

Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Connections Review

EB-2019-0207

Working Group Meeting

October 4, 2022

Land Acknowledgement

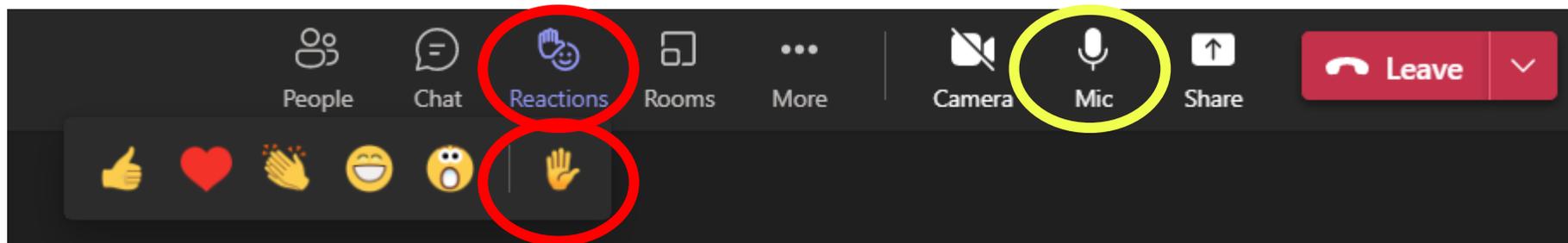
The Ontario Energy Board acknowledges that our headquarters in Toronto is located on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples. This area is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

We are grateful for the opportunity to gather and work on this land and recognize our shared responsibility to support and be good stewards of it.

MS Teams – Mute and Raise Hand Feature

Please kindly mute microphone when not speaking.

Please use the Raise Hand feature (under the “Reactions” control) if you would like to speak during the meeting, and the presenter or OEB staff will call upon you.



When speaking, please start with your name and organization.

Agenda

No.	Discussion Item	Start	Duration
1.	Land Acknowledgement	1:00pm	5 mins
2.	Staff Update	1:05pm	15 mins
3.	Process Subgroup – Connection Deposit Refund Timeline	1:20pm	45 mins
4.	Break	2:05pm	10 mins
5.	FEI Update	2:15pm	15 mins
6.	Open Discussion	2:30pm	45 mins
7.	Next Steps	3:15pm	15 mins

Staff Update

Meeting on October 4, 2022

DER-Related Activities Outside Working Group

DSC Amendments for October 1, 2022

- Ongoing engagement with LDCs to support October 1st date for coming into force of DSC Amendments
- Staff remain available through IRE system

DER Compliance Monitoring Framework

- Developing framework to monitor LDC performance relative to new DSC Amendments and DERCP requirements

Guidance on Transparency for Technical Requirements

- Developing communication to reiterate importance of posting technical requirements and providing rationale when requirements are imposed

Connection Cost Estimating

- Discussions with distributor related to connection cost estimates, including review of historical data on costs
- Anticipate development of distributor-specific proposal on reporting of historical variances

Planning for Next Steps

- Internal planning related to next steps following receipt of Tranche 4 recommendations, including coordination with responsible groups for further processing or consideration

Status of Tranche 4 Areas of Review

Topic Area	Status
Process: RRR Requirements	Working Group Finalized
Process: Connection Cost Estimating	Reviewing Outside Consultation (Future Report Back)
Process: Connection Deposit Refund Timelines	Subgroup Proposal Ready
Process: Capacity Allocation Exemption	Working Group Finalized
Process: Capacity Deposits	Working Group Finalized
Technical: Expanded EV Issues List for Connections	Working Group Finalized
Technical: Risk Framework Development	Working Group Supported Ongoing Work

Plan for Today

- Working Group to receive update on Framework for Energy Innovation consultation
- Process Subgroup Co-Leads to present recommendation on Connection Deposit Refund Timelines; if revised/adopted, recommendation will be documented as an outcome of Working Group Tranche 4 Meeting 2
- Working Group to discuss Tranche 5; separate meeting may be arranged in October or November to discuss priorities and establish mandates for Subgroups

Process: Connection Deposit Refund Timeline Proposal

Process Subgroup Topic 3

Presentation by Larry Herod (Stem & Enel X) & Jason Savulak (Hydro One)

Please refer to accompanying file

Overview of Connection Deposit Refund Timeline Proposal

Context

- Concern from sector that there was variation in the refund times when excess connection cost deposits were collected.
- Concern from sector that the existing DSC requirement (which requires refund at time of connection) is impractical.

