

BY EMAIL and RESS

Jay Shepherd jay@shepherdrubenstein.com Dir. 416-804-2767

April 30, 2020 Our File: HV20190001

Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street 27th Floor Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Attn: Christine Long, Registrar & Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Long:

Re: EB-2018-0319 - Enbridge Open Bill - Cost Claim

We are counsel to the HVAC Coalition ("HVAC"). Enclosed, please find HVAC's cost claim in this matter on the Board's form with accompanying detailed dockets.

This was an unusual proceeding, in part because it took almost 17 months to deal with what appeared, at first glance, to be a routine application. In fact, the part of the proceeding that unrolled before the Board, in an oral hearing, was limited to two narrow issues, yet many parties appeared and it was hotly contested.

The OBA Program that was the subject of this proceeding is, as we noted in our Final Argument, a substantial program, and unique in the world. Almost 80% of Enbridge's legacy EGD customers have third party charges on their Enbridge bills, and together they pay more than half a billion dollars annually to those third parties through this billing mechanism. More than 17 million annual transactions are being processed, and more than 25,000 disputes are being dealt with each year. Further, the potential exists that Enbridge will roll it out to the Union Gas territory, not just for DSM products (as they are now), but for everything.

The proceeding also took some turns that were time-consuming and detailed. In addition to normal Enbridge stakeholders, such as the customer groups, and HVAC Coalition, which has been involved in the development and evolution of Open Bill throughout, there were several Billers for whom the OBA Program is a key part of their business model.

### ✓ Shepherd Rubenstein

This led to a protracted process. There was a first attempt at settlement near the beginning, which resulted in an agreement to negotiate further. With the Board's consent, there was further evidence, and discovery on that evidence, and then a negotiation. Unlike most ADRs, this one included a number of participants who rarely participate in Board settlement negotiations, and had particular perspectives on the issues. As a result, while obviously HVAC cannot discuss what transpired, some aspects were more similar to commercial negotiations than OEB settlement negotiations.

Despite the challenges in seeking settlement, after four ADR sessions (in addition to the initial one), and a multitude of side meetings and negotiations, the parties ended up resolving the vast majority of the matters in dispute. Only two issues remained which, while important, were still quite narrow. Then Enbridge filed changes that it proposed would cover one of those issues, and have an impact on the other one.

In the end, the OBA Program is stronger than it was, customers have more protections than they ever did before, and the program has been extended for a longer period, until the next rebasing. That will allow the Board and parties to see how the changes agreed in this proceeding, and ordered by the Board, will ensure that Enbridge's customers are treated fairly, and the OBA Program is not abused by any Billers.

The attached cost claim includes two rounds of interrogatories, several days of ADR and multiple settlement agreements, plus a two-day hearing in which HVAC filed and led evidence and responded to interrogatories, and final argument.

Approximately 20 hours working with our witness and other client representatives on the HVAC evidence, witness preparation, and responding to interrogatories has been included under Hearing Preparation. Approximately 15 hours working with the client and allies to prepare a detailed written proposal for other parties in the ADR has been included under Proposal Preparation.

HVAC believes that, given the size and pervasiveness of the OBA Program, and the positive changes to the program that arose from the process, the time spent was well justified.

Pending guidance from the Board Secretary's office, in the current remote work environment as a result of COVID-19, we have not been able to easily arrange to have the Board's form of affidavit commissioned. Rather, I have provided the recitation below, which includes the same statements that are on the Board's cost claim affidavit, for the purposes of attesting the accuracy of the enclosed cost claim. We hope in the current circumstances that this is acceptable to the Board.

