



Enbridge Gas Inc.

**Application for natural gas distribution rates and other
charges effective January 1, 2020**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 4
March 31, 2020**

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) filed an incentive rate-setting mechanism (IRM) application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on October 8, 2019 under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* seeking approval for changes to its natural gas distribution rates to be effective January 1, 2020. On January 1, 2019, Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. (EGD) and Union Gas Limited (Union Gas) amalgamated to form Enbridge Gas. This application is Enbridge Gas's second annual rate adjustment application under the IRM framework approved in the MAADs decision.¹

The current phase of the proceeding deals with four discrete issues: Incremental Capital Module funding, cost allocation, unaccounted for gas and e-billing. The Incentive Ratemaking Mechanism (IRM) related issues that were largely mechanistic in nature, were addressed in Phase 1 of the proceeding. Enbridge Gas and the intervenors reached a settlement on all issues in Phase 1 of the proceeding.

In a decision issued on December 5, 2019, the OEB accepted the settlement proposal which included an interim rate order for rates reflecting the IRM adjustments effective January 1, 2020. The OEB also set procedural timelines for discovery of evidence related to Phase 2 of the proceeding. In a subsequent procedural order² (PO), the OEB set dates for filing argument-in-chief, final arguments by OEB staff and intervenors followed by the applicant's reply.

¹ On August 30, 2018, the OEB approved the amalgamation of EGD and Union Gas under the OEB's policy on mergers, acquisitions, amalgamations and divestitures (MAADs). In its decision (the MAADs Decision), the OEB also approved a rate-setting framework and associated parameters for the deferred rebasing period of 2019 to 2023.

² Procedural Order No. 3, February 26, 2020.

In a letter dated March 30, 2020, Enbridge Gas requested a one-week extension to file its reply argument which was due April 15, 2020. Enbridge also requested that, should the OEB grant an extension to the intervenors to file their final submissions, Enbridge Gas would request a three-week period beyond any new deadline for the intervenors to file its reply submission.

The Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition, the Consumers Council of Canada, and the Industrial Gas Users Association filed separate letters on March 31, 2020, seeking an extension to file final arguments to April 7, April 7, and April 8, 2020 respectively, from the original filing date of April 1, 2020, as directed in PO No. 3.

The OEB will extend the timeline for submissions. The revised procedural timelines are provided below.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. OEB staff and intervenors shall file their written submissions with the OEB and serve them on all other parties by **April 8, 2020**.
2. Enbridge Gas shall file its reply submission with the OEB and serve them on all other parties by **May 1, 2020**.

All materials filed with the OEB must quote the file number, EB-2019-0194, be made in searchable / unrestricted PDF format electronically through the OEB's web portal at <https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice>. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <http://www.oeb.ca/OEB/Industry>. If the web portal is not available parties may email their documents to the address below.

NOTE: The OEB is temporarily waiving the paper copy filing requirement until further notice. All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Khalil Viraney, at Khalil.Viraney@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Ian Richler, at Ian.Richler@oeb.ca.

ADDRESS

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DATED at Toronto, March 31, 2020

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Christine E. Long
Registrar and Board Secretary