

Decision on Northern Ontario Wires' Major Rates Application

On March 18, 2025, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued its [Decision and Rate Order](#) on Northern Ontario Wires Inc.'s (Northern Ontario Wires) application to change the rates it charges for electricity distribution.

The OEB approved the settlement proposal agreed upon by Northern Ontario Wires and the intervenors in the hearing. The OEB concluded that the settlement proposal reflects a balanced consideration of both customer interests and the utility's operational requirements.

As a result of the Decision and Rate Order, the estimated total bill impact for a typical residential customer with a monthly consumption of 750 kWh will be a decrease of \$0.68 per month (or 0.48%) before taxes and the Ontario Electricity Rebate, beginning May 1, 2025.

Key elements of the OEB-approved settlement proposal include the following reductions relative to the amounts requested in Northern Ontario Wires' application:

- A \$450,000 reduction (10%) in the 2025 Operations, Maintenance & Administration budget, resulting in a revised total of \$4,100,911.
- A \$526,925 reduction (29%) to the 2025 capital in-service additions, resulting in a revised budget of \$1,300,000.

This was another proceeding in which the OEB piloted a new adjudicative process that seeks to reduce the regulatory burden associated with filing and reviewing major rate applications for very small utilities.

INTERVENORS

Intervenors are individuals or groups who have permission to participate in a hearing before the OEB because they have a substantial interest in the proceeding. The School Energy Coalition and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition were intervenors in this proceeding.

ABOUT THE OEB

The OEB is the independent regulator of Ontario's electricity and natural gas sectors. It protects the interests of consumers and supports the delivery of clean, reliable and affordable energy for the people, farms and businesses of Ontario. Its goal is to deliver public value through prudent regulation and independent adjudicative decision-making which contributes to Ontario's economic, social and environmental development. You can learn more about the OEB at oeb.ca.

Independence in the hearing and determination of matters is a key element of the OEB's mandate, established through legislative structures, the [Memorandum of Understanding](#) between the Minister of Energy and Electrification and the Chair of the OEB, and by-laws that set out clear lines of communication between government and the OEB. Commissioner panels hear and determine matters independently, with legislative protections and other instruments to ensure decisions are free from

interference by the CEO, the Board of Directors and government. This also includes the Chief Commissioner when not assigned to the specific case.

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Ce document est aussi disponible en français.

This Backgrounder was prepared by OEB staff to inform Ontario's energy consumers about the OEB's decision and is not for use in legal or regulatory proceedings. It is not part of the OEB's reasons for decision; those may be found in the Decision and Rate Order issued March 18, 2025, which is the official OEB document.