



Meeting Notes

DERs Connection Review (EB-2019-0207)

Working Group

Tranche 4, Meeting 2

Meeting Date: October 4, 2022 Time: 1:00 pm - 3:20 pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Bob Braletic	Alectra Utilities Inc.
Paul Luukkonen	Customized Energy Solutions Ltd.
Phil McNee	Demand Renewables
Kent Elson	Environmental Defence
Thomas (Tom) Ladanyi	Energy Probe
Ian Jarvis	BOMA
Ryan Boudreau, Jason Savulak	Hydro One Networks Inc.
Raed Abdullah	Hydro Ottawa
Greg Sheil	London Hydro
Mark Thompson	Ministry of Energy
David Freeman	Ministry of Energy
Naqvi Syed, Kevin Ho	Ontario Power Generation
Stephen Pepper	Ontario Society of Professional Engineers
Michael Brophy	Pollution Probe (PP)
Michael Scott	Resco Energy
Larry Herod	Stem Energy Canada ULC & Enel X
Marc Brouillette	CME and OCC
Benson Lo	Toronto Hydro-Electric System Ltd.
Rachel Anderson Catherine Ethier Helen Guo Raj Pattani Jason Craig	Ontario Energy Board (OEB)

These notes are for Working Group/Subgroup purposes only and do not represent the view of the OEB.



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Agenda:

Land Acknowledgement
Staff Update
Process Subgroup – Connection Deposit Refund Timeline
FEI Update
Open Discussion
Next Steps

Meeting Summary

These notes summarize the information provided during the working group meeting and key points of the issues presented in the published materials.

Summary of Recommendations, Report Backs, and Action Items

1. The Working Group recommended that DSC section 6.2 be revised to reflect the following new proposed requirements for connection deposit refund timelines:
 - a. Outstanding connection scope of work (if applicable) to be listed by the distributor at time that authorization to generate is granted (Day 0).
 - b. Preliminary connection cost report to be issued by the distributor by Day 60.
 - c. Excess deposit refund to be issued by the distributor:
 - i. By Day 180 for cases without a host distributor.
 - ii. By Day 210 for cases with a host distributor.
 - d. For cases where there was outstanding scope at the time authorization to generate was granted, the excess deposit refund would be issued:
 - e. By later of Day 180 or 90 days after completion of full connection scope for cases without a host distributor.
 - f. By later of Day 210 or 120 days after completion of full connection scope for cases with a host distributor.

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The Working Group supported the Process Subgroup's detailed text for DSC Amendments, with the acknowledgement that the specific language would be revised and refined by OEB Staff prior to implementation, if this recommendation moves forward to a proposed DSC Amendment.

2. The Working Group acknowledged that the connection cost estimating topic area would be reviewed outside the Working Group (through discussions between OEB Staff and the distributor that generates the connection cost estimates that stakeholders wished to see refined). A proposal that may be brought forward would be presented before the Working Group when it is available.
3. The Working Group agreed to provide written feedback on Tranche 5 topic areas, to aid OEB Staff in preparations for a Tranche 5 meeting.
4. The Working Group supported ongoing meetings by the Subgroups, to review deposit interest rates (for the Process Subgroup) and ongoing discussions on EV issues (for the Technical Subgroup). (Risk Framework development of the PCIR/PCR templates was also anticipated to continue, although those forms were not anticipated to be advanced to a proposal until early 2023, to allow time for LDCs to adjust to the October 1, 2022 DSC Amendments).
5. The Working Group agreed to reconvene at a future meeting to discuss and finalize priorities for Tranche 5.
6. The Working Group requested that OEB Staff prepare a short summary of the recommendations advanced through Tranche 4, capturing the recommendations already documented in the meeting minutes for Tranche 4.
7. The Working Group acknowledged a change in OEB Staff anticipated to follow the conclusion of this final Tranche 4 Working Group meeting.

Land Acknowledgment

OEB Staff presented the Land Acknowledgement.

Agenda

The agenda as presented was adopted by the Working Group.

