



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

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# **DECISION ON COST AWARD ELIGIBILITY**

**EB-2020-0106**

**Consultation to Review Annual Update to Natural  
Gas Supply Plans**

**By Delegation, Before: Theodore Antonopoulos**

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**July 27, 2020**

## INTRODUCTION

On July 6 2020, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) announced that it was initiating a consultation to review the annual update to the five-year natural gas supply plans in keeping with the gas supply plan assessment process contemplated in the OEB's [Report of the Board: Framework for the Assessment of Distributor Gas Supply Plans \(Gas Supply Framework\)](#)<sup>1</sup>.

In accordance with the Gas Supply Framework, Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge) and EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership (ENGLP Aylmer) filed their annual updates to the five-year Gas Supply Plan (GSP) on May 1, 2020. On June 15, 2020, ENGLP filed its annual update for the Southern Bruce franchise area (ENGLP Southern Bruce).

The OEB accepted Enbridge's request to forego review of its 2020 GSP update and to file its next update (for the 2021 year) by February 1, 2021. The OEB determined that it would proceed with the review of ENGLP's annual update for the Aylmer and Southern Bruce franchise areas.

Parties interested in participating in the consultation were asked to indicate their intent by filing a letter with the OEB by **July 13, 2020**. If ENGLP had any objections to any of the requests for cost eligibility, such objections were to be filed with the OEB by **July 17, 2020**.

The following parties requested to participate in the consultation (\* denotes a request for cost eligibility):

- Anwaatin Inc. (Anwaatin)\*
- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)\*
- Canadian Rite Rate Energy Corporation (Rite Rate)
- Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario (FRPO)\*
- Pollution Probe\*
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)\*
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)\*

ENGLP did not file any objections to the intervention requests.

This cost eligibility Decision is being issued by delegated authority under section 6 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*.

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<sup>1</sup> EB-2017-0129

## OEB FINDINGS

All parties that filed letters of intent with the OEB are granted participation status in this consultation.

Anwaatin, BOMA, FRPO, Pollution Probe, SEC and VECC are eligible to apply for an award of costs under the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#). Parties are reminded that any awards of costs will be dependent on the extent to which the parties' questions and submissions relate directly to ENGLP's GSPs and are within the scope of the consultation (i.e., to the extent the parties assess ENGLP's GSPs against the guiding principles and criteria outlined in the Gas Supply Framework).

The OEB also notes that there are stakeholders with overlapping interests. The OEB also notes that some stakeholders seeking to participate in this consultation have not participated in prior ENGLP Aylmer or Southern Bruce rate cases where ENGLP's respective GSPs have been approved. Stakeholders are reminded that the purpose of this consultation is to review ENGLP's updates to its approved GSPs and that the OEB expects that participants with similar viewpoints will coordinate their activities to the extent possible in order to increase efficiency and minimize costs.

A decision and order on cost awards will be issued at a later date, typically at the end of the consultation.

**DATED** at Toronto, July 27, 2020

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original Signed By*

Theodore Antonopoulos  
Vice President  
Applications Division