

OEB Innovation Sandbox: Project Proposal Form

*For proponents seeking Project-Specific Support, submission of a written project proposal using this template is required.*

*Before filling out this template, please review the OEB Innovation Sandbox* [website](https://www.oeb.ca/_html/sandbox/faq.php) *to familiarize yourself with the support that is and is not available.*

*Please also acquaint yourself with the OEB Innovation Sandbox policy regarding* [Confidentiality, Transparency, and Information Sharing](https://www.oeb.ca/_html/sandbox/process.php#confidentiality) *as it relates to the Dashboard.*

*All proponents are strongly encouraged to set up an initial meeting with OEB Innovation Sandbox staff by contacting* [innovation@oeb.ca](mailto:innovation@oeb.ca) *before submitting a project proposal.*

**OEB Innovation Sandbox Guiding Criteria**

The OEB Innovation Sandbox focuses on providing support to innovative projects that align with the following criteria:

1. Support consumer value & protection.
2. Maintain or enhance the resilience/reliability of the grid.
3. Recognize carbon pricing and net zero mandates (e.g., facilitating sector decarbonization).
4. Relate to a regulatory barrier for which OEB can provide support[[1]](#footnote-1).
5. Have the potential for scalability and economic viability.

Stakeholders are reminded that the OEB has other existing supports for questions related to regulatory requirements that do not involve engaging in an innovative pilot project. For those enquiries, please contact the OEB’s Industry Relations Enquiry system (see <https://www.oeb.ca/contact-ontario-energy-board#ire>).

**Confidentiality, Transparency, and Information Sharing**

One of the objectives of the OEB Innovation Sandbox is to share innovative ideas and lessons learned broadly with the energy sector.

The following information will be shared publicly on the OEB Innovation Sandbox ‘dashboard’:

1. Description of the proponent (e.g., ‘electricity distributor’). The OEB Innovation Sandbox will not share the name of the proponent without the proponent’s consent.
2. Summary of innovative project: The OEB will draw information from this document to populate the dashboard. The OEB will not post the project proposal form itself.
3. The key theme or topic at issue (e.g., net metering).
4. Sandbox support requested. This may include a request for customized OEB staff guidance or staff’s assistance in requesting temporary relief from a regulatory requirement.
5. Sandbox support provided.

Information may also be shared in an OEB Innovation Sandbox annual report and/or in a staff bulletin. We will not share the name of the proponent without the proponent’s consent.

We understand that proponents may consider some information to be commercially sensitive. Proponents are asked to note any confidentiality concerns related to commercially sensitive information in Section 6.

**Please complete all 6 sections of the project proposal template.**

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| 1. **Key Information** | | |
| **Project Title:** |  | |
| **Submission Date:** |  | |
| **Project Proponent(s):** |  | |
| **Consent to sharing Project Proponent name(s) for Innovation Sandbox Dashboard/ Reports?** | | Yes:  No: |
| **Designated Contact (e.g., project lead or project manager)** | | |
| **Name:** |  | |
| **Title:** |  | |
| **Address:** |  | |
| **Phone:** |  | |
| **Email:** |  | |

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| 1. **Project Summary** |
| Please provide a summary of the project, including:   * The purpose, scope, goals, and expected outcome of the project. * A brief description of how this project will provide value to consumers and any other expected benefits of the project. |
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| 1. **Regulatory ISSUES AND SUPPORT SOUGHT** |
| Please describe in as much detail as possible the regulatory issue or requirement that you believe is preventing the project from moving forward.  Please also describe the support you are seeking from the OEB Innovation Sandbox to address this issue. |
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| 1. **Project ALIGNMENT with sANDBOX GOAL & GUIDING CRITERIA** |
| Please describe how the project aligns with the Sandbox guiding criteria [as described on page 1 of this form]. |
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| 1. **additional CONSIDERATIONS** |
| Please describe the following:   1. Project timelines. 2. Whether customers are participating, and if so, how. 3. Project risks (including risks to consumers) and plans to mitigate these risks. 4. Any additional considerations. |
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| 1. commercially sensitive INFORMATION |
| Please identify any concerns about commercially sensitive information that OEB staff should be aware of. |
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When complete, please submit this form to [innovation@oeb.ca](mailto:innovation@oeb.ca)

1. OEB staff may provide guidance related to relevant legislation and OEB requirements (such as electricity codes, natural gas rules or OEB licences). The OEB may grant temporary exemptions from its own regulatory requirements, but typically cannot grant exemptions to requirements in legislation or regulations. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)