

## PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE LE CENTRE POUR LA DEFENSE DE L'INTERET PUBLIC

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September 19, 2007

VIA COURIER AND EMAIL

Ms. Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 26<sup>th</sup> Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Union Gas / Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. - Incentive Rate Regulation for Natural Gas Utilities B-2007-0606 / EB-2007-0615 CCC Motion re Interim Funding

We have had the opportunity of reviewing the comments of IGUA and LPMA/BOMA/WGSP with respect to the issue of interim cost awards and are in substantial agreement with those comments and the relief requested by CCC. We should note that VECC is a co-sponsor of Mr. Loube's evidence.

VECC is in a similar circumstance to others with respect to previous proceedings; by way of example, VECC has retainers with experts in the most recent EGD rate proceeding that begun approximately one year ago without any recovery. We do note that the cost decision came out yesterday on phase 1 of those costs which should now be paid shortly, but the point should be made that having to make arrangements with experts that may see the intervenor or the expert carry costs for a year or more may impact the ability of intervenors to continue to retain appropriate expert advice.

We expect that the motion was not intended to limit the relief requested to CCC, and in that respect we agree with Mr. Aiken's submissions that the Board consider the motion in relation to all funded intervenors.

Yours truly,

Michael Buonaguro Counsel for VECC