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BY EMAIL

July 6, 2022

Adam Stiers
Manager, Leave to Construct Applications
Enbridge Gas Inc.
P. O. Box 2001
50 Keil Drive North,
Chatham ON N7M 5M1
adam.stiers@enbridge.com

Dear Mr. Stiers:

**Re: Enbridge Gas Inc.
Application for Bobcaygeon Community Expansion Project
Ontario Energy Board File Number: EB-2022-0111**

On May 3, 2022, Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) pursuant to section 90(1) and 97 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act 1998*, S.O. 1998, c.15 (Schedule B) for an order granting leave to construct approximately 41 kilometres of natural gas pipeline and ancillary facilities in the City of Kawartha Lakes (Including Bobcaygeon) and the Township of Cavan-Monaghan (Project). Enbridge Gas has also applied for approval of the forms of easement agreements related to the construction of the Project.

On May 27, 2021, the OEB issued its Notice of Hearing. Environmental Defence (ED) and the Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario (FRPO) applied for intervenor status and cost eligibility. As part of its intervention request, ED requested to file evidence in the proceeding and also asked the OEB to make provision for a technical conference.

On June 21, 2022, ED filed a letter outlining the nature of the evidence it wishes to file (Evidence Letter). In the Evidence Letter, ED questioned Enbridge Gas's customer attachment forecast noting changes in circumstances (e.g. increase in gas and carbon prices and the introduction of federal government programs to encourage customers to switch to high-efficiency electric heat pumps) since the Bobcaygeon project was initially developed. ED asserted that as the customer attachment forecast underpins the project economics, the possibility of lower customer attachments due to customers choosing alternatives to converting to natural gas presents potential risks to existing ratepayers

as the capital costs and ongoing operational costs of the Project are to be paid primarily by revenue from new customers. ED wishes to retain an expert to prepare a report on the cost effectiveness of converting homes to a natural gas furnace compared to heat pumps.

On June 30, 2022, Enbridge Gas filed a letter stating that it has no objections to the intervention requests by ED and FRPO. Enbridge Gas commented on ED's request for a technical conference, stating that it is premature for the OEB to make such provision and suggested that the OEB decide following an initial round of discovery through interrogatories.

On July 5, 2022, Enbridge Gas filed a letter requesting an adjournment of the proceeding to no later than October 31, 2022 and responded to ED's Evidence Letter. Enbridge Gas stated that given the current economic and inflationary environment, it believes that updates to its market analysis and surveys for the Project must be completed to provide an appropriate basis for the customer attachment forecasts filed in support of the application.

With respect to ED's Evidence Letter, Enbridge Gas stated that it takes no position as to the relevance of the proposed evidence and reserves its right to object to the relevance of the proposed evidence until the content of the evidence is better understood. Enbridge Gas also requested that if the OEB makes provision for the proposed evidence, it also make provision for discovery related to the proposed evidence and for Enbridge Gas to file responding evidence, should Enbridge Gas elect to do so.

The OEB has reviewed the letters filed by Enbridge Gas and ED. The OEB accepts the reasons set out by Enbridge Gas regarding its request for an adjournment and will place the application in abeyance until Enbridge Gas files its updated evidence with respect to the customer attachment forecast for the Project.

The OEB will make a determination on the intervention requests and ED's requests to file evidence and for a technical conference at a later stage.

Please direct any questions relating to this application to the Case Manager, Judith Fernandes, Senior Advisor, at 416-440-7638 or judith.fernandes@oeb.ca.

Yours truly,

Nancy Marconi
Registrar

c: Charles Keizer, Torys LLP, ckeizer@torys.com