



Ontario Energy Board

Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario

DECISION ON COST ELIGIBILITY AND NOTICE OF HEARING FOR COST AWARDS

EB-2015-0182

**Electricity Distribution System Reliability: Major Events, Reporting
on Major Events, and Customer Specific Measures**

BEFORE: **Cathy Spoel**
Presiding Member

Christine Long
Vice Chair

June 1, 2016

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On December 7, 2015, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) posted a [Report of the Board](#) entitled “Electricity Distribution System Reliability: Major Events, Reporting on Major Events and Customer Specific Measures (the Report). The Report related to an initiative to (a) develop a definition of a “Major Event” that will be used to normalize reliability data that is reported to the OEB; (b) develop criteria and new reporting requirements that will be used to evaluate a distributor’s response to a Major Event; and (c) establish an approach to implementing “customer specific” system reliability measures (EB-2015-0182).

In the [cover letter](#) accompanying the release of the Report, the OEB indicated that cost awards would be available to eligible persons under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to the provision of comments on the Report to **a maximum of 12 hours**. The cover letter also stated that costs awarded will be recovered from all licensed electricity distributors based on their respective distribution revenues.

The OEB received requests for cost eligibility from the following stakeholders:

- Building Owners and Managers Association, Greater Toronto (BOMA) and
- Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME).

Electricity distributors were given an opportunity to file any objections they might have in relation to the eligibility of the above-noted stakeholders for an award of costs. The OEB did not receive any objections from distributors.

In the event, CME submitted comments on the Report but BOMA did not. It is therefore not necessary to deal with BOMA’s request for eligibility.

Based on the criteria set out in section 3 of the OEB’s *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*, the OEB has determined that CME is eligible for an award of costs.

On May 3, 2016, the OEB issued a [letter](#) announcing amendments to the Electricity Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements (RRR), which set out a definition of a Major Event and new reporting requirements associated with Major Events. The letter also stated that issues relating to customer specific system reliability measures will be dealt through a separate process.

Now that the amendments to the RRR have been issued, the OEB considers it expedient to address the costs awards related to the EB-2015-0182 initiative.

Notice of Hearing

The OEB 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 the provision of comments on the Report by CME.

The OEB 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 OEB no later than **7 days** after the date of this Notice.

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

1. CME shall submit its cost claim by June 14, 2016. A copy of the cost claim must be filed with the OEB and one copy is to be served on each licensed electricity distributor. The cost claim must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.
2. Licensed distributors will have until June 28, 2016, to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. A copy of the objection must be filed with the OEB and one copy must be served on CME.
3. If any objection is filed, CME will have until July 8, 2016, 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 OEB and one copy is to be served on the objecting distributor.
4. The OEB will then issue its decision on cost awards. The OEB'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 OEB 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 OEB's web portal at www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/. A user ID is required to submit documents through the OEB's web portal. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the "e-filings services" webpage on the OEB'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 OEB'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-2015-0182**, 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 OEB's offices during normal business hours and may be published on the OEB'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 OEB's offices or placing the submission on the OEB's website, the OEB 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 OEB's offices and may be placed on the OEB'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 OEB may proceed without your participation and you will not be entitled to further notice in this proceeding.

DATED at Toronto June 1, 2016

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

Attachment A: Form for Cost Claim (EB-2015-1082)