



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

BY EMAIL

May 11, 2020

Ms. Christine Long
Registrar & Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4
BoardSec@oeb.ca

Dear Ms. Long:

**Re: Ontario Energy Board (OEB) Staff Submission
Enbridge Gas Inc. Request for Adjournment
2021 Dawn Parkway Expansion Project Application
OEB File Number: EB-2019-0159**

In accordance with Procedural Order No. 6, please find attached the OEB staff submission in the above proceeding. The attached document has been forwarded to Enbridge Gas Inc. and to all other registered parties to this proceeding.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Zora Crnojacki
Project Advisor, Natural Gas Applications

Encl.



ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

OEB Staff Submission

Enbridge Gas Inc.

**Request for Adjournment
of
2021 Dawn Parkway Expansion Project Application**

EB-2019-0159

May 11, 2020

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) pursuant to section 90(1) and 97 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act 1998*, S.O. 1998, c.15 (Schedule B) for leave to construct approximately 10.2 kilometres of 48-inch diameter natural gas transmission pipeline and associated facilities in the City of Hamilton (Project). Enbridge Gas also applied for approval of the forms of easement agreements related to the construction of the Project.

On May 4, 2020 Enbridge Gas requested that the OEB temporarily adjourn the proceeding due to uncertainties resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic impacts on the Project. May 4 was also the date that Enbridge Gas' interrogatory responses were due; however Enbridge Gas did not file them in light of its request for an adjournment.

Procedural Order No. 6 set the process for submissions on Enbridge Gas' request. The OEB indicated that it recognized the uncertainties arising from COVID-19 pandemic and its potential impact on the Project, and stated its intention to grant an adjournment and provide for interim cost awards. However, the OEB requested submissions on the terms of the adjournment as suggested by Enbridge Gas and, in particular, the completion of interrogatories responses by Enbridge Gas. The OEB provided for submissions from all parties by May 11, 2020, and for a reply submission Enbridge Gas by May 13, 2020.

OEB staff supports the adjournment request in light of the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on the Project. OEB staff expects that significant updates of the evidence may be required before the hearing can re-commence. As a result, OEB staff does not see value in Enbridge Gas filing interrogatory responses at this time given that the evidence might be materially updated following the adjournment period. With respect to the submissions of some parties that the responses to certain interrogatories may be beneficial for the current Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) proceeding¹, OEB staff submits that these parties will have an opportunity to ask the relevant interrogatories in that proceeding.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

¹ EB-2020-0091