



BY EMAIL AND WEB POSTING

January 18, 2021

**To: All Registered Stakeholders
All Other Interested Parties**

**Re: Sector Evolution Consultations: Utility Remuneration (EB-2018-0287) and
Responding to Distributed Energy Resources (EB-2018-0288)**

As stakeholders will be aware, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) published a series of expert reports by London Economics International LLC (LEI) on December 16, 2020. The OEB is now posting a Distributed Energy Resource (DER) Impact Study, prepared by ICF, which forecasts the adoption of distributed generation and storage in Ontario over the next 10 years. It also identifies potential signposts for the timing of regulatory policy responses.

The OEB is also inviting interested stakeholders to a meeting where LEI and ICF will present the results of their studies. In addition to discussing the experts' reports, stakeholders will be invited to discuss the implications of the studies on next steps in the OEB's policy work.

Background

On September 24, 2020, the OEB issued a [letter](#), advising stakeholders that it had commissioned expert studies by LEI and ICF to assist in confirming the scope and next steps, including pacing and sequencing, for the sector evolution consultations. The studies were completed and published on the OEB's website as follows:

LEI Reports:

- [COVID-19 Impact Study](#) examines the economic and societal impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic on utility financial health and short- and long-term electricity and natural gas demand.
- [COVID-19 Impact on Distributed Energy Resources](#) examines the major drivers of DER adoption: cost savings, environmental benefits, better reliability, greater independence and government incentives.

ICF Report:

- [DER Impact Study](#) (and [associated appendices](#)) forecasts the adoption of distributed generation and storage in Ontario over the next 10 years and identifies potential signposts for the timing of regulatory policy responses.

Stakeholder Meeting Details

The stakeholder meeting will be held on **February 3, 2021 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** The meeting will take place virtually.

Details for the webinar will be communicated to all registered stakeholders in due course via a separate email from OEB staff. Registered stakeholders in this Consultation do not need to pre-register. However, if a participant would like to attend the webinar and is not a registered stakeholder, please register for the webinar by **January 29, 2021**, by emailing SectorEvolution@oeb.ca. Emails should include "EB-2018-0287/0288 Virtual Stakeholder Meeting Attendance" in the subject line and include the participant's name, contact information and organization name.

An agenda will be provided to registered participants in advance of the meeting. The meeting will be transcribed. All materials related to this meeting will be posted on the OEB's website.

Invitation to Submit Written Comments

Following the meeting, stakeholders are invited to comment on the findings and recommendations made by the experts. Stakeholders are also invited to discuss the implications of the studies on the appropriate focus areas and sequencing of next steps in these consultations. All interested stakeholders are welcome to submit written comments by **February 17, 2021**. Filing instructions are included in Attachment A.

Cost Awards

Costs will be available to those participants who have been determined by the OEB to be eligible, as follows:

Activity Eligible for Cost Awards	Max. Number of Hours
Preparation for, attendance at, and reporting on the stakeholder meeting (for eligible participants and/or their consultants)	15 hours
Written comments on expert reports and implications for next steps	20 hours

Any questions relating to the Utility Remuneration initiative (EB-2018-0287) should be directed to Lenore Robson at Lenore.Robson@oeb.ca.

Any questions related to the Responding to DERs initiative (EB-2018-0288) should be directed to Gona Jaff at Gona.Jaff@oeb.ca.

How to File Materials

Please quote file numbers **EB-2018-0287** and **EB-2018-0288** for all materials filed and kindly submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the OEB's web portal at <https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice>.

Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address and please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document](#) found at www.oeb.ca/industry. Stakeholders are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#), or require assistance using the web portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below and be received by end of business on the required date.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)

Fax: 416-440-7656

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Christine E. Long
Registrar