



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

February 17, 2022

**To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors
All Licensed Electricity Transmitters
All Natural Gas Distributors
All Other Interested Stakeholders**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards
OEB Innovation Sandbox Renewal Consultation
Ontario Energy Board File No. [EB-2021-0180](#)**

On June 23, 2021, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) initiated the OEB Innovation Sandbox Renewal Consultation. This letter addresses cost awards under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* for eligible activities related to that consultation.

The OEB issued a [Decision](#) on July 21, 2021 that determined the following participants in this consultation process are eligible for cost awards:

- Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario (AMPCO)
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC)
- Pollution Probe (PP)
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)

Eligible Activities

In letters dated [June 23, 2021](#), and [August 26, 2021](#), the OEB identified eligible activities and the associated maximum hours for cost recovery. These details are summarized in the following table:

ACTIVITY	TOTAL ELIGIBLE HOURS PER PARTICIPANT
Small/ one-on-one meeting in July/August 2021	Up to 3 hours
Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the September 30, 2021 stakeholder meeting	Up to 5 hours
Written comments on the Draft Sandbox 2.0 Design (due October 15, 2021)	Up to 4 hours

Notice of Hearing

The OEB is initiating a hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards for the participants identified in the July 21, 2021 Decision. The decision on costs will be made by a delegated authority under section 6 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. The hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. Participants intending to claim cost awards shall submit their cost claims by March 2, 2022. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*. Any cost claims will be available for review by utilities through the OEB's website under file number EB-2021-0180.
2. Licensed electricity distributors and transmitters and natural gas distributors will have until March 9, 2022 to object to any aspect of the costs claimed, including the eligibility of participants making the claims. The objection must be filed with the OEB and one copy must be served on the participant against whose claim the objection is being made.
3. The participant whose cost claim was objected to will have until March 16, 2022 to file a reply submission with the OEB as to why its cost claim should be allowed. One copy of the reply submission is to be served on the objecting party.
4. The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of its [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#) to implement the payment of the cost awards. The OEB will therefore act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process.

How to File Materials

Stakeholders are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB **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](#).

Please quote file number, **EB-2021-0180** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the [OEB's online filing portal](#).

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Please 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.
- Stakeholders 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 now filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the [File documents online page](#) of the OEB's website for more information. All participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all required parties as per the [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to the Innovation Sandbox Renewal Consultation, stakeholders should include Rachele Levin at rachele.levin@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca
Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)

DATED at Toronto, February 17, 2022

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Brian Hewson
Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance