

Enbridge Gas Inc.

**Application for approval of a System Expansion
Surcharge, a Temporary Connection Surcharge and an
Hourly Allocation Factor**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 2
August 13, 2020**

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on May 8, 2020 under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, as amended (OEB Act) for approval of a harmonized System Expansion Surcharge (SES), a Temporary Connection Surcharge (TCS) and an Hourly Allocation Factor (HAF) for the former Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. and Union Gas Limited rate zones.

A Notice of Hearing was issued on May 21, 2020. In its Procedural Order No. 1 issued on June 15, 2020, the OEB approved 16 participants as intervenors and established initial procedural steps for parties to file interrogatories and for Enbridge Gas to respond to those interrogatories.

Enbridge Gas filed interrogatory responses on July 27, 2020. In response to Environmental Defence's interrogatory requesting information on projects currently being considered¹, Enbridge Gas stated that it was in the process of developing a large number of community expansion project proposals as part of the Natural Gas Expansion program. Enbridge Gas indicated, as of the time of its response, that the details of these project proposals remained confidential. On July 31, 2020, Environmental Defence sent an email to Enbridge Gas requesting that the utility file the projects being considered that would be impacted by this application and request for confidential treatment. On the same day, Enbridge Gas replied stating that it had filed a confidentiality request related to these projects with the OEB as part of the OEB's process for the Natural Gas Expansion program². Enbridge Gas further explained that out of the potentially hundreds of project proposals, only a small number may be selected by the Ontario government to proceed given the limited amount of available

¹ I.ED.2(a)

² EB-2019-0255

funding. Enbridge Gas indicated that it could not predict which projects it would be given approval to pursue.

The OEB finds that the additional project level details requested by ED would not assist the OEB in making its decision on the Application.

Based on a review of the interrogatory responses, the OEB has decided that a technical conference to gain a better understanding of the proposal on the Hourly Allocation Factor (HAF) is appropriate. There is a lack of clarity on the record regarding exactly when a HAF would be applied. Similar to the System Expansion Surcharge (SES) where there are criteria for the projects that qualify for a SES, the OEB would like to better understand possible criteria defining when a HAF would be appropriate and specifically how it would be applied. The current proposal appears to leave considerable flexibility for Enbridge Gas but leaves uncertainty about the impact on customers. As a result, the OEB will hold a one-day technical conference to address these narrowly-defined matters.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. A one-day transcribed technical conference will be held on **August 20, 2020** starting at 9:30 a.m. The scope of the technical conference will be limited to clarification of matters arising from interrogatories to Enbridge Gas surrounding the Hourly Allocation Factor. The format for this event will be conducted by way of a virtual meeting. Further information, including holding a test session will be communicated to parties separately. Parties intending to participate are to notify Enbridge Gas and copy all parties of the questions they intend to refer to by **August 18, 2020**.
2. Any technical conference undertakings shall be filed with the OEB no later than **August 27, 2020**.
3. Enbridge Gas shall file with the OEB its Argument-in-Chief and serve it on all parties by **September 4, 2020**.
4. Any written submissions from OEB staff and intervenors shall be filed with the OEB and forwarded to all parties by **September 18, 2020**.

5. Enbridge Gas shall file its reply argument with the OEB and forward it to all parties by **October 2, 2020**.

All materials filed with the OEB must quote the file number, **EB-2020-0094**, be submitted in a searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the OEB's web portal at <https://pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice>. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address, 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 <https://www.oeb.ca/industry>. If the web portal is not available parties may email their documents to boardsec@oeb.ca.

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, Azalyn Manzano at Azalyn.Manzano@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Michael Millar at Michael.Millar@oeb.ca.

Email: boardsec@oeb.ca
Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, **August 13, 2020**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original digitally signed by

Christine E. Long
Registrar and Board Secretary