

## ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

**IN THE MATTER OF** the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15, Schedule B; and in particular sections 90(1) and 97 thereof;

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an application by Enbridge Gas Inc. for an order granting leave to construct natural gas distribution pipelines and ancillary facilities that make up a Community Expansion Project to serve the Hidden Valley community in the Town of Huntsville and District of Muskoka.

### APPLICATION

1. Enbridge Gas Inc. (“Enbridge Gas” or the “Company”) hereby applies to the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) pursuant to section 90(1) of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c. 15, Schedule B (the “Act”), for an order granting leave to construct natural gas pipelines and facilities, as described herein, in the Town of Huntsville & District of Muskoka, Ontario. The pipelines consist of:
  - (i) Approximately 4 km of Nominal Pipe Size (“NPS”) 2-inch polyethylene (“PE”) natural gas pipeline.
2. For ease of reference and to assist the OEB with preparation of the notice of application for the Project, a map of the proposed facilities is included as Attachment 1 to this Exhibit.
3. On June 9, 2021, the proposed Hidden Valley Community Expansion Project (“Project”) was approved to receive funding assistance as part of Phase 2 of the Government of Ontario’s Natural Gas Expansion Program (“NGEP”), which provides financial support to help utilities expand natural gas distribution into communities that are not currently connected to the natural gas system. The Project will provide approximately 110 forecasted customers located in the

Hidden Valley community in the Town of Huntsville and District of Muskoka with access to safe, reliable, and affordable natural gas distribution services.

4. Enbridge Gas has Franchise Agreements with the Town of Huntsville and District of Muskoka.<sup>1</sup> Enbridge Gas also holds a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for any project work within the Town of Huntsville.<sup>2</sup> These agreements allow the Company to construct, operate and add to the natural gas distribution system within all parts of the municipality.
5. With leave to construct approval from the OEB, construction of the Project is planned to commence in August 2023 and be placed into service by October 2023. Please note, construction of the Project must be completed and crews must be demobilized prior to November 1, 2023 as a result of the municipalities' requirement that no heavy equipment work can take place between November 1 – May 31 each year. The proposed construction schedule can be found at Exhibit D, Tab 2, Schedule 1.
6. Enbridge Gas intends to charge a System Expansion Surcharge (“SES”) to all new customers taking gas distribution service from the Project. In accordance with the OEB’s EB-2020-0094 Decision and Order, the SES will be a fixed volumetric rate of \$0.23 per cubic metre of gas to be charged in addition to Enbridge Gas’s base distribution rates as approved by the OEB. The SES is proposed to be charged to all customers taking gas distribution service from the Project for a term of 40 years. Detailed information about the proposed SES and its applicability to the Project can be found in Exhibit E.

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<sup>1</sup> Town of Huntsville Franchise Agreement – EB-2022-0233

<sup>2</sup> The community of Hidden Valley is located in the former Township of Chaffey and the former Town of Huntsville. Township of Chaffey and Town of Huntsville Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity – EB-2022-0233

7. If the OEB determines that it will conduct a hearing for this application, then Enbridge Gas requests that it proceed by way of written hearing in English.
8. Enbridge Gas requests that the OEB make the following orders:
  - (i) pursuant to section 90(1) of the Act, an Order granting leave to construct the Project; and
  - (ii) pursuant to section 97 of the Act, an Order approving the form of temporary land use agreements and easement agreements found at Exhibit G, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachments 1 and 2.
9. Enbridge Gas requests that copies of all documents filed with the OEB in connection with this proceeding be served on it and on its counsel, as follows:

(a) The Applicant:	Brittany Zimmer Sr. Advisor, Leave to Construct Applications
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(b) The Applicant's counsel:	Guri Pannu Senior Legal Counsel Enbridge Gas Inc.
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DATED at the City of Chatham, Ontario this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022.

**ENBRIDGE GAS INC.**

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Brittany Zimmer,  
Sr. Advisor, Leave to Construct Applications