

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS EB-2022-0249

ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

Application for Leave to Construct Hidden Valley Community Expansion Project

BEFORE: Robert Dodds Presiding Commissioner

> Michael Janigan Commissioner

David Sword Commissioner

November 21, 2023

OVERVIEW

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on December 20, 2023, under section 90(1) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, for an order granting leave to construct approximately 4 kilometres of natural gas pipeline in the Town of Huntsville and District of Muskoka to supply natural gas to approximately 130 new customers.

The OEB granted Environmental Defence and Pollution Probe intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

On September 21, 2023, the OEB issued its Decision and Order which among other matters, set out the process for cost awards.

The OEB received cost claims from Environmental Defence and Pollution Probe.

On October 16, 2023, Enbridge Gas filed a letter with the OEB, stating they did not object to the cost claims from Environmental Defence and Pollution Probe.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed the claims filed to ensure that they are compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB finds that the cost claim for Environmental Defence is reasonable and shall be reimbursed by Enbridge Gas. The cost claim for Pollution Probe is not justified on the basis of the comparative complexities of the other two leave to construct projects, namely the Selwyn Community Expansion Project (EB-2022-0156) and the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte and Shannonville Community Expansion Project (EB-2022-0248), and the time that would be required in comparison to the other intervenors. Therefore, the OEB reduces Pollution Probe's claim by \$2,000.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Enbridge Gas shall immediately pay the following amounts to the intervenors for their costs:
 - Environmental Defence
 - Pollution Probe

\$5,530.22 \$6,651.28

DATED at Toronto November 21, 2023

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi Registrar