

December 2, 2022

VIA RESS

Ms. Nancy Marconi Registrar **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** P.O. Box 2319, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Marconi:

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

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

# Re: EB-2022-0200 – Enbridge Gas Inc. (EGI) Application for 2024 Cost of Service Rates.

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

We write as legal counsel to IGUA to request that IGUA be granted intervenor status in the captioned proceeding.

## **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 Ottawa. The IGUA Board has established caucuses dedicated to providing direction to IGUA Staff and external advisors in each of Ontario and Quebec.

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

We continue to review the material that EGI has pre-filed to date, including the Phase 2 filing made earlier this week. Through that review, discussions with IGUA, and discussions with other intervenors, we will identify the issues of particular interest to IGUA in respect of which IGUA will seek to engage. Given the breadth of the issues in this application and the nature of the interests of IGUA's members as EGI's largest volume customers, we anticipate that IGUA will be active in all phases of this matter. We are also assessing whether IGUA will seek pre-approval for retainer of one or more experts and will be prepared to advance any proposals in that respect in accord with the Board's anticipated procedural directions.

## Written or Oral Hearing

Given the breadth and expected complexity of issues in this application and its consequence for EGI customers for some years to come, we believe that the OEB should provide for an oral hearing in its scheduling of the matter.

We further urge the Board to consider an in-person oral hearing, subject of course to modification should public health guidelines so require. Again given the breadth and expected complexity of the issues in this application, and on the assumption that there will be material differences of opinion in respect of a number of these issues, the Hearing Panel would benefit from receiving in-person evidence from witnesses for EGI and other parties, and parties would benefit from being able to examine witnesses and engage with the Hearing Panel in person. While we appreciate that the Board has had to adjust its processes in light of public health concerns during the past few years, and while we commend the Board and its staff for having done so effectively and efficiently while respecting the essence of the quasi-judicial processes in which the Board is mandated to engage, we also believe that in-person testimony provides the greatest insights and strongest impressions, which in turn provide the best basis for decision-making. This is particularly important for decisions as impactful as those that will result from the current application.

### 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:



#### Ian Mondrow, Partner **GOWLING WLG (CANADA) LLP** Suite 1600, 1 First Canadian Place 100 King Street West Toronto, Ontario M5X 1G5

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We have electronic copies of the pre-filed materials and do not require hard copies.

Office:

Mobile:

E-Mail:

Yours truly,

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Ian A. Mondrow

c: S. Rahbar (IGUA) V. Innis (EGI) D. Stevens (Aird & Berlis LLP) D. O'Leary (Aird & Berlis LLP) K. Viraney (OEB Staff)

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