

EB-2008-0219

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION ENBRIDGE GAS DISTRIBUTION INC. RATES FOR 2009

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. ("Enbridge") filed an Application on September 26, 2008 with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. c.15, Sched. B, as amended, for an order of the Board approving or fixing rates for the distribution, transmission and storage of natural gas, effective January 1, 2009. The Board's decision on this Application may have an effect on all of Enbridge's customers.

Enbridge has proposed a two-phased approach to the Board's review of its application.

In Phase 1 the Board would review the mechanical rate adjustment under Enbridge's approved Incentive Rate adjustment mechanism. Enbridge has proposed a change to its delivery rates which, if approved by the Board, would result in an average increase of about 0.5% for all residential customers. For a typical residential customer consuming 3,064 m<sup>3</sup> per year, the total bill impact would be less than \$1 per year.

Enbridge requests that the Board address this rate adjustment first. It seeks to have an Order of the Board in time to allow for the implementation of the new rates January 1, 2009.

Under Enbridge's proposal, in Phase 2 the Board would consider a number of specific requests of Enbridge. These requests are:

 approval of a new deferral account to record the incremental costs of complying with new international financial reporting standards guidelines;

- a change to some of the non-energy service charges listed on Rider G;
- some revisions to wording in the rate handbook in respect of late payment penalties, the "force majeure" clause, and some other areas;
- the discontinuation of an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) commitment stemming from the EB-2006-0034 proceeding requiring the submission of an EnVision benefit report on an annual basis;
- a revision to the GDAR IVA fee, from a percentage of the absolute value of the adjustment, to a flat transaction fee;
- approval of an In-Franchise Title Transfer fee, to account for additional costs for the provision of this service after the new CIS software becomes operational; and
- a change in the requirements for the contracting of upstream transportation that
  would require direct purchase bundled service customers to contract for firm
  upstream transportation. According to Enbridge's application this change would
  provide Enbridge with an additional level of security of supply of gas into its
  territory in the event of an interruption of delivery upstream of its franchise area.

This proceeding will not deal with the commodity cost of natural gas. Any changes to the commodity cost of natural gas for customers that purchase gas directly from Enbridge are addressed through the Quarterly Rate Adjustment Mechanism.

Copies of the Application and the supporting written evidence are available for inspection at the Board's office and Enbridge's office at the addresses listed below.

### **Participation**

You may participate in this proceeding in one of three ways:

- 1. You may send the Board a letter of comment. Your letter must be received by the Board no later than 30 days from the publication or service date of this notice.
- 2. You may request observer status in order to receive documents issued by the Board in the proceeding. Your request must be made by letter received by the Board no later than 10 days from the publication date of this notice.

- 3. You may request intervenor status if you wish to actively participate in the proceeding. Your request must be made by letter of intervention received no later than 10 days from the publication date of this notice. Your letter of intervention must include a description of how you are, or may be, affected by the proceeding; and if you represent a group, a description of the group and its membership. The Board may choose to hold a written or an oral hearing. The Board will not hold a written hearing if a party satisfies the Board that there is good reason for holding an oral hearing. Your letter of intervention should indicate your preference for a written or oral hearing, and the reasons for that preference. The Board may order costs in this proceeding. You must indicate in your letter of intervention whether you expect to seek costs from Enbridge and the grounds for your eligibility for costs.
- 4. Your letter of intervention should include a comment about the advisability of the Board's proceeding with Enbridge's proposed two-phased approach to the review of the application.
- 5. You must provide a copy of your letter of intervention to the Board with a copy to Enbridge at the following address:

#### **Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.**

500 Consumers Road Toronto, Ontario M2J 1P8

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 650 Scarborough, ON M1K 5E3

Attn: Norm Ryckman

Director, Regulatory Affairs

Tel: 416-495-5499 or 1-888-659-0685

Fax: 416-495-6072

Email: egdregulatoryproceedings@enbridge.com

#### **Need More Information?**

Further information on how to participate may be obtained by visiting the Board's Web site at <a href="www.oeb.gov.on.ca">www.oeb.gov.on.ca</a> or by calling our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727.

#### **How To Contact Us**

In responding to this notice please reference Board file number EB-2008-0219. It is also important that you provide your name and postal address and, if available, an e-mail address. All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

If you already have a user ID, please submit your intervention request through the Board's web portal at www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca. Additionally, two paper copies are required. If you do not have a user ID, please visit the Board's website under e-filings and fill out a user ID password request. For instructions on how to submit and naming conventions please refer to the RESS Document Guidelines found at www.oeb.gov.on.ca, e-Filing Services. The Board also accepts interventions by e-mail, at the address below, and again, two additional paper copies are required.

For your convenience, the Board accepts letters of comment by either post or e-mail. Our e-mail address is <a href="mailto:Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca">Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca</a>. Please include the file reference numbers in the subject line of your e-mail.

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

Attn: Kirsten Walli Board Secretary

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)

Fax: 416-440-7656

IF YOU DO NOT FILE A LETTER STATING YOUR WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO FURTHER NOTICE OF THE PROCEEDING.

Ce document est disponible en français.

## **DATED** at Toronto, October 20, 2008 **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary