

Ontario | Commission Energy | de l'énergie Board | de l'Ontario

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2022-0194

ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

2023 Federal Carbon Pricing Program Application

BEFORE: David Sword Presiding Commissioner

> Fred Cass Commissioner

February 9, 2023



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1 OVERVIEW

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on September 29, 2022 for approval under section 36(1) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* to increase rates effective April 1, 2023 to recover costs associated with meeting its obligations under the Government of Canada's Federal Carbon Pricing Program (FCPP), and the regulations under the Ontario Emissions Performance Standards (EPS) program for prescribed industrial facilities. The FCPP was established as part of the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* (GGPPA). In addition, Enbridge Gas requested to recover from customers the 2021 balances in its deferral and variance accounts (DVAs) related to the FCPP. Enbridge Gas also requested approval for a common Facility Carbon Charge for all customers, effective January 1, 2024.

Enbridge Gas is required to pay to the Government of Canada a fuel charge for greenhouse gas emissions from the natural gas that it delivers to its non-exempt customers,¹ and incurs further obligations to the Government of Canada for greenhouse gas emissions from its own facilities. A Federal Carbon Charge and a Facility Carbon Charge are effective on Enbridge Gas customer bills to recover Enbridge Gas's customer-related and facility-related costs, respectively.

Enbridge Gas estimated the incremental bill impacts for the Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. (EGD) and Union Gas rate zones.² Enbridge Gas estimated that the incremental bill impact of the proposed Federal Carbon Charge and Facility Carbon Charge (relative to the rates for these charges that are currently effective) for typical residential customers would be \$62.42 per year in the EGD rate zone (based on annual consumption of 2,400 m³) and \$57.24 per year in the Union rate zones (based on annual consumption of 2,200 m³). The bill impact of the proposed common Facility Carbon Charge effective January 1, 2024 is an increase of \$0.19 per year for the EGD rate zone, and a decease of \$0.01 per year for the Union rate zones in addition to the increase proposed for April 1, 2023.

The total bill impact of the disposition of the deferral and variance accounts is a onetime charge of \$1.17 for a typical residential customer in the EGD rate zone, and a onetime charge of \$0.42 and \$0.53 for typical residential customers in the Union South and

¹ Certain customers (e.g. industrial customers and greenhouses) are eligible for full or partial exemption from the fuel charge under the GGPPA for their emissions, and are thus also fully or partially exempt from Enbridge Gas's Federal Carbon Charge.

² Enbridge Gas Inc. was formed by the amalgamation of Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. and Union Gas Limited on January 1, 2019.

Union North rate zones, respectively.

In this Decision and Order, the OEB approves the rates requested by Enbridge Gas for the Federal Carbon Charge and Facility Carbon Charge on a final basis, and the implementation of a common Facility Carbon Charge. The OEB also approves the recovery of the 2021 balances in the deferral and variance accounts. The incremental bill impacts for a typical residential customer in each rate zone are shown in the table below.

	EGD Rate Zone	Union South Rate Zone	Union North Rate Zone
Total Federal Carbon Charge and Facility Carbon Charge (effective April 1, 2023)	\$62.42	\$57.24	\$57.24
DVA Clearance (effective April 1, 2023)	\$1.17	\$0.42	\$0.53
Total (effective April 1, 2023)	\$63.59	\$57.66	\$57.77
Common Facility Carbon Charge (effective January 1, 2024)	\$0.19	\$(0.01)	\$(0.01)

Table 1 – Incremental Bill Impacts

2 CONTEXT AND PROCESS

The requested rate for the Federal Carbon Charge matches the volumetric rate for the fuel charge that Enbridge Gas must pay to the Government of Canada for its customers' emissions. On April 1, 2023, it is expected that the fuel charge under the GGPPA will increase from \$50/tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) to \$65/tonne CO2e, equivalent to a charge increase from $9.79 \text{ } \text{e/m}^3$ to $12.39 \text{ } \text{e/m}^3$ of natural gas use.

This is Enbridge Gas's fifth FCPP application to recover its costs associated with the FCPP. In a previous proceeding, the OEB approved a Federal Carbon Charge on Enbridge Gas customer bills to recover Enbridge Gas's FCPP costs related to customer emissions and a Facility Carbon Charge to recover Enbridge Gas's FCPP costs related to facility emissions.³ The OEB also approved the establishment of three sets of FCPP DVAs.⁴ Effective January 1, 2022, the accounting orders for these DVAs were amended to recognize the transition from the federal Output-Based Pricing System (OBPS) to the provincial EPS program for prescribed industrial facilities.⁵ The applicable account definitions were updated to include reference to both federal and provincial regulations and the applicable account names were updated to remove the word "Federal." The three sets of DVAs are as follows:

- Customer Carbon Charge –Variance Accounts (CCCVA), to record the variance between actual FCPP costs related to customer emissions and FCPP costs recovered in rates related to customer emissions.
- Facility Carbon Charge Variance Accounts (FCCVA), to record the variance between actual FCPP costs related to facility emissions and FCPP costs recovered in rates related to facility emissions.
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Administration Deferral Accounts (GGEADA), to record the administration costs associated with the FCPP.

Emissions from certain customers (e.g., large industrial customers and greenhouses) are eligible for full or partial exemption from the fuel charge under the GGPPA. These customer volumes are therefore subject to Enbridge Gas's Facility Carbon Charge, but not its Federal Carbon Charge.

³ EB-2018-0205, Decision and Order, July 4, 2019

⁴ For each of the three sets, two accounts exist, one for customers in the Enbridge Gas Distribution rate zone and one for customers in the Union rate zones (Union North and Union South). ⁵ EB-2021-0208, Decision and Order, February 10, 2022

The OEB issued a Notice of Hearing on October 21, 2022, inviting parties to apply for intervenor status. Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) and the Small Business Utility Alliance were granted intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

The OEB received three letters of comment which were placed on the record of this proceeding. These comments were taken into consideration during the evaluation of the application by the OEB.

The OEB issued Procedural Order No. 1 on November 14, 2022. This order established the timetable for a written interrogatory discovery process and written submissions.

On January 10, 2023, CME and OEB staff filed submissions on Enbridge Gas's application. Enbridge Gas filed its reply submission on January 24, 2023.

3 DECISION

The OEB approves the rates proposed by Enbridge Gas. The OEB concludes that a Draft Rate Order process is not necessary. Enbridge Gas shall file draft complete tariff sheets reflecting the determination in this proceeding as part of its April 1, 2023 Quarterly Rate Adjustment Mechanism (QRAM) application.

3.1 Federal Carbon Charge and Facility Carbon Charge

Enbridge Gas requested approval on a final basis of a Federal Carbon Charge of 12.39 ϕ/m^3 , an increase from the current rate of 9.79 ϕ/m^3 , effective April 1, 2023.

Enbridge Gas also requested approval to increase the Facility Carbon Charge from 0.0070 ¢/m³ to 0.0079 ¢/m³ for the EGD rate zone and from 0.0141 ¢/m³ to 0.0162 ¢/m³ for the Union rate zones, effective April 1, 2023. In addition, Enbridge Gas requested approval for a common Facility Carbon Charge of 0.0157 ¢/m³ for all customers, effective January 1, 2024.

Enbridge Gas estimated that the incremental bill impact of the proposed Federal Carbon Charge and Facility Carbon Charge (relative to the rates for these charges that are currently effective) for typical residential customers would be \$62.42 per year in the EGD rate zone (based on annual consumption of 2,400 m³) and \$57.24 per year in the Union rate zones (based on annual consumption of 2,200 m³). The bill impact of the proposed common Facility Carbon Charge effective January 1, 2024 is an increase of \$0.19 per year for the EGD rate zone, and a decease of \$0.01 per year for the Union rate zones in addition to the increase proposed for April 1, 2023.

The requested rate for the Federal Carbon Charge matches the volumetric rate for the fuel charge that Enbridge Gas is expected to pay to the Government of Canada for emissions from its non-exempt customers, effective April 1, 2023. Customers are charged the Federal Carbon Charge monthly based on actual billed volumes.

Enbridge Gas has used the same approach as in its previous FCPP proceedings to determine which customers are eligible for reductions or exemptions from the fuel charge under the GGPPA and provides a corresponding reduction or exemption for the Federal Carbon Charge on these customers' bills.⁶

⁶ Exhibit A, Tab 2, Schedule 1, page 11

Enbridge Gas also requested approval on a final basis of an updated Facility Carbon Charge, effective April 1, 2023, to reflect forecast 2023 facility-related costs. Enbridge Gas used the same methodology to establish rates for the Facility Carbon Charge (based on forecast facility-related emissions and costs, and customer volumes) as in its previous FCPP proceedings.

Neither CME nor OEB staff objected to the proposed rates for the Federal Carbon Charge and Facility Carbon Charge. In its submission, OEB staff noted that the requested rates for the Federal Carbon Charge and Facility Carbon Charge have been established based on proposed changes to carbon pricing obligations at the federal and provincial levels, respectively. However, OEB staff submitted that the rates have been established based on the best information available at this time, and the DVAs will record any cost impacts should these changes not be made.

In addition, Enbridge Gas requested approval for a common Facility Carbon Charge effective January 1, 2024. Enbridge Gas currently has an application before the OEB and is applying to rebase its rates for the first time as an amalgamated utility with a proposed effective date of January 1, 2024. As part of the rebasing of rates, Enbridge Gas noted that charges between the EGD and Union rate zones for contracts that existed prior to amalgamation will end. Enbridge Gas noted that a common unit rate ensures all customers pay the same Facility Carbon Charge based on consumption. Enbridge Gas further noted that this approach is supported by the OEB's Decision and Order regarding the allocation and recovery of facility-related obligation costs of a single entity.⁷ The rate for the common Facility Carbon Charge may be updated again with an effective date of April 1, 2024 in a future FCPP application.

CME did not object to the common Facility Carbon Charge. OEB staff sought clarification from Enbridge Gas in its reply submission on why this request was not put forward in the rebasing application.⁸ OEB staff agreed with Enbridge Gas's proposal to track the difference between the amount collected through rates and the actual costs incurred in the FCCVA for each of the EGD and the Union rate zones.

In its reply submission, Enbridge Gas noted that the FCPP application was filed on September 29, 2022 and the application seeks OEB approval for the rates associated with the obligations under the GGPPA and the EPS, with one component being the Facility Carbon Charge.⁹ Enbridge Gas further noted that the rates established as part

⁷ EB-2016-0296/EB-2016-0300, Decision and Order, September 21, 2017

⁸ OEB Staff Submission, January 10, 2023, page 8

⁹ Enbridge Gas Reply Submission, January 24, 2023, page 3

of this proceeding will span from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024 which coincides with Enbridge Gas's timing to rebase rates as an amalgamated utility starting January 1, 2024.

Given that the FCPP has a separate process for an annual application to establish associated rates and the timing of this proceeding was in advance of its rebasing application (filed on October 31, 2022), Enbridge Gas considered it prudent to put forward a request for a common Facility Carbon Charge effective January 1, 2024 as part of this 2023 FCPP Application. If Enbridge Gas had not proposed a common Facility Carbon Charge as part of this proceeding, the OEB would not have a complete picture of rates associated with the FCPP for the applicable time period of April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. For these reasons, Enbridge Gas submitted that the common Facility Carbon Charge should be considered and approved as part of this application.

Findings

The OEB approves the Federal Carbon Charge rates requested by Enbridge Gas, effective April 1, 2023, on a final basis. The OEB also approves the Facility Carbon Charge rates requested by Enbridge Gas, effective April 1, 2023 on a final basis.

The OEB acknowledges that the requested rate for the Federal Carbon Charge has been established based on a change to the fuel charge that has been announced by the Government of Canada, but is not yet reflected in the relevant Schedule of the GGPPA.¹⁰ However, the OEB is approving the proposed rate based on the best information available at this time, and the DVAs will record any cost impacts in the unlikely event that increases to the fuel charge are not made for April 1, 2023.

In view of the expected future trajectory of increases in the Federal Carbon Charge, the OEB is interested in gaining a greater understanding of impacts of the Federal Carbon Charge on patterns of gas consumption by Enbridge Gas's customers.

In Enbridge Gas's next FCPP application, the OEB will look to Enbridge Gas to report back on its ability to provide an analysis of the impacts of the Federal Carbon Charge on consumption patterns by its customers, and if feasible with reasonable efforts, provide such an analysis.

¹⁰ Schedule 2 of the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act,* S.C. 2018, c. 12, s. 186 has still not been revised to increase the fuel charge to 12.39 ϕ/m^3 from the current rate of 9.79 ϕ/m^3 , as has been previously announced by the Government of Canada.

