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



EB-2011-0210

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND HEARING

UNION GAS LIMITED DISTRIBUTION RATES FOR 2013

Union Gas Limited ("Union") filed a cost of service application on November 10, 2011 with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. c.15, Schedule B, as amended. The application is for an order or orders approving or fixing just and reasonable rates and other charges for the sale, distribution, transmission and storage of natural gas, effective January 1, 2013. The Board's decision on this application may have an effect on all of Union's customers.

Union's last cost of service application was conducted in 2006 for rates effective January 1, 2007. For the period 2008 to 2012 Union's regulated distribution, transmission and storage rates were set on the basis of an incentive regulation framework under which rates were set on the basis of a formula.

If the application is approved as filed, the total bill for a typical residential customer in the southern operations area consuming 2,200 m³ per year would increase by \$16.00 per year. For customers in the northern and eastern operations area, the total bill would increase between \$60 and \$77 per year.

This proceeding will not deal with the commodity cost of natural gas. Any changes to the commodity cost of natural gas for customers that purchase gas directly from Union are addressed through the Quarterly Rate Adjustment Mechanism which is a separate regulatory process.

Copies of the application and the supporting written evidence are available for inspection at the Board's office and Union's office at the addresses listed below.

How to see Union's Application

To see a copy of the application, go to the Consumer page of the Board's website and enter the case number EB-2011-0210 in the "Find an Application" box. A copy can also be seen at the Board's office and at Union's office at the addresses indicated below, or on Union's website <u>http://www.uniongas.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 Union 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 click on "Get Involved" under the "OEB and You" menu on the Consumer page of the Board's website, or call the Board at 1-888-632-6273 (toll free).

How to Contact the Board or Union Gas Limited

Please reference Board file number EB-2011-0210 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 27th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Attention: Board Secretary Filings: https://www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.ca

416-440-7656

Tel:

Fax:

Union Gas Limited P.O. Box 2001 50 Keil Drive North Chatham ON N7M 5M1 Attn: Mr. Chris Ripley

E-mail: boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca E-mail: cripley@uniongas.com 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free) 519-436-5476 Tel:

519-436-4641 Fax:

Counsel for Applicant: Crawford Smith Torys P.O. Box 270 Suite 3000, Maritime Life Tower **Toronto Dominion Centre** Toronto ON M5K 1N2

Email: csmith@torys.com Tel: 416-865-8209 Fax: 416-865-7380

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, December 01, 2011 ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary