



Ontario  
Energy  
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**BY EMAIL**

January 10, 2024

Ms. Nancy Marconi  
Registrar  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4  
[registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)

Dear Ms. Marconi:

**Re: Ontario Energy Board (OEB) Staff Submission on the Need for a Technical Conference  
Enbridge Gas Inc. Neustadt Community Expansion Project  
OEB File Number: EB-2023-0261**

In accordance with Procedural Order No. 1, this is the submission of OEB staff regarding the need for a technical conference in the above noted proceeding. This letter has been forwarded to Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) and to all other registered parties in this proceeding.

On November 17, 2023, the OEB issued Procedural Order No. 1 setting out a schedule for the filing of interrogatories, interrogatory responses and for submissions on the need for a technical conference. The OEB stated that it would make a determination on the requests for a technical conference after the responses to interrogatories were filed.

Interrogatories were filed by OEB staff and by intervenors by December 1, 2023. Enbridge Gas filed its interrogatory responses on December 15, 2023.

On December 14, 2023, Environmental Defence filed a letter with the OEB proposing:

- That the OEB consolidate the hearing of several natural gas expansion projects given the significant overlap in the issues and evidence for these projects and convene a joint technical conference for these projects<sup>1</sup>
- To file new survey evidence with respect to the natural gas community expansion projects

On December 28, 2023, the OEB issued a letter seeking responses to certain questions regarding the evidence that Environmental Defence proposed to file. Environmental Defence's responses to these questions are due by January 11, 2024.

OEB staff has reviewed the responses to the interrogatories in the Neustadt Community Expansion Project proceeding and does not require further discovery through a technical conference on Enbridge Gas's evidence. However, in the event the OEB allows Environmental Defence to file evidence, some discovery in respect of that evidence would be required, potentially including a technical conference.

Yours truly,

Michael Beare  
Case Manager

c: All Parties in EB-2022-0111, EB-2022-0246, EB-2023-0200, EB-2023-0201 and EB-2023-0261

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<sup>1</sup> Specifically: Enbridge Gas Bobcaygeon EB-2022-0111, EPCOR Brockton EB-2022-0246, Enbridge Gas Sanford EB-2023-0200, Enbridge Gas Eganville EB-2023-0201, Enbridge Gas Neustadt EB-2023-0261