The OEB also approves a common Facility Carbon Charge effective January 1, 2024. For the reasons provided by Enbridge Gas, the OEB accepts the submission that the common Facility Carbon Charge should be considered and approved as part of this application, rather than in Enbridge Gas's rebasing application.

Any difference between the amount collected through rates and the actual costs incurred will be tracked in the CCCVA (for the Federal Carbon Charge) and in the FCCVA (for the Facility Carbon Charge) for each of the EGD and the Union rate zones for 2023.

3.2 Deferral and Variance Account Disposition Requests

Enbridge Gas is seeking disposition of \$3.79 million in administration costs in the GGEADAs and a credit of \$1.05 million in the FCCVAs for 2021.

There is no balance in the CCCVAs. Enbridge Gas tracks the difference between the Federal Carbon Charge amount collected through rates and the actual costs incurred in the CCCVAs for each of the EGD rate zone and the Union rate zones. Since Enbridge Gas remits the Federal Carbon Charge to the Government of Canada based on actual billed volumes and the Federal Carbon Charge rate, consistent with the GGPPA, there is no CCCVA balance for either the EGD or Union rate zones.

The total bill impact of the proposed 2021 FCPP deferral and variance account disposition is a one-time charge of \$1.17 for a typical residential customer in the EGD rate zone, and a one-time charge of \$0.42 and \$0.53 for typical residential customers in the Union South and Union North rate zones, respectively.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Administration Deferral Accounts

Enbridge Gas requested disposition of the balance of \$3.79 million in administration costs in the GGEADAs for 2021 through a one-time billing adjustment. No parties objected to the proposal by Enbridge Gas for disposition of the balance in this account.

Enbridge Gas also included in its application a forecast of 2023 administration costs, for information purposes only. OEB staff did not take a detailed position on the 2023 forecast costs, including incremental staffing needs, given that these amounts will be reviewed and disposed of in a future application.¹¹

¹¹ OEB Staff Submission, January 10, 2023, page 6

However, OEB staff submitted that Enbridge Gas should continue to leverage existing resources outside of the Carbon Strategy team, and continue to look at other ways to contain growth in future administration costs.¹² OEB staff noted that the purpose of the GGEADAs is to record the administration costs associated with the impacts of federal and provincial regulations related to greenhouse gas emission requirements.

Some of the activities of the Carbon Strategy team (e.g., leading the development of energy transition plans) may potentially be outside of the proper scope of the GGEADAs. OEB staff argued that, as energy transition becomes a more significant element of Enbridge Gas's business in future years, Enbridge Gas must ensure that only appropriate activities are recorded in the GGEADAs. OEB staff noted that within its rebasing application, Enbridge Gas is proposing a large FTE increase for energy transition activities (to be recovered through base rates beginning in 2024, not the GGEADAs). OEB staff concluded that for 2023, OEB staff will not necessarily support including general energy transition costs in the GGEADAs.

In its reply submission, Enbridge Gas noted that costs related to 2023 administration costs will be reviewed and disposed of in a future application and Enbridge Gas will provide further evidence demonstrating the reasonableness of those costs at the appropriate time.¹³ Enbridge Gas further noted that each individual on the Carbon Strategy team is solely dedicated to work associated with the impacts of federal and provincial regulations related to greenhouse gas requirements, and that the roles and responsibilities of this team were provided in its interrogatories. Enbridge Gas submitted that these roles and responsibilities fit within the definition of the GGEADAs as approved in the 2022 FCPP proceeding.

Findings

The OEB approves the disposition of the balance in the GGEADAs, with interest. The OEB notes that the 2021 balances mark the third time that the FCPP-related balances have been requested for disposition. After reviewing the expenditure amount balance requested for clearance previously, and the evidence in this application, the OEB finds that the balance is reasonable and approves its disposition.

