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March 5, 2015

## VIA RESS, EMAIL and COURIER

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street Suite 2700 Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

## Re: Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. (the "Company" or "Enbridge") Ontario Energy Board File: EB-2015-0049 DSM Multi-Year Plan

The DSM Framework and Guidelines for Natural Gas Utilities ("Guidelines") (EB-2015-0049) released on December 22, 2014 requires the natural gas utilities to file a multi-year DSM plan for the years 2015 to 2020. The Guidelines provide that the multi-year DSM plan is to be filed by April 1, 2015. For the reasons set out below, Enbridge respectfully requests an extension of the filing date to May 4, 2015.

Enbridge has over the past year engaged in significant stakeholdering with its customers, channel partners, delivery agents and the intervenors. In September 2014, Enbridge held a series of program design roundtables to gain insight on proposed program approaches, and it presented a summary of those discussions to the full DSM Consultative group on December 2, 2014.

Once the Guidelines were approved by the Board in late December 2014, Enbridge spent time having fruitful discussions and negotiations with the DSM Consultative in respect of appropriate targets and the budget for 2015. The Company believes that these efforts are likely to result in an agreement being reached with the majority of intervenors in respect of the financial components of the 2015 DSM Plan. While Enbridge is cognizant of the fact that the Guidelines provide that targets and budgets should go forward to the Board for approval, Enbridge believes that the transition provisions in the Guidelines for 2015 means that Enbridge and intervenors are able to pursue a settlement in respect of the 2015 DSM package.

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In addition, Enbridge believes that for 2015, a settlement on targets and budget is appropriate for two primary reasons:

- The Settlement creates a higher level of certainty for the organization as Enbridge plans and delivers its 2015 program offerings to customers. Taking into account the fact that we are already into the 2015 year, all parties are well served by this certainty.
- 2) The 2015 targets and budget were developed from the "ground up" based on appropriate targets for the market that:
  - a. Reflect past program results
  - b. Market development
  - c. Stakeholder input

Enbridge intends to file any 2015 DSM Settlement Agreement on April 1, 2015, and in order to adequately complete stakeholdering for the 2016 to 2020 timeframe, Enbridge requests an extension of just over four weeks. This additional time will ensure that there is sufficient intervenor input and, as a result, that its customers' needs are addressed as well as the priorities identified by the Board in the Guidelines.

The DSM Consultative members are aware of this request for an extension in the filing of the 2016-2020 portion of Enbridge's multi-year DSM plan. Enbridge is not aware of any intervenor group opposing such a request.

Yours truly,

(Original Signed)

Stephanie Allman Regulatory Coordinator

cc: Dennis O'Leary, Aird & Berlis Alexander Smith, Torys Vanessa Innis, Union Gas