



BY EMAIL

June 6, 2024

To: Intervenor in EB-2021-0002  
Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) members  
Mark Kitchen, Enbridge Gas Distribution

Re: **Facilitating Enbridge Gas Inc.'s (Enbridge Gas) Forthcoming Demand-Side Management (DSM) Application - EB-2024-0198**

OEB staff will be holding a stakeholder meeting on June 27, 2024, in advance of Enbridge Gas filing its expected application for a new Demand-side Management (DSM) Plan later this year. Information on how to participate is outlined below. The goal of this pre-application meeting is to promote regulatory efficiency by providing stakeholders an opportunity to offer early feedback to Enbridge Gas as it develops its application.

OEB staff expects the meeting agenda to include the following:

- OEB staff providing a high-level summary of the current draft Achievable Potential Study (APS) results.
- OEB staff providing an overview of recent SAG activities, including a summary of feedback on Enbridge Gas's Industrial and Commercial program proposals.
- OEB staff facilitating a discussion among Enbridge Gas and stakeholders on:
  - any updates to the information Enbridge Gas presented at a prior stakeholder meeting on March 26, 2024,
  - key aspects of the next DSM plan application including the estimated costs of achieving certain natural gas savings targets,
  - any suggestions as to what information should be included with Enbridge Gas's application; and,
  - any other issues identified by the meeting participants.

OEB staff is willing to facilitate additional pre-application meetings before Enbridge Gas' expected filing in October 2024.

## Background

On November 15, 2022, the OEB issued its [Decision and Order](#) approving a three-year natural gas DSM plan for Enbridge Gas beginning January 1, 2023, as well as an accompanying OEB policy framework to guide the development of future DSM plans (OEB file number EB-2021-0002). In the Decision and Order, the OEB stated, among other things, its expectation that the minimum level of natural gas savings from DSM programs during the next multi-year term would be the equivalent of at least 0.6% of sales in 2026, 0.8% of sales in 2027 and 1.0% of sales in each year from 2028 through to the end of 2030, relative to the prior year on a weather normalized basis.

Since then, OEB staff have worked closely with Enbridge Gas and the SAG to facilitate the development of future DSM plans. This collaboration has included over twenty meetings of the SAG and ongoing engagement on the APS, which seeks to quantify the potential natural gas savings that could be obtained in Ontario through natural gas energy efficiency and electrification. The APS will also provide an estimate of the costs to obtain those natural gas savings.

OEB staff hosted an Enbridge Gas-led engagement meeting with intervenors on March 26, 2024. At that meeting, Enbridge Gas discussed its next DSM plan which considered the 2026-2030 natural gas savings target expectations set out in the EB-2021-0002 Decision and Order.

During these stakeholder discussions, OEB staff continue to observe that parties have diverging views in relation to savings targets and associated costs.

## How To Participate

All intervenors who participated in the EB-2021-0002 proceeding are invited to attend. Participation in a pre-application meeting does not guarantee intervenor status in respect of a future DSM application. Participants will still be required to apply for intervenor status and to satisfy the OEB that they should be granted that status.

Participants that are approved as intervenors in respect of the hearing of the application, and that are found to be eligible for cost awards, will be permitted to claim cost awards for their participation in the pre-application meeting, to a maximum of actual meeting time plus 60 minutes for preparation.

Members of the SAG will also be invited to attend. Consistent with the OEB's December 8, 2022 letter that established the SAG, cost awards will be available for eligible non-utility SAG members under Section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, consistent with their ongoing participation in the SAG meetings.

Enbridge Gas can object to any cost eligibility requests and costs claims either in response to this invitation, or as part of the DSM plan proceeding once the application is filed.

This will be a hybrid meeting with the option to participate remotely or in-person at the OEB's offices at 2300 Yonge St., Toronto, ON. The meeting is expected to be from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 27, 2024. One representative for each intervenor is invited to attend. Individuals are expected to confirm attendance with Michael Bell at [michael.bell@oeb.ca](mailto:michael.bell@oeb.ca) by June 20, 2024. A meeting agenda and any supporting materials will be provided to individuals that have confirmed attendance closer to the meeting date.

Yours truly,

Nancy Marconi  
Registrar