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BY EMAIL and WEB POSTING

July 22, 2024

To: All Licensed Rate-Regulated Electricity Distributors
Independent Electricity System Operator
Previous participants in consultation EB-2022-0079
All Other Interested Parties

Re: **Invitation to Stakeholder Meeting on Alternative Price Plans for Non-RPP Class B Consumers**
Dynamic Pricing Options for Non-RPP Class B Electricity Consumers (EB-2022-0079)

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is inviting interested stakeholders to a meeting to seek input on alternative opt-in price plans for Class B consumers that are not eligible for Regulated Price Plan (RPP) prices.

These consumers, which include mid-size commercial and light industrial businesses, have no regulated alternative price options available to them, except for those eligible to participate in the Industrial Conservation Initiative. Currently, non-RPP Class B consumers pay commodity costs comprising two parts: the Hourly Ontario Electricity Price (HOEP) and the Global Adjustment (GA), which is charged on a volumetric basis using the flat Class B GA rate published by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) each month.

Based on an analysis of Advanced Metering Infrastructure data as well as input from associations representing non-RPP Class B consumers, the OEB has identified two possible alternative price plans for this consumer group:

- **Non-RPP Time-of-Use:** Guaranteed Global Adjustment price depending on the period of day.
- **Real-Time Price:** Hourly Global Adjustment price that correlates with Ontario demand.

This consultation will seek input from stakeholders on the potential implementation of one or both of these price plans to ensure that the needs of non-RPP Class B consumers and the electricity system are met, while achieving the following key objectives:

1. **Cost Reflective** – aligns consumers’ prices with the costs that their electricity use imposes on the electricity system.
2. **Minimize Short-Term Disruption** – avoids significant bill impacts in the short term for non-RPP Class B consumers that do not choose an alternative price plan.
3. **Feasible Implementation** – is feasible to implement provincewide.

Invitation to Participate in Stakeholder Meeting

The OEB is inviting interested stakeholders to a virtual meeting on **September 9, 2024**, from **9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** to discuss the two proposed alternative price plans and gather feedback on the impacts of implementing either one or both plans.

In this meeting, the OEB will present further information about the price plans and gather stakeholder input. After the meeting, stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide written comments by **October 4, 2024**. Following receipt of written comments, the OEB will determine next steps in this consultation. The OEB anticipates submitting a price design report to the Minister of Energy and Electrification in the spring of 2025.

Participation

Stakeholders who plan to participate in the meeting are asked to email notice of their intention to ClassB.pricing@oeb.ca by **August 12, 2024**. Emails should include “EB-2022-0079 Dynamic Pricing Program” in the subject line and provide the following information:

- organization name
- name(s) and email address(es) of attendees to be registered
- the name and email address of the primary contact for the organization.

Details about how to sign into the stakeholder meeting will be sent to those who email notice of their intention to participate.

Cost Award Matters

Cost awards will be available to eligible participants under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* for participation in the consultation. Costs awarded will be recovered from all licensed rate-regulated electricity distributors based on their respective customer numbers. Further information regarding cost awards is included in Appendix A to this letter. Participants who were already found to be eligible for cost awards for this consultation in the OEB’s [July 25, 2022, Decision on Cost Eligibility](#) remain eligible and do not need to reapply.

Any questions relating to this letter should be directed to ClassB.pricing@oeb.ca. The OEB’s toll-free number is 1-888-632-6273.

The OEB encourages interested stakeholders to sign up to the Dynamic Pricing Options Engage with Us [webpage](#) for future updates.

Yours truly,

Nancy Marconi
Registrar

Appendix A Cost Award Matters

Cost Award Eligibility

The OEB will determine eligibility for costs in accordance with its [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#). Any person intending to request an award of costs, except for those participants previously found to be eligible for costs for this consultation in the OEB's July 25, 2022, Decision on Cost Eligibility Awards, must file with the OEB a written submission to that effect by **August 12, 2024**. The submission must identify the grounds on which the person believes that it is eligible for an award of costs (addressing the OEB's cost eligibility criteria as set out in section 3 of the *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*). An explanation of any other funding to which the person has access must also be provided, as should the name and credentials of any lawyer, analyst or consultant that the person intends to retain, if known. All requests for cost eligibility will be posted on the OEB's website. If a licensed rate-regulated electricity distributor has any objections to any of the requests for cost eligibility, such objections must be filed with the OEB by **August 19, 2024**. Any objections will be posted on the OEB's website. The OEB will then make a final determination on the cost eligibility of the requesting participants.

Eligible Activities

The eligible activities are as follows:

Activities Eligible for Cost Awards	Maximum number of hours
Attendance and participation in the September 9 th stakeholder meeting	3 hours
Preparation for September 9 th stakeholder meeting	1.5 hours
Written comments on the Presentation materials (due October 4, 2024)	6 hours

Cost Awards

When determining the amount of the cost awards, the OEB will apply the principles set out in section 5 of its *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*. The maximum hourly rates set out in the Cost Awards Tariff will also be applied. The OEB expects that groups representing the same interests or class of persons will make every effort to communicate and co-ordinate their participation in this process. In accordance with section 12 of its *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*, the OEB will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process. For more information on this process, please see the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

How to File Materials

Please quote file number **EB-2022-0079** 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 email 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 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.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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