

From: [Kristi Sebalj](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Public Hearing Registration Deadline EB-2014-0276?
Date: January 8, 2015 9:57:31 AM

Hello Ms. Iakovleva,

Thank you for your questions about the Ontario Energy Board's processes and timelines relating to a notice of hearing.

When the Ontario Energy Board receives an application from a utility such as Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. it is required by legislation to give notice before it holds a public hearing. For your reference, the relevant law for this requirement is section 21(2) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* and section 6(1) of the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*.

In addition to providing information about the nature of an application, the notice gives information about the ways that a person can participate in a hearing. These include writing a letter with comments about the application, listening to an oral hearing through the Ontario Energy Board's website, having documents related to a particular hearing e-mailed to you, and actively participating as an intervenor. There is more information on each of these options on the OEB's website at:

<http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Consumers/OEB+and+You/Get+Involved> .

I think your question, which asked: "***Please refer me to a document which specifies how many days shall be given to the general public to be able to register for an OEB public hearing?***" relates to the deadline for applying to become an intervenor.

Being an intervenor is the most active way to get involved in a hearing. Depending on whether the Board decides to have an oral (in person) or a written (paper) hearing, being an intervenor may involve coming to the Board's hearing room in person, asking questions either in writing or verbally and/or making a final argument in writing or verbally. It is important to understand what it means to be an intervenor, because the timelines for applying to become an intervenor are different than, for example, writing a letter of comment where a person has up to 60 days from the time the notice is published to send in a letter.

It is the Board's general practice to allow 10 calendar days from the date a notice is served or published for a person to apply to become an intervenor.

The Board's *Rules of Practice and Procedure*, which can be found at http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/oeb/Documents/Regulatory/OEB_Rules_of_Practice_and_Procedure.pdf , specify that applications for intervenor status must be made by the date provided in the notice, but do not specify a particular deadline. The deadline is up to the Board to determine based on the requirements of its hearing process, the nature of the application and any other information the Board thinks is important.

It is important to note that the *Rules of Practice and Procedure* also say that a person can apply for intervenor status ***after the time limit in the notice***. This is called a late intervention and generally, the Board allows late interventions subject to some conditions. This means that if you wish to become an intervenor, you may still apply.

The Board hears hundreds of applications every year and its processes must be efficient, fair and effective. A fair and effective hearing includes a number of essential steps. Notice is one such crucial step. The response time of 10 calendar days for applications for intervenor status is intended to achieve a balance between giving interested parties enough time to decide whether they wish to participate in a hearing and ensuring that the hearing proceeds in a timely manner so that Board decisions can be made in enough time for the utilities that depend on them.

Thanks again for your question. Please let us know if we can assist you further.

[Kristi Sebalj](#)
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street

Toronto, Ontario

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: January-07-15 3:58 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Public Hearing Registration Deadline EB-2014-0276?

Hello Marina,
We will respond to your question shortly.
Thank you ... colin

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: January-07-15 2:54 PM
To: BoardSec
Subject: FW: Public Hearing Registration Deadline EB-2014-0276?

Dear Sir/Madam:

I still did not receive written response from you on my email dated January 4, 2015 regarding my concerns on merits so far.

Please refer me to a document which specifies how many days shall be given to the general public to be able to register for an OEB public hearing.

I would like to know which particular document guidelines has been followed when OEB allocated only 13 days (from Dec 18, 2014 to Dec 30, 2014) for the public hearing registration regarding the Enbridge application EB-2014-0276.

Thank you,
Marina Iakovleva

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: January-04-15 3:02 PM
To: 'boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca'
Subject: Public Hearing Registration Deadline EB-2014-0276?

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please refer me to a document which specifies how many days shall be given to the general public to be able to register for an OEB public hearing?

I would like to know which particular document guidelines has been followed when OEB allocated only 13 days (from Dec 18, 2014 to Dec 30, 2014) for the public hearing registration regarding the Enbridge application EB-2014-0276.

Thank you,
Marina Iakovleva