

4 King Street West, Suite 900
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5H 1B6
Tel 416 863 0711 Fax 416 863 1938
www.willmsshier.com

Direct Dial: (416) 862-4843

Sent by Electronic Mail

July 24, 2008

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, ON, M4P 1E4

Attention: Ms. Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Low-Income Energy Network Intervention

Board File EB-2008-0106

We are writing on behalf of the Low-Income Energy Network (LIEN), pursuant to Rule 23.08 of the Board's *Rules of Practice and Procedure*, in response to the letters from Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. and Union Gas Limited, dated July 22, 2008, objecting to the proposed nature and scope of LIEN's intervention.

The methodologies to be developed in this Proceeding do not stand in isolation from other strands of the Board's overarching, integrated exercise of fixing or approving "just and reasonable' rates. The issue of rate affordability is another matter to be considered by the Board in fixing or approving "just and reasonable rates".

LIEN's concern is that this Proceeding should not, inadvertently or otherwise, pre-empt or limit options to implement rate affordability assistance programs.

In its written submissions on the draft issues list dated July 23, 2008, LIEN has proposed the following additional issues for the Issues List in this Proceeding:

• What provision should be made, in the methodologies to be determined pursuant to this proceeding for commodity pricing, load balancing and cost allocation for natural gas distribution in relation to regulated gas supply, to accommodate and integrate a rate affordability assistance program for low-income consumers, prospectively and retrospectively, when such programs are developed?

The inclusion of that issue is a question for the Issues Hearing. It should not be pre-empted by a collateral attack on LIEN's intervention and eligibility for a costs award.



LIEN respectfully requests that the Board grant it full intervenor status and eligibility for an award of costs in this proceeding.

Yours truly,

Paul Manning

cc:

Mr. Fred Cass, Counsel for Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.

Mr. Chris Ripley, Union Gas Limited

All EB-2008-0106 Intervenors

Document #: 181614