

**BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING**

August 18, 2021

**To: All Participants in EB-2021-0004**

**Re: Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards  
Consultation to Review Annual Update to Natural Gas Supply Plan of  
Enbridge Gas Inc.  
OEB File No.: EB-2021-0004**

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## **Background**

On February 19, 2021, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) initiated a consultation to review the annual update to the five-year natural gas supply plan of Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) in accordance with the gas supply plan assessment process established in the OEB's [Report of the Ontario Energy 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 filed its annual update to the five-year Gas Supply Plan (GSP) on February 1, 2021. In a letter dated February 19, 2021, the OEB established a process for filing interventions and identified the activities that would be cost-eligible. The cost eligible activities and the maximum hours as outlined in Appendix A to the February 19, 2021 letter, are restated below:

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>TOTALELIGIBLE HOURS PER PARTICIPANT</b>
Written questions	Up to a maximum of 10 hours
Preparation for the Stakeholder Conference	Up to a maximum of 2 hours
Attendance at Stakeholder Conference	Actual attendance time
Written comments on gas supply plan	Up to a maximum of 12 hours

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<sup>1</sup> EB-2017-0129, October 25, 2018.

On March 16, 2021, the OEB issued its Decision on Cost Eligibility and Procedural Order granting cost eligibility to eleven parties. In its Decision, the OEB noted that there were stakeholders with overlapping interests. The OEB indicated its expectation that stakeholders with similar viewpoints would coordinate their activities in order to increase efficiency and minimize costs.

The OEB issued a Final OEB Staff Report on its review of the Annual Update to the GSP of Enbridge Gas on August 3, 2021.

### **Notice of Hearing**

The OEB is initiating this hearing on its own motion in order to determine the cost awards that will be made in accordance with section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* in relation to eligible consultation activities that have occurred since February 19, 2021.

The OEB intends to proceed by way of a written hearing unless a party can satisfy the OEB that there is a good reason for not holding a written hearing. If a party wants to object to a written hearing, the objection must be received by the OEB no later than **seven (7) days** after the date of this Notice.

Assuming that the OEB does not receive any objections to a written hearing, the hearing will follow the process set out below.

1. Eligible parties shall submit their cost claims by **September 3, 2021**. The cost claim must be filed with the OEB and served on Enbridge Gas. The cost claims must be completed in accordance with section 10 of the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.
2. Enbridge Gas will have until **September 10, 2021** to object to any aspect of the costs claimed. The objection must be filed with the OEB and served on the eligible party against whose claim the objection is being made.
3. An eligible party whose cost claim was objected to will have until **September 17, 2021** to file a reply justifying its cost claim. A copy of the reply submission must be filed with the OEB and served on Enbridge Gas.

Enbridge Gas shall pay the OEB's costs of and incidental to this proceeding upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

The OEB will use the process set out in section 12 of its *Practice Direction on Cost Awards* to implement the payment of the cost awards. Therefore, the OEB will act as a clearing house for all payments of cost awards in this process. For more information on this process parties may refer to the OEB's [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#) and the [October 27, 2005 letter](#) regarding the rationale for the OEB acting as a clearing house for the cost award payments. These documents can be found on the OEB's [Rules, Codes, Guidelines and Forms](#) webpage.

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or any other type of document, **do not include personal information** (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB's [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#).

Please quote file number, **EB-2021-0004** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the [OEB's online filing portal](#).

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address
- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guidelines](#) found at the [Filing Systems page](#) on the OEB's website
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#), or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca) for assistance

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

**If you do not file a letter objecting to a written hearing or do not participate in the hearing by filing written materials in accordance with this Notice, the OEB may proceed without your participation and you will not be entitled to further notice in this proceeding.**

**ADDRESS**

Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor  
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Attention: Registrar

E-mail: [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)  
Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

**DATED** at Toronto, August 18, 2021

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original Signed By*

Christine E. Long  
Registrar