

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [rleclair@ontarioenergyboard.ca](mailto:rleclair@ontarioenergyboard.ca)  
Subject: Comment concerning Enbridge Request  
Date: Thu, 20 Mar 2014 08:49:32 -0400

Ms Rosemarie Leclair

Chair and CEO Ontario Board

Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
2300 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
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Re: Enbridge Gas Request for Rate Increase

As a homeowner in Ottawa heating with gas I wanted to write to you concerning the news that Enbridge would be asking the Ontario Energy Board for approval for a rate increase.

In short, reading the coverage relating to this request Enbridge sites the problem of a high demand for gas this past long and grueling winter, and because of that they have run out of cheap gas. And thus because of this the company states that they will have to buy more expensive gas, and thus have to pass on this increase to the consumer. Interesting !

For a company that I am sure is constantly speculating on the price of gas in the market place on a daily basis, and regularly buys gas futures based on those dips in prices, to suddenly state that they are out of cheap gas leaves me questioning their statement.

But as you prepare to hear this request I would like to draw your attention to a statement made by the company days after the news of the rate increase request was released. With the backlash from consumers grew louder the company stated that this would only be a “temporary price increase”, as they expected that the price of gas to go down in the near future. Isn’t that an interesting comment to make as they get ready to go before the OEB.

As we all know in this day and age, once consumers get over the sticker shock of a product, they resign themselves to the fact that we cannot fight the system, they feel like companies setting the rules, and that this is the price of doing business. Therefore, for a company to reduce its prices in the future is highly unlikely. Thus the statement reassuring us that this is only temporary is very questionable and therefore it is up to you and your board to hold them accountable.

As the economy continues to struggle along, companies seem to be doing much better, but average homeowner seems to be falling behind. With the ever increasing costs for things like hydro ( a problem which you are very familiar with), having this increase thrust upon them at this time is an added burden that I believe may not be as warranted as the company makes it out to be.

Good luck with this hearing, and we in Ontario look to you to have our best interests at heart, as well as the future of the provinces recovery.

John Houston

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