

Ms. Christine Long
Registrar & Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319, 27th Floor
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

March 10, 2020

**Re: EB-2019-0188 North Bay Community Expansion Project
Pollution Probe Interrogatories**

Dear Ms. Long:

Please find enclosed Pollution Probe's Interrogatories for Enbridge on the above noted proceeding.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Pollution Probe.

Original signed by

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Consultant to Pollution Probe
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cc: Asha Patel, Enbridge (email via EGIRegulatoryProceedings@enbridge.com)
Tania Persad, Senior Legal Counsel, Enbridge Regulatory (via email)
Interested Parties (via email)
Richard Carlson, Pollution Probe (via email)

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

North Bay Community Expansion Project

POLLUTION PROBE INTERROGATORIES

March 10, 2020

Submitted by: Michael Brophy
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Consultant for Pollution Probe

Below are the questions on the above noted proceeding from Pollution Probe.

Pollution Probe #1

- a) Please provide a summary of when Enbridge received OEB Franchise approval for the City of North Bay and what number of customers and percentage of the community has been serviced by natural gas to-date.
- b) If the OEB approves the proposed project, what number of customers and percentage of the City of North Bay will be served by natural gas?

Pollution Probe #2

[Ex. A, T3, Sch. 1]

- a) Enbridge indicates that it is targeting an in-service date of fall 2020. Will the proposed in-service date provide sufficient time for customers to hire contractors and install heating equipment prior to the start of the 2020 heating season?
- b) Please provide a summary of all capital expenditures made to-date related to the project.
- c) Please provide a table of required permits and approval for this project including the following columns:
 - Permit/Approval Description
 - Date (actual or expected) permit applied for
 - Date (actual or expected) permit or approval received
- d) Please indicate what the impacts would be to the project timing and costs if the project was not completed and in service until 2021.

Pollution Probe #3

[Ex. B, T1, Sch. 1]

- a) Please explain why the forecasted customer penetration rate is so low, i.e. 131/394 or 33%.

- b) Please confirm if energy and cost saving opportunities through Enbridge's DSM programs were highlighted to attract potential customers. If yes, please provide a copy of all materials leveraged for this purpose.
- c) Please provide the System Expansion Surcharge ("SES") charge and total SES revenue amount required if all 394 potential customers were attached by year 10 instead of just 131 customers.

Pollution Probe #4

[Ex. B, T1, Sch. 1]

- a) Please provide a copy of consumer information (including any door to door questionnaire) materials that were used during public consultation and customer canvassing for this project.
- b) Please provide a summary of all energy efficiency and community energy planning information provided at any public consultation meetings held related to this project.
- c) Enbridge Gas held a public information session in June of 2019 to provide general Project information and solicit any public questions or concerns. Does Enbridge intend to hold any additional public information sessions in the future? If so, please confirm that Enbridge will share detailed information on its DSM programs during those sessions.

Pollution Probe #5

[Ex. B, T1, Sch. 7]

Reference: "An Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) for the Project was prepared by Enbridge Gas' Environmental Planning Department. The EPP was prepared to meet the intent of the Board's document "Environmental Guidelines for Location, Construction and Operation of Hydrocarbon Pipelines and Facilities in Ontario" (7th Edition, 2016)."

- a) Please describe what Enbridge meant by prepared to meet the "**intent**" of the Board's Environmental Guidelines.
- b) Please confirm if Enbridge strictly met all sections and requirements outlined in the Board's Environmental Guidelines. If yes, please explain the process used to

ensure that every requirement in the Board's Environmental Guidelines were met. If no, please explain which sections and requirements were not strictly complied with.

- c) Please provide a copy of all completed checklist, reports, sign-offs or other tools Enbridge used to ensure that requirement under the Board's Environmental Guidelines were met prior to filing for Leave to Construct approval.
- d) Enbridge indicates that one objective of its EPP is to "provide pipeline contractors and environmental inspectors involved in the construction of the pipeline with general and site-specific guidelines for environmental protection that supplement Enbridge Gas's construction specifications". The detailed mitigation plans for the pipeline appear to be missing from the EPP. Please provide a copy of these for this pipeline.

Pollution Probe #6

[Ex.B, T2, Sch. 2]

- a) Please provide the maximum annual volume and peak hourly throughput required to feed this project from the existing gas system once all customers are attached.
- b) Are any incremental pipeline investments required to ensure adequate natural gas supply to the City of North Bay over the life of the proposed assets. If so, please provide a summary and the estimated costs.
- c) Does the proposed pipeline provide any excess capacity that could be used to reinforces Enbridge's system or expand to additional customers?

Pollution Probe #7

[Ex.B, T2, Sch. 5]

- a) Please confirm that the following is correct or update if not correct.
 - Total project capital costs are \$10.1 million over 10 years.
 - Contribution through the provincial grant is \$8.7 million and will be applied to costs in year 1.
 - Enbridge's capital contribution over 10 years is \$1.4 million.

- Enbridge proposes to spend \$8.848 million in year 1 (2020-2021).
 - Enbridge proposes to spend approximately \$1.25 million of capital from year 2 through year 10.
- b) The construction schedule in Ex.B, T2, Sch. 10 indicates that the project completes in 2021. However the table in Ex.B, T2, Sch. 5 indicates that project capital continues to be installed up to year 10. Please explain the discrepancy.
- c) For the amounts in part a above, please provide a table indicating the year any of these capital amounts would be put into rate base and what approval are required to allow this. Please also include which approvals are included in this application.
- d) An OEB Leave to Construct approval typically expires within a year or two of being issued by the OEB. Please explain how this would affect the ability for Enbridge to install capital related to this project in future years (e.g. year 10).
- e) Please provide an update of the status of the \$8.7 million provincial grant funding (i.e. has Enbridge received this funding).
- f) Please confirm that Ratepayers will not pay for any revenue shortfall or project overruns incurred for this project.

Pollution Probe #8

References: Environmental Guidelines for Location, Construction and Operation of Hydrocarbon Pipelines and Facilities in Ontario" (7th Edition, 2016), Section 1.3.1 OPCC Review Process.

"The OPCC always reviews the completed ER [Environmental Report], but on some projects individual OPCC representatives or ministry personnel may choose to review draft documentation of the preferred route or site before the ER is completed"

The OPCC includes representatives from "Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA), Ministry of Energy (MOE), Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS), Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH), Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Ministry of Transportation

(MTO), Infrastructure Ontario (IO), and Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure (MEDEI)”

‘In the process of the OPCC review, the ER should be submitted to upper and lower tier municipalities, Conservation Authorities, where these exist, and upon request to directly affected landowners or tenured persons, as well as any other affected parties and Indigenous communities.”

“The applicant is expected to file all correspondence from the OPCC as part of the application before the OEB”

- a) Please provide the full list of persons, ministries, agencies and organisations that Enbridge circulated the Environmental Report to.
- b) Enbridge included correspondence from three members of the OPCC in its application. Please explain why correspondence from all the other OPCC members and additional stakeholders identifies above was not filed with the application.
- c) Please provide a list and supporting correspondence for all OPCC agencies which explicitly approved or endorsed the project.
- d) Please explain how all feedback from the OPCC and other relevant stakeholders listed above was considered in the routing and mitigation planning process and what changes were made to incorporate that feedback.
- e) This project crosses watercourses and is in proximity to fish habitat. Please confirm that Enbridge coordinated directly with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and received the required approvals. If not, please confirm when Enbridge is planning to meet this requirement.

Pollution Probe #9

Reference: Environmental Guidelines for Location, Construction and Operation of Hydrocarbon Pipelines and Facilities in Ontario" (7th Edition, 2016), Section 4.3.9 Air Emissions and Noise.

“Air emissions and their environmental impacts should be compared to all local, provincial and federal regulations, policies and guidelines”

- a) Please explain what local, provincial and federal regulations, policies and guidelines Enbridge considered when it developed and assessed this project.
- b) Please explain how Enbridge assessed direct and cumulative air emissions related to the proposed project.
- c) Please indicate how much greenhouse gas emission will increase or decrease annually and cumulatively as a result of this project.

Pollution Probe #10

Reference: "The OEB, as part of its approval process, is required to be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement"¹.

- a) Please explain how this project complies with requirements under the Provincial Policy Statement.
- b) Please explain how this project complies with the Province's Natural Heritage Reference Manual guidance related to the Provincial Policy Statement.

Pollution Probe #11

[Ex. B, T2, Sch. 11]

Reference: Union has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to review the proposed running line for environmental constraints and sensitive features. Union will work with Stantec to develop mitigation measures to minimize negative impacts to any features identified.