In lieu of a commissioned affidavit, and as a member of the Law Society of Ontario and an Officer of the Ontario Court and, as such, mindful of my duties to the Ontario Energy Board, I, Jay Shepherd, provide this statement confirming that;

1. I am a legal representative of the HVAC Coalition and as such have knowledge of the matters attested to herein.

### ✓ Shepherd Rubenstein

- 2. I have examined all of the documentation in support of the attached cost claim, including the attached "Summary of Fees and Disbursements Being Claimed", "Statement(s) of Fees Being Claimed" and "Statement(s) of Disbursements Being Claimed".
- 3. The attached "Summary of Fees and Disbursements Being Claimed", "Statement(s) of Fees Being Claimed" and "Statement(s) of Disbursements Being Claimed" include only costs incurred and time spent directly for the purposes of the Party's participation in the Ontario Energy Board process referred to above.
- 4. This cost claim does not include any costs for work done, or time spent, by a person that is an employee or officer of the Party as described in sections 6.05 and 6.09 of the Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Yours very truly,

**Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation** 

Jay Shepherd

cc: Martin Luymes, HVAC (by email)
Interested Parties (by email)



#### **Affidavit and Summary of Fees and Disbursements**

This form should be used by a party to a hearing before the Board to identify the fees and disbursements that form the party's cost claim. Paper and electronic copies of this form and itemized receipts must be filed with the Board and served on one or more other parties as directed by the Board in the applicable Board order. Please ensure all required (yellow-shaded) fields are filled in and the Affidavit portion is signed and sworn or affirmed.

				I	nstructions			
- All claims m - A separate Disbursemen However, on - The cost cla - A CV for each	"Detai "Detai its Beii ly one iim mu	in Canadian I of Fees and ng Claimed") "Summary o ist be suppor sultant/analy	dollars. If applic Disbursements Bo is required for ea f Fees and Disbur ted by a complete yst must be attack	able, state ex Rate: eing Claimed ch lawyer, ar sements" cov ed Affidavit s ned unless pr	" (comprising a "Statemen alyst/consultant and article vering the whole of the particle ovided to the Board as presentative ovided to the Board as presentation on Cost Awards,	of initial currency Country: t of Fees Being Cl ling student/para rty's cost claim sh of the party. escribed on the Co	laimed" and a "Statement alegal. nould be provided. ost Award Tariff.	of
File # EB-	2018	-0319			Process: Enbridge Op	oen Bill Program	n	
Party:	HVA	C Coalition			Affiant's Name:	Jay Shepherd		
HST Numbe	er:	83673-546	64-RT0001		нѕт	Rate Ontario:	13.00%	
			ull Registrant Unregistered Other		Qualify	ing Non-Profit Tax Exempt		
					Affidavit			
I, in the Prov	vince/	State of	O	ntario	, of the City/Town of	, swear or affi	Toronto irm that:	
2. I have example and Being Claime 3. The attach Disbursemen Ontario Ener 4. This cost of	mined d", "St led "Su its Beir gy Boa laim d	all of the doc catement(s) of immary of Fe ng Claimed" in ard process ro oes not inclu	cumentation in su of Fees Being Clair ees and Disbursen nclude only costs eferred to above. de any costs for w	upport of this med" and "Stanents Being C incurred and work done, or	atement(s) of Disbursemer Claimed", "Statement(s) of If time spent directly for th	attached "Summa nts Being Claimed Fees Being Claime e purposes of the	ry of Fees and Disbursemed".	ie
Signature	of Aff	fiant						
Sworn or a	affirm	ed before	me at the City	/Town of	Тог	ronto	,	
in the Prov	/ince/	State of	(	Ontario	, on	(date)		



#### **Affidavit and Summary of Fees and Disbursements**

**Commissioner for taking Affidavits** 

File # EB-	2018-0319	Process:	Enbridge Open Bill Program

Party: HVAC Coalition

Summary of Fees and Disbursements Being Claimed						
Legal/consultant/other fees	\$	88,176.00				
Disbursements	\$	-				
HST	\$	11,462.88				
Total Cost Claim	\$	99,638.88				

