

November 29, 2021

VIA RESS

Ms. Christine E. Long Registrar **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** P.O. Box 2319, 27th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long:

lan A. Mondrow Direct 416-369-4670 ian.mondrow@gowlingwlg.com

Assistant: Cathy Galler Direct: 416-369-4570 cathy.galler@gowlingwlg.com

Re: EB-2021-0148 – Enbridge Gas Inc. (EGI) 2022 Rates (Phase 2) Application.

Industrial Gas Users Association (IGUA) Request for Late Intervention.

We write as legal counsel to IGUA to request that IGUA be granted late intervenor status in the captioned proceeding. The circumstances prompting this request are set out below

Description of IGUA

IGUA is an association of industrial companies located in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Québec, who use natural gas in their industrial operations. IGUA was first organized in 1973 and it provides a coordinated and effective public policy and regulatory voice for those industrial firms depending on natural gas as a fuel or feedstock. IGUA has become the recognized voice representing the industrial user of natural gas before regulatory boards and governments at both the provincial and national levels.

The Association's activities are guided by a 15 member Board of Directors, constituted to assure that each industrial sector and geographic region is represented. The Board of Directors has regularly scheduled meetings at least six times each year. A full time President and other staff are based in a permanent office in Ottawa.

Through regulatory intervention, government advocacy, marketing, promotion, partnerships, education and outreach, IGUA successfully represents industrial gas users. Our mission is to be the voice of our members within the natural gas industry through intervention, advocacy, and partnerships.

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Nature and Scope of IGUA's Intended Participation

IGUA was an active intervenor in the proceeding which approved the Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. and Union Gas Limited merger to create EGI and directed a 5 year rebasing deferral and associated rate plan [EB-2017-0306/0307]. On behalf of its members, EGI's largest volume customers, IGUA has a direct interest in setting of rates for EGI.

We apologize for the filing of this intervention request late. Our initial assessment of the particular requested ICM pass throughs was that they would have limited impact on the EGI rate classes under which IGUA's members take service. We did, however, have a residual concern regarding the updated 2021-2025 Asset Management Plan [ExB/T2/S3] and the evidence filed regarding forecast capital investments [ExB/T2/S1/pp 4 *et seq.*]. Average annual capital spending for the years 2022 through 2026 is forecast to increase by almost 50% for the EGD Rate Zone and just over 30% for the Union Rate Zones relative to the five years ending in 2021. It is not yet apparent to us what issues will be raised by the parties in this proceeding on the basis of this evidence, but these matters are of significant concern to IGUA members as EGI's largest volume rate payers. Our consideration of this evidence, some preliminary discussion with another interested party, and further consultation with our client has resulted in instructions to request late intervention herein on the basis of these concerns.

We note that no procedural order has yet been issued in this proceeding and it thus appears that no party could be prejudiced by the granting of IGUA's late intervention request. If granted late intervention IGUA will continue to, as it has in the past, moderate its participation by focussing on the issues of direct and material concern to its members.

Written or Oral Hearing

At this time we do not have a view on the appropriateness of a written versus oral hearing.

Intention to Seek an Award of Costs

IGUA also hereby requests that it be determined eligible for recovery of its reasonably incurred costs of its interventions in these Applications.

As a party primarily representing the direct interests of industrial consumers (i.e. ratepayers) in relation to regulated services, IGUA has in the past been determined to be eligible for cost awards pursuant to section 3.03(a) of the Board's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

Request for Written Evidence and Contact Information

IGUA requests that copies of written evidence and all circulated correspondence related to these matters be directed to it as follows:



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Yours truly,

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c: S. Rahbar (IGUA) Regulatory Affairs (EGI) D. Stevens (Aird & Berlis LLP) P. Prazic (OEB Staff) Dr. Shahrzad Rahbar President INDUSTRIAL GAS USERS ASSOCIATION 851 Industrial Avenue, PO Box 30 Ottawa, Ontario K1G 4L3

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