

March 1, 2011

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File: 10606

Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board Suite 2701 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms Walli:

Re: EB-2011-0052 – Preliminary Assessment of Incentive Regulation Plans of the Natural Gas Utilities

We are counsel to the Consumers Council of Canada ("CCC"). We have received a copy of the Board's letter of February 25, 2011 announcing the above-captioned initiative, and inviting stakeholders to participate in the consultation. We are writing to you to confirm our client's intention to participate in this consultation.

The CCC wishes to request cost eligibility for its participation in this consultation.

The CCC requests that the Board find it to be eligible for costs on the following grounds. The CCC was a party in the applications of Union Gas Limited and Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. that resulted in their respective incentive regulation plans. The CCC has been a party in the annual rate-setting processes, for both utilities, that are mandated by these plans. The CCC has an interest in determining whether those plans have operated in the best interests of residential consumers.

The CCC is a non-profit, public interest organization, which represents the interests of the broad array of residential consumers of natural gas in Ontario. The issues to be considered in the Consultation process are ones which have a significant impact on residential consumers and, accordingly, the outcome of the proceeding will have an impact on the interests of residential consumers. It is essential that the interests of residential consumers are represented and protected in the Board's Consultation. Our client, therefore, has a substantial interest in the outcome of the Consultation process, and will participate fully.

The CCC has no funds to support its intervention in this Consultation. In the absence of a cost award, our client would not be able to participate and assist the Board in its Consultation.

Whether the CCC will retain an expert to advise it is yet to be determined. However, if the CCC does decide to retain an expert, it will do so in cooperation with other parties.

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The representative of the CCC in this matter will be the CCC's consultant, Julie Girvan. Ms Girvan's contact information is: 62 Hillsdale Avenue East Toronto, ON, M4S 1T5, telephone: (416) 322-7936, fax: (416) 322-9703, e-mail: jgirvan@ca.inter.net.

Yours very truly,

WeirFoulds LLP

Robert B. Warren

RBW/dlh

cc: Union Gas Limited

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. Consumers Council of Canada

Attention: Joan Huzar

Julie Girvan

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