#### **Payment Information**

Make cheque payable to: Shepherd Rubenstein Professional Corporation, in trust

Send payment to this address: 2200 Yonge Street

Suite 1302

Toronto, Ontario

M4S2C6



### **Detail of Fees and Disbursements Being Claimed**

File # EB-	2018-0319			Process:	Enbridge Open	Bill Program	
Party:	HVAC Coalition			Service F	Provider Name:	Jay Shepherd	
				Year Called to		Completed Years Practising/Years of Relevant	
	<b>SERVICE PROVIDER TYPE</b>	(che	ck on	e) Bar		Experience	
	Legal Counsel		<b>V</b>	1980	]	40	
	<b>Articling Student/Paralegal</b>				_		_
	Consultant					Hourly Rate: \$330	
	Analyst						•
	For Consultant/Analyst:			ttached provided within previ		harged (enter %): 13.0%	

Statement of Fees Being Claimed									
	Hours		urly Rate		Subtotal		HST		Total
Pre-hearing Conference									
Preparation		\$	330.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Attendance		\$	330.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Technical Conference									
Preparation		\$	330.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Attendance		\$	330.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Interrogatories									
Preparation	36.7	\$	330.00	\$	12,111.00	\$	1,574.43	\$	13,685.43
Responses	47.1	\$	330.00	\$	15,543.00	\$	2,020.59	\$	17,563.59
Issues Conference									
Preparation		\$	330.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Attendance		\$	330.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
ADR - Settlement Conference									
Preparation	43.9	\$	330.00	\$	14,487.00	\$	1,883.31	\$	16,370.31
Attendance	33.0	\$	330.00	\$	10,890.00	\$	1,415.70	\$	12,305.70
Proposal Preparation	32.4	\$	330.00	\$	10,692.00	\$	1,389.96	\$	12,081.96
Argument									
Preparation	25.2	\$	330.00	\$	8,316.00	\$	1,081.08	\$	9,397.08
Oral Hearing									
Preparation	36.9	\$	330.00	\$	12,177.00	\$	1,583.01	\$	13,760.01
Attendance	12.0	\$	330.00	\$	3,960.00	\$	514.80	\$	4,474.80
Other Conferences									
Preparation		\$	330.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Attendance		\$	330.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	
Case Management		\$	170.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDER FEES				\$	88,176.00	\$	11,462.88	\$	99,638.88



### **Detail of Fees and Disbursements Being Claimed**

File # EB-	2018-0319	<b>Process:</b>	Enbridge Ope	en Bill Program	
Party:	HVAC Coalition	Service Prov	ider Name:	Jay Shepherd	

	Net Cost	HST	Т	otal
Comming / Dhotocom	iver cost	1131		
Scanning/Photocopy			\$	-
Printing		\$ -	\$	-
Courier			\$	-
Telephone/Fax			\$	-
Transcripts			\$	-
Travel: Air			\$	-
Travel: Car			\$	-
Travel: Rail			\$	-
Travel (Other):			\$	-
Parking			\$	-
Тахі			\$	-
Accommodation			\$	-
Meals			\$	-
Other:			\$	-
Other:			\$	-
Other:			\$	-
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:	\$ .	· \$ -	\$	-