However, the OEB notes that when the Federal Carbon Charge was first introduced, the OEB determined administrative costs associated with that charge were eligible for

¹² OEB Staff Submission, January 10, 2023, page 6

¹³ Enbridge Gas Reply Submission, January 24, 2023, page 3

recovery. Now that the Federal Carbon Charge is well established, the OEB expects the current level of administrative costs to be sufficient in the following areas:

- Staffing resources
- Consulting and external legal support
- Other miscellaneous costs, which in the past has included such activities as travel and conferences

While capped administrative costs will not be ordered, Enbridge Gas would need to demonstrate the basis for any increases, beyond Enbridge Gas's currently approved inflator (inflation less productivity and stretch factor), that may be requested in any future application.

The OEB notes that Enbridge Gas has existing resources outside of the Carbon Strategy team that it can lever for activities that support its emission reduction efforts.

Federal Carbon Charge - Facility Variance Accounts

Enbridge Gas is seeking disposition of the 2021 facility-related variance of \$(1.05) million in the FCCVAs through a one-time billing adjustment. The FCCVAs record the variance between actual facility-related FCPP costs, and the facility-related costs recovered through rates.

No parties objected to the proposal by Enbridge Gas for disposition of the balance in this account.

Findings

The OEB approves the disposition of the balance in the FCCVAs, with interest. The OEB notes that this represents a refund to customers of Facility Carbon Charges that were previously collected. This refund is a result of the difference between the projected and actual customer volumes used to calculate the charges in 2022.

3.3 Managing Facility-Related FCPP Emissions and Costs

In its 2021 FCPP application, Enbridge Gas committed to identify, track, and report on emission reduction opportunities using criteria that effectively balance management of its compliance obligations under the FCPP, estimated capital costs, safety and operational reliability. The Decision and Order on Enbridge Gas's 2022 FCPP application stated that Enbridge Gas's next FCPP application should set out in a comprehensive fashion the management of Enbridge Gas's own obligations that

identifies its approaches towards achieving efficiencies and reduction of carbon emissions related costs to its customers.¹⁴

To support the achievement of federal, provincial and Enbridge Inc. greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and to support the reduction of facility-related emissions costs, Enbridge Gas stated that it is developing and implementing an emission reduction strategy for emissions resulting directly from Enbridge Gas's operations. This strategy covers emissions from combustion of fuels in its buildings, equipment and vehicles, and methane emissions from venting and leaked natural gas.

In its current application, Enbridge Gas provided a summary of the opportunities to date that it is implementing to reduce EPS volumes. These include storage and transmission operations online monitoring and air filter replacements for turbines. Enbridge Gas also identified additional opportunities to reduce emissions and facility-related costs that are not currently considered financially feasible.¹⁵ Enbridge Gas indicated that it will review and assess emission reduction opportunities on an annual basis, and opportunities will be assessed for cost-effectiveness, technical feasibility and emission reduction potential. The annual update of the greenhouse gas emission reduction strategy will begin in January 2023.¹⁶

Enbridge Gas has alternative compliance options to satisfy its annual OBPS and EPS compliance obligation aside from paying the excess emissions charge, including the purchase of Credits or Emissions Performance Units (EPUs) from other OBPS or EPS participants, respectively, and in the OBPS purchasing Offset Credits or eligible Recognized Units. Enbridge Gas fulfilled the remainder of its 2021 OBPS compliance obligation on December 8, 2022 by paying the excess emissions charge of \$40/tCO2e.¹⁷

For Enbridge Gas's 2023 EPS compliance obligation, Enbridge Gas noted that the availability and market attributes of EPUs will be reviewed to determine if they present a viable means of reducing compliance costs. With 2022 being the first compliance period under the EPS program and the first EPUs not being distributed until the second half of 2023, only a few months before the first compliance deadline, Enbridge Gas anticipates that the availability of EPUs in 2023, for use towards its 2022 EPS compliance

¹⁴ EB-2021-0209, Decision and Order, February 10, 2022

¹⁵ Exhibit A, Tab 2, Schedule 1

¹⁶ Exhibit I.Staff.3d

¹⁷ Exhibit I.Staff.4a

obligation, will be limited.

