

EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership

**Application for natural gas distribution rates beginning
January 1, 2022**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 3
December 3, 2021**

EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership (EPCOR) filed an incentive rate-setting mechanism application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on September 27, 2021 under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B) seeking approval for changes to the rates that EPCOR charges for natural gas distribution in its South Bruce service area, beginning January 1, 2022.

Procedural Order No. 1 was issued on November 3, 2021 which provided for interrogatories, submissions and a reply submission. OEB staff filed a submission on November 19, 2021. EPCOR filed a partial reply submission on November 29, 2021.

In a letter dated November 29, 2021, EPCOR requested an extension to the date for the filing of its reply submission on the Municipal Tax Variance Account (MTVA) from November 29, 2021 to December 1, 2021. In Procedural Order No. 2, issued November 30, 2021, the OEB granted EPCOR's request for extension to file a complete reply submission by December 1, 2021.

On December 1, 2021, EPCOR submitted its complete reply submission, including the MTVA issue. In its reply submission, EPCOR anticipated that OEB staff may require time to review the reply submission and may wish to respond. In order to ensure the implementation of 2022 rates by January 1, 2022, EPCOR proposed that a Decision and Order could be made in respect of all other issues in this IRM application and that the outstanding MTVA issue be addressed as a second phase of this proceeding (Phase 2).

The OEB is granting this request and will bifurcate the application into two phases: Phase 1- all the issues excluding the MTVA issue and Phase 2- the MTVA issue.

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 submission on the MTVA issue by OEB staff shall be filed with the OEB by **December 10, 2021**.
2. A reply submission by EPCOR on the MTVA issue shall be filed with the OEB by **December 17, 2021**.

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-2021-0216** 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 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.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Arturo Lau, at Arturo.Lau@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Michael Millar at Michael.Millar@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca
Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

DATED at Toronto, **December 3, 2021**

Original Signed By

Christine E. Long
Registrar