

**Board Staff Interrogatories
Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.
Solar Thermal Pilot Program DSM Deferral Account Request
EB-2010-0029**

1. Ref: Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 3, Page 1-13

Enbridge is requesting the establishment of DSM Deferral Accounts to track spending in relation to a proposed solar thermal pilot program.

- a) Please discuss why Enbridge feels it is reasonable to request the establishment of these DSM Deferral Accounts given the Board's Decision on the preliminary motion in EB-2009-0172. In your response, please provide the reasoning for why Enbridge feels it is appropriate to recover the proposed renewable energy investments from its rate base.
- b) Given the scale and length of the program, what is Enbridge's justification for classifying this program as a pilot program?

2. Ref: Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 3, Page 1 of 13

Enbridge notes that it has received a commitment from Natural Resources Canada for funding to support the proposed solar thermal pilot project up to a maximum amount of \$3.975M.

- a) Please discuss the status of the funding support from Natural Resources Canada in the event that the Board has not issued a decision regarding the establishment of the DSM Deferral Accounts by March 19, 2010, as requested by Enbridge?
- b) Please discuss the status of the funding support from Natural Resources Canada in the event that the Board does not approve the request for the establishment of DSM Deferral Accounts?
- c) Does Enbridge plan to proceed with the proposed solar thermal pilot program regardless of whether Board approval for the requested DSM Deferral Accounts is granted? If not, please discuss why.
- d) Please describe the process Enbridge has employed or will employ in attracting other parties' involvement and investment in the proposed five year solar thermal project. In your response, please discuss who Enbridge has targeted as ideal partners for the project and how much of the program budget Enbridge is hoping to secure from private investments.

3. Ref: Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 3, Page 4 of 13

Enbridge notes that three solar collector technologies will be tested: flat panel, evacuated tube and concentrated collectors. Enbridge also indicates that three types of thermal storage media will be tested: tank storage, geothermal, and thermal mass storage. Enbridge also notes that test sites for these technologies may include multi-residential buildings, institutional buildings, and neighborhoods of individual homes.

- a) Please discuss any work Enbridge has completed on this project to date. In your response, please indicate how much has been invested so far, and the source of the funding for any investments made to date.
- b) Please discuss the program design Enbridge is planning to employ. In your response, please indicate who the owner of the solar thermal equipment will be, who will be responsible for the maintenance of the equipment and who will subsidize both the purchase and maintenance cost of the equipment.
- c) Please discuss any research that Enbridge has conducted on the experiences that other jurisdictions have with similar solar thermal technologies.