



PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE

LE CENTRE POUR LA DEFENSE DE L'INTERET PUBLIC

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Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge St.
Toronto, ON
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)
Request for Intervention EB-2013-0099
Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc., Open Bill Access**

VECC respectfully requests that the Board grant it intervener status in the above-noted proceeding.

Please find enclosed the Notice of Intervention of VECC in the above-noted proceeding. We have also directed a copy of the same to the Applicant as well as the OEB Case Manager and Senior Legal Counsel.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Michael Janigan
Counsel for VECC

Cc: EGD - Norm Ryckman – egdregulatoryproceedings@enbridge.ca
OEB - Colin Schuch – colin.schuch@ontarioenergyboard.ca
OEB - Kristi Sebalj – Kristi.sebalj@ontarioenergyboard.ca

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD
IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION BY
ENBRIDGE GAS DISTRIBUTION INC. (EGD)
OPEN BILL ACCESS

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION
OF THE
VULNERABLE ENERGY CONSUMERS COALITION

To: Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

And to: Mr. Norm Ryckman,
Director, Regulator Affairs,
Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.

1. The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) hereby expresses its intention to intervene and participate in the above-mentioned proceeding. VECC consists of the following organizations:

- (a) The Federation of Metro Tenants Association (FTMA)
- (b) The Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens' Organizations (OCSCO)

2. The Federation of the Metro Tenants Association (the “FTMA”) is a non-profit corporation composed of over ninety-two affiliated tenants associations, individual tenants, housing organizations, and members of non-profit housing co-ops. In addition to encouraging the organization of tenants and the promotion of decent and affordable housing, the Federation provides general information, advice, and assistance to tenants. The address is:

500-27 Carlton Street
Toronto, ON
M5B 1L2

3. The Ontario Coalition of Senior Citizens’ Organizations (“OCSCO”) is a coalition of over 160 senior groups as well as individual members across Ontario. OCSCO represents the concerns of over 500,000 senior citizens through its group and individual members. OCSCO’s mission is to improve the quality of life for Ontario’s seniors. OCSCO’s address is:

333 Wilson Avenue, Suite 406
Toronto, ON
M3H 1T2

4. The coalition of the FMTA and OCSCO under the name VECC has the specific mandate of intervening in proceedings to advocate on behalf of the interests of Ontario’s vulnerable consumers with respect to energy issues, primarily through intervention in regulatory proceedings at the Ontario Energy Board.

5. Although the organization is not itself a member of VECC, the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) in Ottawa assists in the representation of the interests of vulnerable consumers by ensuring the availability of competent representation and consultant support to the VECC participation.
6. The name and address of the agent authorized to receive documents on behalf of VECC is:

Mr. Michael Janigan
Special Counsel
Regulatory and Consumer Affairs
Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC)
ONE Nicholas Street, Suite 1204
Ottawa, ON
K1N 7B7
(613) 562-4002 x26 (office)
(613) 562-0007 (fax)
mjanigan@piac.ca

7. VECC would request that all correspondence and documentation also be copied to VECC's consultant:

James Wightman
Econalysis Consulting Services
34 King Street East, 6th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 2X8
416 348-0641 (office)
(416) 348-0641 (fax)
jwightman@econalysis.ca

8. VECC requests that a paper copy of the application and any additional supporting materials be forwarded to James Wightman at the above address and that electronic copies be sent to both Mr. Janigan and Mr. Wightman at their respective e-mail addresses.

9. VECC notes that it has previously been approved as an intervenor in rates and other proceedings related to Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc..
10. VECC is intervening in order to ensure that consumer interests and in particular the interests of the low-income and vulnerable users of electricity are fully represented in the determination of just and reasonable rates for 2012.
11. In the Notice of Application and Procedural Order No. 1 dated June 7, 2013, the Board stated:

“The Board will therefore request that parties that choose to file a letter of intervention with the Board also provide any submissions they may have with respect to the process the Board should follow in this matter and in particular whether the parties would or would not support a process which involved proceeding directly to settlement discussions.”
12. In this respect, VECC does not oppose a process that involves proceeding directly to settlement discussions.
13. VECC will be requesting an award of costs for its participation in this proceeding and believes that, as a coalition representing the direct interests of consumers, it meets the eligibility criteria set out in the Ontario Energy Board’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (Section 41) and its’ Practice Direction on Cost Awards (Section 3.03).

14. VECC's members do not have access to the direct funding required to retain appropriate legal and consulting support for its intervention in OEB proceedings. Accordingly VECC relies on PIAC to provide legal support and retain qualified consultants on the basis that PIAC can recover the related fees and disbursements from the Board based on the Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards at the prevailing Cost Award Tariff.

DATED AT TORONTO, JUNE 14, 2013

Michael Janigan
Counsel for VECC
(613) 562-4002 x26