

June 22, 2023

BY EMAIL AND FILED VIA RESS

Nancy Marconi
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
Suite 2700
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Marconi:

**Re: Enbridge Gas Inc. ("Enbridge Gas")
EB-2022-0200 – 2024 Rates Application
Capital Update Evidence and Additional Updates**

We represent Enbridge Gas.

On June 16, 2023, Enbridge Gas filed Capital Update evidence, setting out details of updates to its capital expenditure forecasts for 2023 and 2024, as well as impacts of 2022 actual capital expenditures. Over the past couple of days, several parties have written to the OEB requesting that Enbridge Gas provide updates to its pre-filed evidence and interrogatory and undertaking responses to reflect the impacts of the Capital Update evidence. In this letter, we set out the Company's plan to file appropriate updates on a scale and timeline that will allow the oral hearing to proceed on the contemplated schedule (commencing July 10, 2023).

While Enbridge Gas has been striving to limit evidence updates in order to maintain the schedule for this proceeding, the Capital Update was necessary. There have been changes to the Company's capital expenditure plans since the time when the evidence was originally prepared (in mid 2022) and it would not be accurate to rely upon the October 31, 2022 evidence in relation to 2023 and 2024 capital expenditures. A main factor is the updated timing for the Panhandle Regional Expansion Project (PREP), which is subject to a separate LTC regulatory approval process. Unfortunately, the timing of the Enbridge Gas budget process does not align neatly with the plans for a July hearing. Enbridge Gas did not have decisions and details necessary for the Capital Update evidence until earlier this month. Thereafter, Enbridge Gas worked as quickly as possible to prepare the Capital Update evidence. This evidence was prepared as a stand-alone package, containing what Enbridge Gas hoped would be sufficient detail for the OEB and parties to consider the capital expenditure and rate base issues.

It is clear from the letters received from intervenors that some parties require that Enbridge Gas further update its existing evidence to reflect the impacts of the Capital Update. As Enbridge Gas indicated in its correspondence to parties earlier this week, this will be very challenging to complete before the oral hearing. However, as is the case with all parties, Enbridge Gas recognizes the importance of having 2024 rates in place in a timely manner and is committed to maintaining the planned hearing dates.

Over the past day, Enbridge Gas has been reviewing its evidence, as well as answers to interrogatories and undertakings, in order to identify which items need to be updated to reflect the Capital Update. In this process, the Company is trying to balance what evidence is impacted with what amount of work is feasible to complete within the next two weeks. Enbridge Gas has determined that it will be able to complete updates to the main impacted portions of its evidence in Exhibits 1 (integration capital) and 2 (capital expenditures and rate base) as well as the main associated interrogatory and undertaking responses by Thursday July 6th. If possible, Enbridge Gas will provide some of the updates before that date.

Enbridge Gas is in the process of completing the list of the evidence that it plans to update. When the list is complete, the Company will share it with intervenors and will consider requests as to items that should be added. Enbridge Gas wishes to emphasize, though, that it may not be possible to update every tangentially impacted piece of evidence/discovery in the available time. We note the request from Environmental Defence for additional (but limited) discovery. Enbridge Gas submits that there is not sufficient time for that step. However, the Company confirms that its witnesses will be ready and able to answer questions at the oral hearing.

Enbridge Gas recognizes that the contemplated update will not be filed until very close to the start of the hearing. Taking this into account, the Company proposes that its witness panels addressing the capital budget and rate base items (Exhibit 2) be presented later in the hearing.

We hope that this proposed approach satisfies the concerns of parties and will permit the oral hearing to move forward on the contemplated schedule.

Please let us know if you have questions about this letter.

Yours truly,

AIRD & BERLIS LLP



David Stevens

DS/

c: All parties registered in EB-2022-0200