Recommendation

- Modify DSC to require Distributor to provide a Preliminary Connection Cost Report within 60 days of authorization to generate.
- Modify DSC to require excess connection cost deposits to be refunded within 180-210 days in most cases.

Anticipated Benefit

- DER owners will receive earlier indication of anticipated connection cost deposit refund, and greater certainty in timelines.
- LDCs will retain flexibility to authorize a DER to generate while minor connection scope items may be outstanding.

Proposal for Connection Cost Deposit Refund

DSC section 6.2 to be revised to require the following:

- Outstanding connection scope of work (if applicable) to **be listed** at time that authorization to generate is granted (**Day 0**).
- Preliminary connection cost report to be issued by **Day 60**.
- Excess deposit refund to be issued:
 - By **Day 180** for cases without a host distributor.
 - By **Day 210** for cases with a host distributor.
- 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.

Break

FEI Update

Presentation by Rachel Anderson (OEB Staff)

Please refer to accompanying file

Open Discussion

Member discussion on future activities of Working Group

Open Issues from Past Meetings

- After Tranche 4 priorities established, Parking Lot included the following as issues the Working Group anticipated may be reviewed in Tranche 5 (or later):
 - Dispute Resolution
 - Potential revisions to agreements
 - Prioritization of capacity allocation
 - Methodology for application of Chapter 3 to energy storage
- In addition, Subgroups expressed desire to review/develop proposals on:
 - Ways to understand percent of customers on restricted feeders
 - Interest rates associated with connection cost deposit refunds
 - EVs and multiple DER interconnection considerations (<50 kW)
 - Risk Framework
 - Connection cost estimating (report back from offline discussions with distributor and OEB Staff)

Discussion

- Seek Working Group member comment on:
 - Interest in holding Tranche 5
 - Issues of interest in Tranche 5
 - Timelines for Tranche 5

Next Steps and Additional Updates

Next Steps:

- OEB Staff will document recommendations in minutes (if finalized)
- Working Group members are requested to provide written feedback on future priorities
- If Working Group agrees, OEB Staff intend to collect feedback and reconvene Working Group in late October or November to finalize priority areas for next phase of consultation
- If Working Group agrees, OEB Staff may still continue convene Technical Subgroup for advancement of EV areas of exploration and Risk Framework

Additional Updates:

- Update on internal planning for Tranche 4 recommendations
- Update on DER Connections Review Team

Backup

Key Principles of Engagement for DER Connections

Industry Need

- Need ongoing engagement with industry to ensure issues remain relevant and address current and future trends
- Need to ensure level of consultation is in-line with industry expectations

Participation

- Working Group, with OEB staff facilitation, would have the following meetings:
 - Approx. bimonthly WG
 - Approx. monthly SG
 - Recurring or ad-hoc for others

Deliverables

- Seek industry proposals for solutions
- Industry to strive for consensus recommendations, with dissents noted if needed
- Use Working Group meeting summaries to document recommendations, with dissents noted if needed

Overview of Tranches

Tranche 1: Letters to Distributors

- Informational guidance to distributors, mainly related to preliminary consultations and sample technical documents

Tranche 2: DSC Amendments & DERCP

- DSC Amendments to codify recommendations from Tranche 1, establish DERCP, and standardize templates and forms.

Tranche 3: Metrics, Estimates, Risk, EVs

- RRR Requirements
- Cost Estimates
- Risk Framework
- Bi-Directional EVs

Tranche 3 Closeout

- Discuss whether Working Group agrees to close Tranche 3.



*If established by Subgroup