CME did not comment on this aspect of the application. OEB staff submitted that Enbridge Gas has reasonably set out the ways to reduce its facility-related emissions. OEB staff was also supportive of Enbridge Gas's approach to annually update its greenhouse gas reduction strategy and noted that operational emissions reductions are discussed in Enbridge Gas's rebasing application currently before the OEB.¹⁸

With respect to Enbridge Gas's 2023 EPS compliance obligation, OEB staff noted that the supply of EPUs sold into the market may be limited, especially in the earlier years of the EPS program. OEB staff therefore submitted that Enbridge Gas should continue assessing opportunities to reduce emissions and costs.¹⁹

Findings

The OEB appreciates the efforts made by Enbridge Gas to explore and catalogue opportunities for facility-related emission reductions. The OEB looks forward to a progress report on Enbridge Gas's efforts to achieve continuous improvement in this regard as part of its next FCPP application.

 ¹⁸ OEB Staff Submission, January 10, 2023, page 9
¹⁹ OEB Staff Submission, January 10, 2023, page 10

4 IMPLEMENTATION

Enbridge Gas intends to reflect 2023 increases to rates for the Federal Carbon Charge and Facility Carbon Charge and the one-time adjustment for the disposition of the deferral and variance accounts as part of its April 1, 2023 QRAM application.

OEB staff submitted that, if the OEB approves the 2023 rates requested by Enbridge Gas in this application (which OEB staff supported), a Draft Rate Order in this proceeding is likely unnecessary.²⁰ OEB staff further submitted that draft complete tariff sheets reflecting the OEB's determination could be filed by Enbridge Gas for each of the EGD rate zone and Union rate zones as part of its April 2023 QRAM application. This approach is similar to what the OEB approved in the 2021 and 2022 FCPP applications. Enbridge Gas supported this submission.²¹

Findings

The OEB agrees that a Draft Rate Order process is not necessary. The OEB appreciates the recommendation which will expedite the conclusion of this proceeding, improving the efficiency of this hearing process. The rates approved by the OEB in this proceeding shall be brought forward by Enbridge Gas for incorporation in its April 1, 2023 QRAM application, with the exception of rate changes arising from the common Facility Carbon Charge, which shall be brought forward in the January 1, 2024 QRAM application.

²⁰ OEB Staff Submission, January 10, 2023, page 10

²¹ Enbridge Gas Reply Submission, January 24, 2023, page 4

5 ORDER

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Enbridge Gas Inc.'s requested unit rates for the Federal Carbon Charge and Facility Carbon Charge, as set out Exhibit D, Tab 2, Schedule 1 for the EGD rate zone, and Exhibit D, Tab 3, Schedule 1 for the Union rate zones, are approved on a final basis, effective April 1, 2023.
- 2. Enbridge Gas Inc.'s common Facility Carbon Charge for all customers is approved and shall be implemented effective January 1, 2024. The unit rates for the common Facility Carbon Charge shall be brought forward in Enbridge Gas Inc.'s January 1, 2024 QRAM application.
- 3. Enbridge Gas Inc.'s 2021 Federal Carbon Pricing Program deferral and variance account balances and its allocation of the 2021 Federal Carbon Pricing Program deferral and variance account balances by rate class are approved. The unit rates for disposition of the deferral and variance account balances can be found in Exhibit D, Tab 2, Schedule 4 for the EGD rate zone and at Exhibit D, Tab 3, Schedule 4 for the Union rate zones.
- 4. Cost eligible intervenors shall file with the OEB, and forward to Enbridge Gas Inc., any cost claims by **February 23, 2023**.
- 5. Enbridge Gas Inc. shall file with the OEB, and forward to intervenors, any objections to the claimed costs by **March 2, 2023**.
- 6. Intervenors shall file with the OEB, and forward to Enbridge Gas Inc., any responses to any objection for cost claims by **March 9, 2023**.
- 7. Enbridge Gas Inc. shall pay the OEB's costs incidental to this proceeding upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

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 <u>Rules of Practice and Procedure</u>.

Please quote file number, **EB-2022-0194** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online</u> 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 <u>Regulatory Electronic Submission System (RESS)</u> <u>Document Guidelines</u> found at the <u>File documents online page</u> on the OEB's website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet <u>set up an</u> <u>account</u>, or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact <u>registrar@oeb.ca</u> for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the <u>File</u> <u>documents online page</u> of the OEB's website for more information. All participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all required parties as per the <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u>.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar 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, Vince Mazzone at <u>Vince.Mazzone@oeb.ca</u> and OEB Counsel, Lawren Murray at <u>Lawren.Murray@oeb.ca</u>.

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

DATED at Toronto February 9, 2023

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi Registrar