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BY EMAIL

November 29, 2023

Brittany Zimmer
Sr. Advisor, Leave to Construct Applications
Enbridge Gas Inc.
P.O. Box 2001
50 Keil Drive North
Chatham, ON N7M 5M1
brittany.zimmer@enbridge.com

Dear Ms. Zimmer:

**Re: Enbridge Gas Inc.
Sandford Community Expansion Project
Ontario Energy Board File Number: EB-2023-0200
Abeyance of Proceeding**

This letter is to advise that the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is placing this proceeding in abeyance, effective November 29, 2023, pending the OEB's determination on a motion to review filed by Environmental Defence relating to a number of natural gas leave to construct proceedings (OEB File No. EB-2023-0313).

On September 27, 2023, Environmental Defence filed a motion to review the OEB's decisions (relating to the admissibility of intervenor evidence and merits) in the following proceedings (Motion to Review):¹

- Selwyn Community Expansion Project²
- Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte and Shannonville Community Expansion Project³
- Hidden Valley Community Expansion Project⁴

¹ EB-2023-0313, Amended Notice of Motion, September 27, 2023

² EB-2022-0156

³ EB-2022-0248

⁴ EB-2022-0249

In the OEB's view, the matters cited in the Motion to Review raise issues that are relevant to the current proceeding. The OEB notes that Environmental Defence requested approval to file evidence in this proceeding⁵ the nature of which is highly similar to the evidence that it sought to file in the above-noted proceedings. Environmental Defence's request to file evidence in the above-noted proceedings was denied and its Motion to Review seeks, among other things, an order varying or cancelling those decisions and allowing the filing of its proposed evidence.

The OEB notes that Ms. Carswell also requested approval to file evidence in this proceeding.⁶ Ms. Carswell's description of the evidence is similar to the evidence proposed by Environmental Defence, but differs in that Ms. Carswell also proposes to include the results of a survey of Sandford residents that she conducted in Fall 2023 regarding their interest in natural gas service. In its response to Ms. Carswell's request to file evidence, Enbridge Gas noted, among other things, that the Sandford Community Expansion Project has been selected for funding through Phase 2 of the Government of Ontario's Natural Gas Expansion Program, and Ms. Carswell's evidence does not appear to be connected to enabling access to natural gas.⁷

From the perspective of adjudicative efficiency, the OEB finds it prudent to provide directions on the two requests to file evidence in this proceeding after the OEB has considered the Motion to Review.

In accordance with Procedural Order No. 1, on November 20, 2023, OEB staff and intervenors filed submissions on the need for a technical conference in the current proceeding. Environmental Defence, Pollution Probe and Ms. Carswell submitted that a technical conference is needed. OEB staff submitted that a technical conference is not needed. Enbridge Gas submitted that a technical conference or oral hearing is not required.

The OEB will advise whether a technical conference will be scheduled when it renders its determination on the requests to file evidence.

The OEB will advise parties when it resumes its review of the application.

⁵ Environmental Defence, Intervention Request Letter, dated September 12, 2023

⁶ Elizabeth Carswell, Supplemental Submission, dated November 26, 2023

⁷ Enbridge Gas, Supplemental Reply Submission, dated November 28, 2023

Please direct any questions relating to this application to the Case Manager, Kaidie Williams, at 416-440-8133 or Kaidie.Williams@oeb.ca.

Yours truly,

Nancy Marconi
Registrar

c: EGIRegulatoryProceedings@enbridge.com
All parties in EB-2023-0200