1 INTRODUCTION

This report outlines the results of, and methodology used to derive, the 2020 to 2024 weather normal throughput forecast (or "load forecast") prepared for EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership ("ENGLP").

The methodology outlined in this report is largely consistent with the methodology used in ENGLP's 2020 COS application (EB-2018-0336) and the methodology used by Natural Gas Resources Limited ("NRG") in previous rates applications. Parties agreed to the results of the 2020 throughput forecast in settlement and the overall methodology was last approved in EB-2010-0018. Alternate methods were tested but generally found to be inferior to the previously approved methodology.

In the EB-2018-0336 settlement, ENGLP agreed to collect additional customer data to improve the quality of the forecast for its next COS application.[1] This forecast has been produced without the additional data.

> *The Parties agree ENGLP will request furnace efficiency and number of persons in household in future customer engagement surveys and will update its volume throughput and revenue forecasting methodology in its next rebasing application to reflect these variables.*

The regression equations used to normalize and forecast ENGLP's weather sensitive load use monthly heating degree days as measured at Environment Canada's London CS weather station to take into account temperature sensitivity. This location is the closest weather station to ENGLP's service territory with strong historical weather data. ENGLP experiences peak loads in winter months, though certain rate classes are not weather sensitive. Environment Canada defines heating degree days as the difference between the average daily temperature and 18°C for each day. Heating degree days is 0 when the average temperature is above 18°C. New to this forecast, Elenchus considered heating degree day data with alternate temperature thresholds other than 18°C, consistent with recent changes to electricity load forecast methodologies that have been approved by the Board.

ENGLP serves six rate classes, R1 to R6, one of which (R1) contains three sub-classes: Residential, Commercial, and Industrial. Each R1 sub-class and the R3 class are weather-sensitive. Consumption of the R2, R4, R5, and R6 rate classes are not correlated to heating degree days. Consumption per customer forecasts for the R1 sub-classes use a baseload and excess consumption methodology to examine the impact of temperature on consumption. The R3 class' baseload consumption has fluctuated in historic years so

[1] EB-2018-0336 - Decision and Interim Rate Order, July 4, 2019 , Page 10