### **Detail of Fees and Disbursements Being Claimed**

Date	Explanation	Lwyr	Hours
20190103	Review prefiled evidence and Notice	JCS	0.8
20190108	Various emails, Review issues	JCS	0.2
	Review application, Client communications, Draft and file Notice of		
20190111	Intervention	JCS	1.2
20190115	Review PO #1, Many emails, Send material to client	JCS	0.5
20190117	Obtain list of billers, Client reporting, Review list, Many emails	JCS	0.7
20190123	Client reporting and input, Many emails	JCS	1.0
20190124	Review options re agreement	JCS	0.3
	Review agreement, Many emails, Review IRs of CME, IGUA, BOMA		
20190128	and OEB Staff	JCS	4.6
	Draft, revise and finalize interrogatories, Many emails, Reporting to		
20190129	client	JCS	4.5
20190206	Many emails, Issues analysis and reporting	JCS	2.0
20190207	Many emails, Advice to client, Scheduling	JCS	0.5
20190208	Initial review of interrogatory responses, Many emails	JCS	1.6
20190211	Many emails	JCS	0.2
20190213	Review PO #2 and scheduling, Many emails	JCS	0.4
	Detailed review of evidence, Detailed report to client board of		
20190227	directors, Many emails	JCS	3.0
20190228	Many emails, Review issues	JCS	0.4
20190303	Prep for ADR	JCS	1.4
20190304	Many emails	JCS	0.3
20190305	Prep for ADR, Attend Board meeting, Many emails	JCS	4.4
20190306	Attend ADR, Many emails, Telephone conversations with client	JCS	6.0
20190307	Review letter, Many emails	JCS	0.2
20190312	Various emails, Review PO #3	JCS	0.2
20190314	Review and edit agreement, Many emails	JCS	0.7
20190317	Review historical information on Bill inserts	JCS	0.6
20190318	Many emails, Review proposed changes, Review prior documents	JCS	0.9
	Telephone call with David Stevens, Report to client, Many emails,		
20190319	Telephone call with Martin Luymes	JCS	1.4
	Many emails negotiating wording, Telephone discussion, Reporting		
20190321	to client	JCS	1.1
20190322	Many emails re Enercare position, Review agreement as filed	JCS	0.5
20190327	Various emails	JCS	0.1
	Review Vista intervention, Review Staff comments, Many emails,		
20190328	Review of agreement, Telephone call with Martin Luymes	JCS	1.6
20190329	Analysis of issues, Many emails	JCS	0.5
20190330	Review evidence, Gap analysis	JCS	1.2
	Review Ministry letter, Many emails, Review Federal Court		
20190401	materials, Meet with Mark	JCS	1.0
20190403	Client report prep, Many emails	JCS	1.0
20190404	Review PO #4 and scheduling, Report to client	JCS	0.5

20190405	Review new Notice	JCS	0.2
	Review Vista letter, Seek instructions from client re conflict, Many		
20190415	·	JCS	0.4
	Many emails, Review updated interrogatory responses	JCS	1.0
	Various emails	JCS	0.1
20190421	Detailed analytics	JCS	3.0
	Meet with Martin and Sandy, Draft report to HVAC Board, Revise		
	and send, Many emails	JCS	3.0
	Many emails	JCS	0.1
	Meet with Martin and Roger re instructions, Deal, Many emails,		i
20190424	Prep, Research re complaints, Review decision on interventions	JCS	2.5
20190425	Review Energy Probe submission	JCS	0.1
20190429	Many emails	JCS	0.1
20190501	Many emails, Review Reliance letter, Review OEB letter	JCS	0.3
	Prep for board meeting, Many emails, Telephone conversation		
20190502	with Martin	JCS	3.4
20190503	Attend at board meeting, Many emails, Review input	JCS	2.4
20190504	Various emails	JCS	0.1
	Meet with Dave Stevens, Many emails, Report to client, Formal		
20190506	email to Enbridge	JCS	2.0
20190507	Report to client on strategic options, Many emails	JCS	1.2
20190509	Telephone call with Martin, Analysis of Issues	JCS	0.8
	Draft, revise and file interrogatories, Review interrogatories of		
20190510	others, Many emails	JCS	3.8
20190529	Initial review of interrogatory responses, Many emails	JCS	1.0
20190530	Many emails	JCS	0.3
	Review interrogatory responses, Many emails, Review response		
20190531	from Stevens, Reporting	JCS	2.1
20190601	Review spreadsheet, Analytics	JCS	1.3
	Report to client, Draft, revise and send email to Stevens,		
20190603	Telephone conversation with Martin, Many emails	JCS	3.5
20190604	Many emails, Circulate draft to Vista, Reporting, Scheduling	JCS	1.5
	Conference call with Vista, Many emails, Circulate drafts to some		
	parties, Telephone call with David Stevens, Telelphone call with		
20190605	Mart	JCS	4.0
	Conference call with Enercare, Emails with Reliance and send		
20190606	proposal, Many emails, Reporting	JCS	1.8
20190607	Many emails	JCS	0.3
	Telephone conversations with Darryl Mann, Alf Apps, and Patrick		
	Duffy, Meeting with Mark, Many emails, Circulate proposal to all		
20190610	partie	JCS	3.6
20190611	Many emails and telephone calls, Prep for stakeholder meeting	JCS	2.7
20190612	Attend at ADR session, Many emails, Detailed reporting	JCS	9.0
20190613	Many emails	JCS	0.2
20190617	Many emails re scheduling	JCS	0.3

