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By electronic filing

September 23, 2011

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street 27th floor Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms Walli,

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. 2012 Rates Application

Board File No.:

EB-2011-0277

Our File No.:

339583-000117

We are writing this letter to seek intervenor status and cost award eligibility in this proceeding on behalf of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME").

Request for Intervenor Status

The reasons why CME should be granted intervenor status in this proceeding include the following:

- 1. CME is Canada's leading business network. Its members represent 75% of manufactured output in the Province of Ontario, and 90% of all exports.
- 2. Manufacturing is important to the Province of Ontario. It is the single largest sector of the economy (17.5% of Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") or \$300B) employing, directly, over 1M people in the Province.
- 3. Natural gas is significant to manufacturing as one of the sources of energy for the manufacturing sector. As a result, the members of CME are vitally concerned with all matters pertaining to the supply and price of natural gas commodity, including its transmission and distribution.
- 4. Many of CME's 1,400 Ontario-based member companies are distribution customers of Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. ("EGD") The rate changes EGD asks the Board to approve will have an impact on these companies.

Request for Cost Award Eligibility

CME seeks a determination that it is eligible for a Cost Award on the following grounds:



- 1. CME is a not-for-profit organization funded by membership fees and revenues from the services it renders to Federal and Provincial Governments and Agencies to foster the development of national and international markets for its members and to break down trade barriers.
- About 85% of CME's 1,400 Ontario-based member companies are small to medium sized business enterprises with 500 employees or less. The views of these businesses should be considered in this proceeding.
- CME's ability to actively participate in this proceeding is dependent upon a determination that it is eligible for a Cost Award. In many prior proceedings, the Board has determined that CME is eligible for a Cost Award.

Written or Oral Hearing

The rate adjustment under EGD's approved Incentive Regulation framework requires the Board to verify that EGD has properly applied the revenue per customer cap framework in determining its requested rates for 2012. The Application includes two (2) Z factor items that, if approved, will have a material impact on rates. CME considers an oral hearing process, preceded by a short Settlement Conference of about one to two days, to be the most efficient way of proceeding with this Application.

CME Contacts (please note the new contact name for CME)

If the relief requested in this letter is granted, then CME requests that further communications with respect to this matter be sent to the following:

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Jack Hughes

Tel

Please contact the undersigned if the Board requires any further information in connection with these requests.

Yours very truly

PCT\slc

c. Norm Ryckman (EGD)

Fred Cass (Aird & Berlis)

Nancy Coulas (CME)

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