB-2018-0288)**

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In 2019, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) initiated two integrated policy consultations: Utility Remuneration and Responding to Distributed Energy Resources (DERs). On March 23, 2021, the OEB issued a [letter](#) announcing the consolidation and continuation of the two consultations as Framework for Energy Innovation: Distributed Resources and Utility Incentives (FEI) under file number EB-2021-0118.

The letter indicated that cost awards would continue to be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* to eligible participants. Those participants who were found eligible for costs in EB-2018-0287/0288 would maintain their eligibility in FEI and are not required to reapply. The letter also indicated that under FEI, work would be undertaken jointly for both Distributed Resources and Utility Incentives and costs awarded for activities related to this work would be recovered as follows effective March 23, 2021:

- 80% from all rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors
- 20% from all rate-regulated licensed electricity transmitters

This letter addresses costs relating to eligible activities prior to the initiation of FEI.

During the course of these consultations (EB-2018-0287/0288), the OEB determined the following applicants to be eligible for an award of costs in relation to cost eligible activities (collectively the Eligible Participants):

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario
- Building Owners and Managers Association Toronto
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters
- Consumers Council of Canada
- Energy Probe Research Foundation
- Electric Vehicle Society
- Environmental Defence
- Industrial Gas Users Association
- London Property Management Association
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition

On November 12, 2020, the OEB issued a [Decision and Order](#) awarding costs to Eligible Participants for activities undertaken between September 2019 and May 2020.

The process set out below addresses the following cost eligible activities undertaken between June 1, 2020 and March 23, 2021. Specifically,

- Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the February 3, 2021 virtual stakeholder meeting (for Eligible Participants and/or their consultants) to a maximum of 15 hours
- The provision of written comments on expert reports and implications for next steps to a maximum of 20 hour<sup>1</sup>

In order to determine the cost awards for this period, the OEB will use the following process:

1. Eligible Participants must submit their cost claims by May 5, 2021. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be sent by email to each rate-regulated licensed electricity distributor and each rate-regulated licensed transmitter. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).
2. Rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors and rate-regulated licensed electricity transmitters will have until May 17, 2021 to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. The objection must be filed with the OEB and one copy must be sent by email to the Eligible Participant against whose claim the objection is being made.
3. The Eligible Participant whose cost claim was objected to will have until May 25, 2021 to file with the OEB a reply submission as to why its cost claim

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<sup>1</sup> See [letter](#) dated January 18, 2021

should be allowed. One copy of the reply submission is to be sent by email to the objecting party.

The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards. The OEB's costs will also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

### **Filing with the OEB**

Please quote file numbers **EB-2018-0287** and **EB-2018-0288** for all materials filed and kindly submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the OEB's web portal at <https://p-pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/PivotalUX/>.

Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number, fax number and email address. Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guidelines](#). Stakeholders are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#) or require assistance using the web portal can contact [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca) for assistance.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below and be received by end of business hours on the required date.

Any questions related to this consultation should be directed to [FEI@oeb.ca](mailto:FEI@oeb.ca).

Email: [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)  
Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll-free)

Yours truly,

*Original Signed By*

Brian Hewson  
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

Attachment: Cost Claim Form