20190618	Review PO #5 and Scheduling	JCS	0.3
	Review Energy Probe submission, Many emails	JCS	0.5
	Review dispute resolution process, Various emails	JCS	0.4
	Initial review of positions, Many emails	JCS	1.0
	Reveiw positions from other parties	JCS	1.0
	Review positions	JCS	1.2
	Meet with Mark	JCS	0.3
	Review VECC intervention	JCS	0.3
20190717		JCS	0.1
	Many emails, Review VECC letter	JCS	0.2
20190718	Review summary of positions, Conference call with Martin, Many	103	0.3
20190719		JCS	3.0
		JCS	
	Review positions of others and analysis		2.0
	Telephone conversation with Martin, ADR Memo	JCS	2.8
	Prep for ADR	JCS	1.0
	Prep for ADR, Many emails, Review Vista materials	JCS	2.0
	Attend at ADR, Many emails, Report to Client	JCS	9.0
	Analysis and scheduling	JCS	0.5
	Strategic analysis	JCS	1.0
	Review Enbridge materials, Many emails	JCS	0.5
	Many emails, Review materials from Enbridge	JCS	0.5
	Many emails, Review letter to Board	JCS	0.2
	Synthesis of positions, Email to Stevens, Revised report for Board		
20190803	of Directors, Various emails	JCS	2.7
	Revise and finalize report to the Board of Directors	JCS	1.0
20190807	Review PO#6 and scheduling, Many emails re client meeting	JCS	0.5
20190814	Prep for Meeting, Many emails	JCS	0.5
20190815	Prep for meeting, Many emails, Attend meeting	JCS	2.0
20190830	Prep for continued ADR	JCS	1.0
20190904	Prep for meeting, Attend (by telephone) at ADR, Many emails	JCS	7.6
20190905	Report to client	JCS	2.0
20190906	Attend Board meeting, Many emails, Report to David	JCS	1.3
20190907	Draft and send unsettled issues	JCS	0.6
20190911	Review draft agreement and letter, Many emails	JCS	1.4
20190916	Review utility letter	JCS	0.1
20190917	Review PO#7	JCS	0.5
	Many emails, Review comments and edits of others	JCS	0.5
	Many emails, Review comments and edits of others	JCS	0.3
	Many emails, Review comments and edits of others	JCS	1.1
	Many emails	JCS	0.3
	Many emails, Review comments	JCS	1.1
	Telephone conversation with David Stevens, Many emails, Review		
	correspondence and positions of others, Review various edits of		
20190925	agreemen	JCS	3.3
20130323	agreemen	103	3.3

