



January 27, 2014

BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING

**To: All rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors
All rate-regulated licensed electricity transmitters
Building Owners and Managers Association of the Greater Toronto Area**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards
Smart Grid Advisory Committee
Board File No.: EB-2013-0294**

Background

On June 27, 2013, the Board issued a [letter](#) announcing the creation of the Smart Grid Advisory Committee (the “Advisory Committee”) which is tasked with providing ongoing advice to the Board with respect to matters related to grid modernization. To date, the Advisory Committee has met several times and established three working groups that will report back to the Advisory Committee on topics including providing access to consumption data for low-volume customers and eliminating barriers to integrating electricity storage.

On August 15, 2013 the Board issued a [letter](#) which addressed cost awards related to the new Advisory Committee initiative. The Board indicated that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* for their participation on the Advisory Committee and that costs awarded will be recovered from all rate-regulated licensed electricity distributors (80% of the costs awarded) and all rate-regulated licensed electricity transmitters (20% of the costs awarded). Costs will be apportioned within each class based on distribution or transmission revenues, as applicable. The letter also indicated that the Building Owners and Managers Association of the GTA (BOMA) was determined to be eligible for an award of costs.

Eligible Consultation Activities to Date

As set out previously, for each meeting of the Advisory Committee, **eligible participants are allowed to claim costs for actual time spent in the meeting, plus a maximum of three hours for preparation and reporting.** The Advisory Committee meetings that have been held to date and for which a cost claim may now be filed are listed below (including the start and end times of each meeting):

- July 16, 2013 (meeting from 9:30AM – 4:00PM)
- August, 20, 2013 (meeting from 9:30AM – 4:00PM)
- October 2, 2013 (meeting from 9:30AM – 4:00PM)
- October 22, 2013 (meeting from 9:30AM – 3:45PM)
- December 17, 2013 (meeting from 9:30AM – 3:00PM)

In the letter dated August 15th, the Board also stated that it would address the issue of cost awards for any supplementary eligible activities at the appropriate time, as and when required. As noted above, three working groups have been established as part of the work of the Advisory Committee, and BOMA is a member of one of those working groups (integrating electricity storage). The Board has determined that cost awards will be available to BOMA in relation to its participation on that working group. **BOMA will be allowed to claim costs for actual time spent in each ‘storage working group’ meeting, plus up to a maximum of three hours for preparation and reporting.**

The following is a list of the storage working group meetings held to date (including the start and end times of each meeting) and in respect of which a cost claim may now be filed:

- October 17, 2013 (meeting from 1:00PM – 4:00PM)
- November 12, 2013 (meeting from 1:30PM – 4:30PM)
- November 26, 2013 (meeting from 1:45PM – 4:00PM)

The work of the Advisory Committee is expected to be ongoing with no specific end-date the Board therefore intends to address cost awards related to the Advisory Committee periodically. Accordingly, this Notice addresses cost awards associated with Committee activities to the end of 2013.

Notice of Hearing

The Board is initiating this hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards that will be made in accordance with section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to the eligible consultation activities identified above. The file number for this hearing is **EB-2013-0294**.

The Board intends to proceed by way of written hearing unless a party can satisfy the Board that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If a party wants to object to a written hearing, the objection must be received by the Board no later than **7 days** after the date of this Notice.

Assuming that the Board does not receive any objections to a written hearing, the hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. BOMA shall submit its cost claim by **February 10, 2014**. The cost claim must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on each rate-regulated licensed electricity distributor and each rate-regulated licensed electricity transmitter. The cost claim must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*. As contemplated in the *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*, the cost claim form has been customized for this consultation. **BOMA must use the customized form that is attached as Appendix A to this Notice.**
2. Electricity distributors and electricity transmitters will have until **February 17, 2014** to object to any aspect of the costs claimed by BOMA. The objection must

be filed with the Board and one copy must be served on BOMA.

3. BOMA will have until **February 24, 2014** to make a reply submission as to why its cost claim should be allowed. A copy of the reply submission must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on the objecting electricity distributor or electricity transmitter.
4. The Board will then issue its decision on cost awards. The Board's costs may also be addressed in the cost awards decision.

Service of cost claims, objections and reply submissions on other parties may be effected by courier, registered mail, facsimile or e-mail.

Parties must file two paper copies and one electronic copy of their filings with the Board Secretary by **4:45 pm** on the required dates. The Board requests that parties make every effort to provide electronic copies of their filings in searchable / unrestricted Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format, and to submit their filings through the Board's web portal at <https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/>. A user ID is required to submit documents through the Board's web portal. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the "e-filings services" webpage on the Board's website at www.ontarioenergyboard.ca, and fill out a user ID password request. Additionally, interested parties are requested to follow the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the document entitled "RESS Document Preparation – A Quick Guide" also found on the e-filing services webpage. If the Board's web portal is not available, electronic copies of filings may be filed by e-mail at boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca. Persons that do not have internet access should provide a CD or diskette containing their filing in PDF format.

All filings must quote file number **EB-2013-0294** and include your name, address telephone number and, where available, your e-mail address and fax number.

All filings in this hearing (i.e., cost claims, objections, or replies), will form part of the public record. Copies of the filings will be available for inspection at the Board's office during normal business hours and the filings may be placed on the Board's website.

If the filing is from a private citizen (i.e., not a lawyer representing a client, not a consultant representing a client or organization, not an individual in an organization that represents the interests of consumers or other groups, and not an individual from a regulated entity), before making the filing available for viewing at the Board's offices or placing the filing on the Board's website, the Board will remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the filing (i.e., the address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the filing may be available for viewing at the Board's offices and will be placed on the Board's website.

If you do not file a letter objecting to a written hearing or do not participate in the hearing by filing written materials in accordance with this Notice, the Board may proceed without your participation and you will not be entitled to further notice in this proceeding.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Attachments

Appendix A: Ontario Energy Board Cost Claim for Consultations: Affidavit and Summary of Fees and Disbursements

The forms that Eligible Participants must complete are provided in a separate MS Excel Workbook named, "EB-2013-0294 Policy Consultation Cost Claim Form for Activities up to December 31 2013.xls".