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EB-2010-0249
EB-2014-0189

BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

September 3, 2015

**To: All Licensed Electricity Distributors
Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario;
Building Owners and Managers Association;
Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters;
Energy Probe Research Foundation;
London Property Management Association; and
Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition**

Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards in the Initiative to Develop Distribution System Reliability Standards

Background

EB-2010-0249

On September 18, 2013, the Ontario Energy Board (the Board) announced the launch of an initiative to establish performance standards for the Board's existing system reliability measures and to develop and implement new customer specific reliability measures.

To assist in the achievement of these objectives, the Board reconvened its System Reliability Working Group (SRWG). On October 2, 2013, the Board issued a [Decision on Cost Eligibility](#) in which it determined that the Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario; the Energy Probe Research Foundation; and the Vulnerable Energy

Consumers Coalition (collectively, the “EB-2010-0249 Eligible Participants”) were eligible for an award of costs for participation in the SRWG meetings.

The Decision stated that cost awards would be available under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (the Act) to the EB-2010-0249 Eligible Participants, for the preparation for and attendance at the SRWG meetings up to **a maximum of 50 hours**. The Decision also stated that costs awarded would be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors based on their respective distribution revenues.

EB-2014-0189

After the completion of the SRWG meetings, the Board introduced an initiative specifically related to the establishment of distribution system reliability performance measures and objectives (EB-2014-0189).

On July 15, 2014, the Board posted a [Discussion Paper](#) related to the initiative.

In the [cover letter](#) accompanying the release of the Discussion Paper, the Board indicated that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the Act in relation to the provision of comments on the Discussion Paper **to a maximum of 14 hours**. The cover letter also stated that costs awarded would be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors based on their respective distribution revenues.

On August 19, 2014, the Board issued a [Decision on Cost Eligibility](#) in which it determined that the Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario; Building Owners and Managers Association; Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters; London Property Management Association; and Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (collectively, the “EB-2014-0189 Eligible Participants”) were eligible for an award of costs.

On August 25, 2015, the Board issued the [Report of the Board – Electricity Distribution System Reliability Measures and Expectations](#), which sets out the direction that will be taken by the Board to establish distribution system reliability performance measures and objectives.

Now that the Report of the Board has been issued, and the SRWG meetings related to that initiative have been completed, the Board considers it expedient to address the costs awards related to initiatives EB-2010-0249 and EB-2014-0189.

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 Act in relation to:

- Participation in the SRWG meetings (EB-2010-0249); and
- The provision of comments on the Discussion Paper (EB-2014-0189)

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.

If the Board does not receive any objections to a written hearing, the hearing will follow the process set out below:

1. The EB-2010-0249 Eligible Participants and the EB-2014-0189 Eligible Participants shall submit their cost claims by September 18, 2015. A copy of the cost claim must be filed with the Board and one copy is to be served on each licensed electricity distributor. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.
2. Licensed distributors will have until October 2, 2015, to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. A copy of the objection must be filed with the Board and one copy must be served on the eligible participant against whose claim the objection is being made.
3. The eligible participant whose claim was objected to will have until October 14, 2015, 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 distributor.
4. The Board will then issue its decision on cost awards. The Board's costs will 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 submissions (i.e., cost claims, objections or replies) with the Board Secretary by **4:30 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 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, 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. Those that do not have internet access should provide a CD containing their filing in PDF format.

All submissions must quote file numbers **EB-2010-0249 and/or EB-2014-0189**, as applicable, and include your name, address, e-mail address, telephone number, and fax number.

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

If the submission 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 submission available for viewing at the Board's offices or placing the submission on the Board's website, the Board will remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the submission (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 submission will be available for viewing at the Board's offices and may 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 submissions in accordance with this Notice of Hearing, 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

Attachment A: Form for Cost Claim (EB-2010-0249)

Attachment B: Form for Cost Claim (EB-2014-0189)