	Telephone conversation with David Stevens, Many emails, Report		
20190926		JCS	2.1
	Analysis, Telephone conversation with client	JCS	0.9
	Many emails	JCS	0.5
	Many emails	JCS	0.3
	Conference call with Martin, Glen and Ian, Many emails, Prep	JCS	1.3
	Many emails, Scheduling	JCS	0.4
	Prepare issues and positions summary, Research, Many emails,	103	0.4
	Report to client	JCS	3.4
	Many emails, Draft and send issues document	JCS	3.4
		JCS	
	Many emails, Revise issues document		1.0
	Revise issues doc, Many emails, Prep for ADR	JCS	1.8
	Attend at ADR continuation, Many emails, Meet with other parties,		
	Report to client, Finalize and circulate issues document	JCS	5.5
	Many emails, Conversations with other parties	JCS	0.2
	Many emails	JCS	0.2
	Many emails	JCS	0.3
	Final sign off, Many emails	JCS	0.3
	Review staff submissions	JCS	0.3
20191111	Review PO #8, Scheduling, Many emails	JCS	0.6
20191122	Review evidence	JCS	1.0
	Review evidence, Draft, revise and file Interrogatories, Review		
20191203	interrogatories of others, Many emails	JCS	2.8
20191204	Meet with Mark	JCS	0.2
20191205	Prep for client and intervenor meetings	JCS	1.4
	Meet with Martin, Glen, Roger and Ian, Draft and file letter,		
20191206	Contact with VECC, Many emails	JCS	4.3
	Many emails	JCS	0.2
20191216	Initial review of Interrogatory Responses, Various emails	JCS	0.6
	Various emails	JCS	0.1
	Review Board letter and scheduling, Various emails	JCS	0.5
	Email to Martin, Review IRs	JCS	0.3
	Various emails	JCS	0.1
20200102	Telephone conversation with Martin	JCS	0.3
	Telephone conversation with Martin, Review interrogatory		
	responses, Review evidence options	JCS	4.0
	Review evidence and issues, Outline of evidence requirements,		
	Various emails	JCS	0.5
	Draft notes for Grochmal evidence, Many emails, Telephone	303	0.5
	conversation with Ian Mondrow	JCS	3.0
	Many emails, Circulate draft	JCS	2.0
	Review and edit evidence, Many emails, Review Visa draft	JCS	1.8
	Finalize and file evidence, Review revised Vista evidence, Review	303	1.0
	Reliance submission, Many emails	JCS	Л 1
	•		4.1
Z0Z00111	Many emails, Check filings	JCS	0.2

		1	
	Many emails, Research re evidence lack	JCS	0.3
20200115	Many emails, Review new evidence	JCS	0.5
20200116	Review PO #10, Various emails	JCS	0.2
	Review interrogatories and forward, Many emails, Hearing		
20200117	planning	JCS	1.8
20200120	Many emails and scheduling, Review draft responses	JCS	0.6
20200122	Many emails, Review Vista materials, Drafting positions	JCS	1.1
	Review draft interrogatory responses, Witness prep, Many emails,		
20200123	Analysis re quasi IRs	JCS	5.6
	Finalize and file interrogatory responses, Review interrogatory		
20200124	responses of Vista, Many emails	JCS	2.5
	Draft and circulate position paper, Revise and file, Many emails,		
20200127	Time estimate	JCS	1.4
	Review positions of parties, Many emails, Review Argument in		
20200128	Chief	JCS	1.0
	Prepare for hearing, Many emails, Prepare and circulate		
20200129	Compendium	JCS	6.0
20200130	Oral Hearing, Prep, Many emails	JCS	9.1
20200131	Oral hearing, Prep, Review transcripts	JCS	5.2
20200206	Prep for Final Argument	JCS	0.5
20200207	Review Argument In Chief	JCS	1.0
20200216	Research	JCS	1.1
20200217	Drafting argument	JCS	3.0
	Drafting argument, Telephone conversation with Martin, Many		
20200218	emails, Circulate to client	JCS	6.1
	Circulate draft argument, Many emails, Review EP draft, Editing		
20200219	argument	JCS	1.6
20200220	Many emails, Review comments	JCS	1.0
	Final review and edit, then file argument, Review arguments of		
20200221	others	JCS	6.0
20200222	Various emails	JCS	0.1
20200303	Advisory email to Martin, Background review, Various emails	JCS	1.1
20200306	Review reply submissions	JCS	2.0
20200326	Client Report	JCS	0.5
20200416	Review decision and reporting	JCS	0.7
	Telephone conversation with client, Many emails	JCS	0.5
	·		267.2
		•	¢00 176 00

\$88,176.00 \$11,462.88 \$99,638.88