

Decision on Oshawa Power's Application to Change its Electricity Distribution Rates

On May 28, 2026, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued its [Decision and Order](#) on the remaining issues in the proceeding on Oshawa PUC Networks Inc.'s (Oshawa Power) application to change its electricity distribution rates effective January 1, 2026. The OEB had earlier approved a partial settlement proposal that resolved a number of issues in whole or in part.

In its Decision and Order, the OEB approved Oshawa Power's electricity distribution rates effective January 1, 2026, with reductions to its proposed capital and operating budgets, including:

- A reduced 2026 net in-service capital expenditure budget from \$17.0 million to \$13.5 million. Although the OEB left it to Oshawa Power to determine how to realize these savings, the OEB suggested that, among other things,
 - They could slow the pace of its meter replacement program and other aspects of its system renewal portfolio to reduce the rate impact in order to preserve affordability while maintaining reliability.
 - Reconsider the timing of the installation three new feeders.
 - Defer or eliminate some general plant projects, including website redesign, customer communication redesign, and intranet upgrades.
- A reduced 2026 operations, maintenance and administration budget from \$22.3 million to \$19.5 million. In making this decision, the OEB focused on staffing and compensation at Oshawa Power. The OEB found that this reduction is sufficient to support fiscal discipline by ensuring spending is both necessary and cost-effective through prioritizing essential work, managing costs carefully and avoiding spending that does not directly support safe and reliable service.

The OEB also noted Oshawa Power's plan to apply for funding for a new office and operations facility estimated to cost \$61 million. It directed Oshawa Power to include an updated Distribution System Plan in that application to demonstrate reprioritized capital spending and identify operational savings associated with the new facility.

The OEB further emphasized that Oshawa Power will need to consider the pace and scale of its business transformation initiatives, given ongoing affordability concerns for ratepayers and the objective of providing reliable service at a reasonable cost.

The impact on customer bills will be confirmed through the forthcoming rate order process.

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. A list of the seven approved intervenors in this proceeding, including representatives of different classes of consumers, is provided on page three of the Decision and Order.

ABOUT THE OEB

The OEB is the independent regulator of Ontario's electricity and natural gas sectors. We protect the interests of consumers and enable the delivery of clean, reliable, secure and affordable energy that supports economic growth across the province. This includes ensuring that the people and businesses of Ontario pay rates that are reasonable while allowing for needed investments in an energy system that sustains our economy.

A key part of how we deliver on this mandate is through independent adjudication. When an application comes before us, the OEB applies a rigorous, impartial review that balances our legislated objectives and is free from interference.

Learn more at oeb.ca.

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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 Order issued **May 28, 2026**, which is the official OEB document.*