- a) The OEB's Environmental Guidelines requires an assessment of all direct and indirect project impacts and detailed mitigation plans to be included in the Environmental Report filed with the OEB. Has Stantec completed the assessment and mitigation plans required as part of the Environmental Report? If so, please provide a copy.

¹ OEB Environmental Guidelines for Location, Construction and Operation of Hydrocarbon Pipelines and Facilities in Ontario" (7th Edition, 2016). Page 4.

- b) Please provide a copy of the scope of work for Stantec and when this work is expected to be conducted.
- c) The precedent project (EB-2015-0179) that Enbridge references in its request for approval required route modifications after OEB approval due to the field studies that were not filed with the application. The revised route was required in part on several inaccuracies in the materials filed with the OEB including inaccurate route mapping and two watercourses that were not previously identified to the OEB. Is it possible that route modifications could be required for this project if the detailed field work is not conducted prior to OEB approval?

Pollution Probe #12

[Ex. B, T2, Sch. 12]

MECP (formerly MOECC) outlines in its OPCC correspondence it has concerns for the pipeline's impact to sensitive environmental features and water wells.

- a) Enbridge indicates that a Hydrological Study and Spill Plan was provided to MECP in response to concerns about well impacts along the pipeline route. Please provide a copy of these documents.
- b) In MECP's response dated May 28, 2019 it acknowledged receipt of the Hydrological Study and Spill Plan. I also indicated that it would review the materials and provide a response to Enbridge with any comments. Please confirm that this gap was closed and provide a copy of the MECP response.

Pollution Probe #13

Reference: Ministry Directives to the OEB requiring that all cost-effective natural gas energy efficiency opportunities be pursued². Provincial policy and Environment Plan³ identifying the need to leverage all natural gas Demand Side Management (DSM) opportunities.

- a) Assuming that Enbridge's current DSM programs continue to be available (as requested by Enbridge in EB-2019-0271), please provide an estimate of the DSM

² Minister's Directive, March 26, 2014, para. 4(i) and Minister's Directive, March 06, 2019, para. 5.

³ Ontario, *Preserving and Protecting our Environment for Future Generations: A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan*, November 29, 2018, p. 23.

potential (cumulative m3 volume and economic value) for homes and businesses in this community. A simple manner to do this is to take residential and commercial savings for average participants and apply it to the total potential customers in this community. If Enbridge has a better method, please explain it with the results.

- b) Enbridge has promoted broader conservation programs and consumer education in alignment with DSM and provincial policy (e.g. opportunities to save water, electricity, reduce emissions, etc.). Enbridge has also partnered with organization such as IESO to promote energy efficiency in a cost-effective manner. Please describe all partnerships Enbridge intends to leverage to reduce energy costs for consumers in this community.

Pollution Probe #14

Reference: On December 17, 2019 the Board published the Minister's letter and notice that supports additional Potential Projects to Expand Access to Natural Gas Distribution in Ontario⁴.

- a) What is the potential to provide natural gas access to additional communities from the proposed pipeline?
- b) If all 394 potential customers attached for service, what capacity would be left for additional community expansion and/or reinforcement purposes?

Pollution Probe #15

Reference: Provincial policy requires effective integrated community energy planning in alignment with integrated resource planning, particularly where new energy infrastructure is being built⁵. The City of North Bay completed an Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan⁶ in accordance with provincial requirements to reduce energy and greenhouse gas emissions under Ontario Regulation 397/11.

⁴ <https://www.oeb.ca/industry/policy-initiatives-and-consultations/potential-projects-expand-access-natural-gas>

⁵ <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=10463>, Provincial Policy Statement sections 1.6 and 1.8

⁶ https://www.cityofnorthbay.ca/media/24637/2019-cdm-plan_final.pdf?v=637018202340000000

Pollution Probe Interrogatories

- a) Please provide details on any support (financial, resource or otherwise) Enbridge has provided or intends to provide the City of North Bay to support its CDM Plan goals.
- b) Please identify what elements from the City of North Bay CDM Plan Enbridge considered when developing their plan for construction and operation of this pipeline project.

Pollution Probe #16

- a) Please provide the annual average consumption Enbridge uses for a typical residential dwelling attached to its system.
- b) If the average residential consumption used for calculating the PI for this project differs from the answer in “a”, please provide the value and explain the difference.