



January 12, 2021

Christine Long Registrar Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long:

Re: EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership

Application to Amend Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Enbridge Gas Submissions

Ontario Energy Board File Number: EB-2020-0232

Pursuant to Procedural Order No. 1 to the above noted proceeding, Enbridge Gas hereby files its final submissions with respect to the application of EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership.

Should you have any questions on this submission, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Patrick McMahon Technical Manager, Regulatory Research and Records <u>patrick.mcmahon@enbridge.com</u> (519) 436-5325

c.c. (email only): Tim Hesselink, EPCOR Utilities Inc.

Daniela O'Callaghan, EPCOR Utilities Inc.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B) as amended:

AND IN THE MATTER OF the Municipal Franchises Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.44, as amended;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership for an Order amending its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct works to supply natural gas in the Township of South-West Oxford.

SUBMISSIONS OF ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

- These are the submissions of Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) regarding the application by EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership (EPCOR) for an order approving an amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) within the Township of South-West Oxford.
- 2. Enbridge Gas holds a franchise agreement (EB-2013-0020) and CPCN (EB-2013-0021) allowing it to provide gas services to approximately 1277 customers within the Township of South-West Oxford. Enbridge Gas' CPCN specifically includes the area in which EPCOR is proposing to serve end-use customers in its current application.
- 3. Section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act* provides that a CPCN is required prior to the construction of any works to supply natural gas in a municipality. The facilities proposed by EPCOR to supply gas to the Salford Group and Burgessville Grain and Feed will be located on territory that is already part of a CPCN held by Enbridge Gas so this will require OEB approval of a by-pass.
- 4. One of the key considerations in determining whether a by-pass approval is appropriate is whether there will be harm to existing ratepayers of the "by-passed" utility i.e., Enbridge Gas. As long as EPCOR's expanded CPCN rights within the Township of South-West Oxford are limited to providing service to the Salford Group (located in the north half of Lot 12, Concession 3) and Burgessville Grain and Feed (located in the south half of Lot 13, Concession 4), there should be limited impact on Enbridge Gas' existing ratepayers given the nature of the Enbridge Gas' facilities in these areas.
- 5. While EPCOR's application for expanded CPCN rights includes providing access to natural gas to 9 proposed locations (including the Salford Group and Burgessville Grain and Feed), EPCOR confirmed that it has not obtained written commitments or signed contracts with the potential farms or residential customers noted in this application.¹ Given the limited level of commitment, Enbridge Gas submits that any extension of EPCOR's CPCN rights should be limited to the areas required to provide service to the Salford Group and Burgessville Grain and Feed.

¹ EB-2020-0232 – EPCOR Response to OEB Staff IR 1(b).

- 6. It appears that the only additions needed to EPCOR's existing CPCN EB-2019-0232-A are:
 - Concession 3 The north half of Lot 12
 - Concession 4 The south half of Lot 13
- 7. One condition of approval to consider is whether a time limit should be placed on the extended CPCN rights such that EPCOR will need to complete the proposed services to the Salford Group and Burgessville Grain and Feed within 18 months of the OEB granting the amended CPCN.