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Staff Update

OEB Staff provided an update on DER related activities by OEB Staff outside of the Working Group, this included:

- Implementation of DSC amendments as a result of the DER Connections review consultation, as well as the DERCP document and forms that came into force on October 1, 2022.
- OEB currently developing the framework for DER compliance monitoring.
- Improving the transparency in terms of technical requirements on DER Connections.
- Cost estimating practices will be pulled as a topic from the Working Group to allow OEB Staff to perform a more detailed review of the appropriate cost estimating approach.
 - OEB Staff is working to develop distributor-specific proposals on reporting the historical variances on cost estimates which will be presented to the working group once finished.
- Once the final Tranche 4 recommendations are received, OEB Staff will present the recommendations to OEB management to process or implement the recommendations. At present, OEB Staff have commenced planning for implementation of recommendations finalized by the Working Group. OEB Staff indicated that co-leads may be contacted for additional information related to certain proposals (for example related to RRR).

OEB Staff provided status of Tranche 4 areas of review. Currently, there is finalization of the working groups recommendation related to RRR, finalization of the recommendations related to capacity allocation exemption, and capacity deposits. There is also finalization of the expanded EV issues list for EV connections from the technical subgroup. There is also support for ongoing work through the risk framework.

Process Subgroup – Connection Deposit Refund Timeline

The Co-Leads Mr. Jason Savulak (Hydro One) and Mr. Larry Herod (Stem & Enel X) presented the slides on the proposal for Connection Deposit Refund Timeline.

- An overview of the proposal was explained.
- The proposal included revision of DSC Section 6.2 to the following:

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- Outstanding connection scope of work (if applicable) to be listed at time that authorization to generate is granted (at Day 0)
 - Once authorization to generate is issued, a notification is required outlining what is outstanding in the scope of work. This notification will be the Preliminary connection cost report.
- Preliminary connection cost report to be issued by Day 60.
 - This will give the developer a good sense of what the potential refund is subject to the final cost
- When the scope of work is complete, at the time of authorization to generate, the excess deposit refund is to be issued:
 - By Day 180 for cases without a host distributor
 - By Day 210 for cases with a host distributor
- There will be a 90-day window from authorization to generate to complete the remaining scope of work.
- For cases where there was outstanding scope at the time authorization to generate was granted, the excess deposit refund would be issued:
 - By later of <Day 180> or <90 days after completion of full connection scope> for cases without a host distributor
 - By later of <Day 210> or <120 days after completion of full connection scope> for cases with a host distributor.

The proposed changes to the DSC Section 6 were supported by the Working Group and endorsed as a recommendation to be made to the OEB.

FEI Update

OEB staff presented an overview of the FEI Consultation.

Open Discussion

OEB Staff provided list of issues that were identified over the course of Tranche 4. These issues were not slated for Tranche 4 but were identified as potential future areas of interest by Working Group and Subgroup members. The OEB Staff ask the industry members if there is any interest in holding Tranche 5. The Working Group members were in support to continue with Tranche 5.

Next steps

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- OEB Staff to document the finalization of recommendations relating to connection deposit refund in the meeting minutes.
- OEB Staff will prepare a separate document that summarizes Tranche 4 recommendations, for reference.
- OEB Staff requested Working Group members to provide written feedback on future priorities by October 21, 2022, to be discussed in a future meeting.
- A meeting will be held sometime in November 2022 to discuss Tranche 5 logistics.
- Although Tranche 5 priorities have not yet been established, the Working Group supported ongoing meetings by the Subgroups, to review deposit interest rates (for the Process Subgroup) and ongoing discussions on EV issues (for the Technical Subgroup). (Risk Framework development of the PCIR/PCR templates was also anticipated to continue, although those forms were not anticipated to be advanced to a proposal until early 2023, to allow time for LDCs to adjust to the October 1, 2022 DSC Amendments)..

Additional Updates

- The OEB Staff will continue to process the recommendations made in Tranche 4.
- An update was provided on the Electric Vehicle Integration initiative exploring some of the EV connections issues and areas of exploration raised in the DER Connections Review. However, the DER Connections Review will continue being the consultation for reviewing EV connections issues. Further communications will be provided as the Electric Vehicle Integration initiative develops.
- The Working Group was informed of a change in OEB Staff following the conclusion of this final Tranche 4 meeting.

Next Meeting: TBD