

Elson Advocacy

September 27, 2023

BY RESS

Nancy Marconi

Registrar

Ontario Energy Board

2300 Yonge Street, Suite 2700, P.O. Box 2319

Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Marconi:

Re: EB-2022-0111 – Enbridge Gas Inc. – Bobcaygeon Pipeline Project

I am writing on behalf of Environmental Defence to respond to Enbridge's letter of yesterday's date.

Enbridge requests that the OEB deny Environmental Defence's request to file evidence.¹ This appears to be outside the scope of what the OEB asked the parties to provide submissions on at this stage. *Procedural Order #1* indicated that it will make a determination on Environmental Defence's request to file evidence at a later stage but has not requested that the parties provide their position on that issue as of yet to our understanding.

Should the OEB be considering whether to deny Environmental Defence's request to file evidence, we request the opportunity to respond to Enbridge's submissions in that regard. For instance, we would elaborate on the evidence that would be provided, including evidence on the current and expected future customer knowledge of the cost-effectiveness of heat pumps and how that impacts the degree to which Enbridge's survey can be relied on to forecast customer attachments in a quickly changing market. We would also comment on the recent decisions in other gas system expansion cases and the motion to review those decision that has been sought by Environmental Defence.

Enbridge argues that a technical conference is not required because, in its view, "the interrogatories were responded to fully and completely."² With respect, that is the test for whether to order further and better interrogatory responses, not the test for whether to convene a technical conference. It is perfectly appropriate for technical conference questions to be asked to follow up on topics initially addressed by way of interrogatories. Even if all of the interrogatories were responded to full and completely as Enbridge alleges (which is disputed), that would not

¹ Enbridge Correspondence, September 26, 2023, p. 1.

² *Ibid.*

negate the need for a technical conference. Only a technical conference can provide the kind of back-and-forth questions necessary to gain an understanding of complex issues.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Elson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Kent Elson

cc: Parties in the above proceeding