



Ontario  
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BY EMAIL

October 3, 2022

Kent Elson  
Environmental Defence  
1062 College Street  
Toronto, ON M6H 1A9  
[kent@elsonadvocacy.ca](mailto:kent@elsonadvocacy.ca)

Dear Mr. Elson:

Re: **Response to Environmental Defence  
Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas)  
Panhandle Regional Expansion Project  
Ontario Energy Board (OEB) File Number: EB-2022-0157**

The OEB is in receipt of Environmental Defence's letter of September 27, 2022 describing its proposal to file expert evidence in proceeding EB-2022-0157.

To assist the OEB in assessing Environmental Defence's proposal, please answer the questions below **no later than the end of business day, October 4, 2022**.

1. Environmental Defence proposes to retain Dr. McDiarmid to review Enbridge Gas's stage 2 analysis under EBO 134, to look at the net savings or net costs of customers using natural gas in comparison to alternatives, with a focus on high-efficiency electric heat pumps in the residential sector. Environmental Defence has recently filed expert evidence from Dr. McDiarmid in proceeding EB-2021-0002, which also looks at savings and costs to residential customers for heat pumps in comparison with natural gas.

Please clarify what new work is required for Dr. McDiarmid's proposed review, and how the previously filed evidence has been taken into account in the proposed budget.

2. The Panhandle Regional Expansion Project is being proposed to meet projected incremental natural gas demand coming almost exclusively from contract customers, not residential customers.

Please clarify how the proposed evidence on costs and savings to residential customers will assist the OEB in making a determination on the proposed Project.

3. Environmental Defence indicates that “time permitting, Dr. McDiarmid would also endeavour to provide high-level comments on electric ground source heat pumps as an alternative option for new construction greenhouses. This is relevant to the assertion by Enbridge Gas that there are no viable alternatives to gas for greenhouses.”

Please clarify Dr. McDiarmid’s qualifications to provide expert evidence on this subject and what this evidence would entail.

Any questions relating to this letter should be directed to Zora Crnojacki at 416-440-8104 or [zora.crnojacki@oeb.ca](mailto:zora.crnojacki@oeb.ca).

Yours truly,

Nancy Marconi  
Registrar