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October 8, 2008

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP Lawyers • Patent & Trade-mark Agents World Exchange Plaza 100 Queen Street, Suite 1100 Ottawa ON K1P 1J9 tel.: (613) 237-5160 fax: (613) 230-8842 www.blgcanada.com

> VINCENT J. DEROSE direct tel.: (613) 787-3589 e-mail: vderose@blgcanada.com

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street 27<sup>th</sup> floor Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms Walli,

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. ("EGD")Board File No.:EB-2008-0275Our File No.:339583-000003

In the Notice of Application for the above referred file, parties were asked to make submissions on whether this matter should be disposed of without a hearing. We are writing this letter to ask that it not be disposed of without a hearing, and to seek intervenor status and cost award eligibility in this proceeding on behalf of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME").

We have had the benefit of reviewing Mr. Warren's letter to the Board of October 7, 2008. We are in agreement that this matter can be dealt with by a written hearing.

## Request for Intervenor Status

The reasons why CME should be granted intervenor status in this proceeding include the following:

- (i) CME is Canada's leading business network. Its members represent 75% of manufactured output in the Province of Ontario, and 90% of all exports.
- (ii) Manufacturing is important to the Province of Ontario. It is the single largest sector of the economy (17.5% of Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") or \$300B) employing, directly, over 1M people in the Province.
- (iii) Natural gas is significant to manufacturing as one of the sources of energy for the manufacturing sector. As a result, the members of CME are vitally concerned with all matters pertaining to the supply and price of natural gas.
- (iv) CME wishes to participate in this application to ensure that the proposed requested relief will not have any adverse impact on EGD's ratepayers, particularly within the context of incentive regulation.

## Request for Cost Award Eligibility

CME seeks a determination that it is eligible for a Cost Award on the following grounds:

- (i) CME is a not-for-profit organization funded by membership fees and revenues from the services it renders to Federal and Provincial Governments and Agencies to foster the development of national and international markets for its members and to break down trade barriers.
- (ii) About 85% of CME's 1,200 Ontario-based member companies are Small to Medium sized business Enterprises ("SMEs") with 500 employees or less. The views of these businesses should be considered in this proceeding.
- (iii) CME's ability to actively participate in this proceeding is dependent upon a determination that it is eligible for a Cost Award. In many prior proceedings, the Board has determined that CME is eligible for a Cost Award.

## CME Contacts

If the relief requested in this letter is granted, then CME requests that further communications with respect to this matter be sent to the following:

Paul Clipsham Director of Policy Ontario Division Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters 6725 Airport Road Suite 200 Mississauga ON L4V 1V2

Tel (905) 672-3466 ext. 3236 Fax (905) 672-1764 E-mail paul.clipsham@cme-mec.ca Borden Ladner Gervais LLP Barristers & Solicitors 100 Queen Street Suite 1100 Ottawa ON K1P 1J9

Peter C.P. Thompson, Q.C. Tel (613) 787-3528 Fax (613) 230-8842 E-mail pthompson@blgcanada.com

Vincent J. DeRose Tel (613) 787-3589 Fax (613) 230-8842 E-mail vderose@blgcanada.com

Please contact the undersigned if the Board requires any further information in connection with these requests.

very truly. Yours

Vincent J. DeRose VJD/kt

c. Norm Ryckman (EGD) Paul Clipsham (CME)

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