Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario



EB-2011-0277

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION

## ENBRIDGE GAS DISTRIBUTION INC. RATES FOR 2012

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. ("Enbridge") filed an Application on September 1, 2011 with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") under section 36 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. c.15, Sched. B, as amended, for an order of the Board approving or fixing rates for the distribution, transmission and storage of natural gas, effective January 1, 2012. The Board's decision on this Application may have an effect on all of Enbridge's customers.

Enbridge has applied to the Board for new rates for 2012 to be set under the Incentive Regulation plan approved by the Board under File No. EB-2007-0615. The 2012 rate year will be the fifth year of the five year plan. The rates under the plan are adjusted each year by the application of a Distribution Revenue Requirement per Customer Formula (the "Adjustment Formula").

Enbridge has proposed a change to its delivery rates which, if approved by the Board, would result in an average rate increase of about 2.5% or less for all customer classes on a T-service basis (that is, excluding commodity costs). For residential customers, the average T-service increase will be about 2.5%, or about \$15 annually.

Enbridge has included a request for the approval of two Z factors to account for pension-related costs and system integrity costs resulting from new standards established by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority. Enbridge has also requested the continuation of deferral and variance accounts for 2012.

The Applicant indicated that it would file the evidence in support of the Application by October 1, 2011.

This proceeding will not deal directly with the commodity cost of natural gas. Any changes to the commodity cost of natural gas for customers that purchase gas directly from Enbridge are addressed through the Quarterly Rate Adjustment Mechanism.

Copies of the Application are available for inspection at the Board's office and Enbridge's office at the addresses listed below.

# How to see Enbridge's Application

A copy of the Application and related documents may be viewed at the Board's office listed below or on the Board's website at: <u>http://www.rds.ontarioenergyboard.ca/webdrawer/webdrawer.dll/webdrawer/search/rec</u> &sm\_udf10=eb-2011-0277&sortd1=rs\_dateregistered&rows=200.

A copy can also be viewed at Enbridge's office at the address indicated below or on its website <u>http://www.enbridge.com</u>.

## How to Participate

You may participate in this proceeding by requesting either intervenor or observer status, or by submitting a letter of comment:

- Intervenors participate actively in the proceeding (i.e., submit written questions, evidence, and arguments, and cross-examine witnesses at an oral hearing). You may request intervenor status by sending a letter of intervention to the Board and copying Enbridge no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this notice. The letter of intervention must include:
  - a. A description of how you are, or may be, affected by the outcome of this proceeding;
  - b. If you represent a group, a description of the group and its membership; and
  - c. Whether you intend to seek an award of costs and the grounds for your cost award eligibility.
- 2. **Observers** do not participate actively in the proceeding but receive documents issued by the Board in the proceeding. There is no fee for observers to receive documents issued by the Board. You may request observer status by sending a

request to the Board no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this notice.

3. Letters of Comment are to be sent to the Board no later than 30 days from the publication or service date of this notice. All letters of comment will be placed on the public record, subject to the privacy terms for personal information stated below. This means that the letters will be available for viewing at the Board's offices and will be placed on the Board's website.

# YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS TREATED DIFFERENTLY DEPENDING ON HOW YOU CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING:

- **Intervenors** everything you file with the Board, including your name and contact information, will be placed on the public record (i.e., the public file and the Board's website).
- Letters of comment or observers the Board removes any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the letter of comment or the request for observer status (i.e., address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual), however, your name and the content of the letter of comment or of the request for observer status will become part of the public record.

#### Filing Information for Intervenors

If you already have a user ID, please submit your intervention request through the Board's web portal at <u>https://www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.ca</u>. Additionally, two paper copies must be submitted to the address set out below.

If you do not have a user ID, visit the Board's website under e-Filing Services and complete a user ID/password request form. For instructions on how to submit documents and naming conventions please refer to the RESS Document Guidelines found at <u>http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry</u>, e-Filing Services.

The Board also accepts interventions by e-mail, at the address below. Additionally, two paper copies must be submitted to the address set out below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit their intervention request on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies.

#### Need more information?

For more information on how to participate please go to the Board's website at <u>http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry/Regulatory+Proceedings/Hearings/Part</u> <u>icipating+in+a+Hearing</u> or call the Board at 1-888-632-6273 (toll free).

#### How to Contact the Board or Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.

Please reference Board file number **EB-2011-0277** in the subject line of your e-mail or at the top of your letter. It is also important that you provide your name, postal address and telephone number and, if available, an e-mail address and fax number. All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

#### ADDRESSES

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 27<sup>th</sup> Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Board Secretary Filings: https://www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.ca

E-mail: <u>boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca</u> Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free) Fax: 416-440-7656 Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. 500 Consumers Road Toronto ON M2J 1P8 Attention: Norm Ryckman

E-mail:

egdregulatoryproceedings@enbridge.com Tel: 416-495-5499 Fax: 416-495-6072

Counsel for Applicant: Fred D. Cass Aird & Berlis LLP P.O. Box 754 Suite 1800 181 Bay Street Toronto ON M5J 2T9

E-mail: <u>fcass@airdberlis.com</u> Tel: 416-865-7742 Fax: 416-863-1515

#### **IMPORTANT**

# IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY FURTHER NOTICE OF THESE PROCEEDINGS.

DATED at Toronto, September 20, 2011

#### ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary