

Ms. Nancy Marconi
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319, 27th Floor
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

December 4, 2023

**Re: EB-2023-0111 Consultation to Review EPCOR Natural Gas Supply Plans
Pollution Probe Cost Claim Reply**

Dear Ms. Marconi:

In accordance with the OEB Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards dated November 23, 2023 for the above-noted proceeding, please find below Pollution Probe's Reply Submission.

The EPCOR Cost Claim Response dated December 1, 2023, EPCOR states:


"While EPCOR does recognize the contributions that Mr. Brophy and Pollution Probe have made to this hearing, we do note that the cost claim of 13.25 hours is in excess of the 13 hours maximum allowed by the Board as noted on page 1 of the Notice"

The OEB issued a letter dated May 16, 2023 to initiate the Gas Supply Plan Review and set the steps for the process, including the time maximum for the proceeding. In this initiation letter the OEB set the Eligible Hours per Participant at 13 hours. Pollution Probe submitted 13.25 hours in its Cost Claim to reflect the actual amount of time spent on the proceeding. This actual time exceeded the OEB maximum by 0.25 hours. Pollution Probe provides the rational for the adjustment below and requests OEB consideration for the Cost Claim submitted.

The details outlined in the May 16, 2023 direction followed a similar process to previous annual gas supply plan reviews. On July 19, 2023 the OEB issued a letter indicating that there would be an additional phase to the proceeding, not initially contemplated in the May 16 schedule and time considerations. This specifically pertained to follow-up questions with respect to the responses and evidence provided by EPCOR. Pollution Probe coordinated with OEB Staff to ensure the additional phase was efficient and the net impact was a 0.25 hour overage in the overall Cost Claim submitted by Pollution Probe. Without the additional phase added in July 2023 Pollution Probe's Cost Claim would have been within the May 2023 limits defined by the OEB.

Pollution Probe submits that the minor allowance is warranted on the basis of the additional phase added to the proceeding and hereby requests approval of the Cost Claim submitted.

All of which is respectfully submitted on behalf of Pollution Probe.



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Richard Carlson, Pollution Probe (via email)