



Enbridge Gas Inc.

**Application for approval of costs and the accounting
treatment of costs, associated with the Integrated
Resource Planning (IRP) Pilot Project**

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 5

September 5, 2024

On August 13, 2024, the OEB issued Procedural Order No. 4 indicating that the OEB will decide whether a written or oral hearing will be held after the technical conference on August 27, 2024. The OEB also welcomed parties to file any comments regarding the need for an oral hearing by August 23, 2024. Following the conclusion of the technical conference, the OEB has now determined that the application will proceed by way of a written hearing.

On August 27, 2024, the OEB held a transcribed virtual technical conference which allowed parties to request any follow-up answers to previously answered interrogatories and to ask any new questions based on updates to Enbridge Gas's application that was filed since the original interrogatories were asked. Undertakings were also taken with responses due from Enbridge Gas on September 10, 2024.

Besides Pollution Probe's original submission on November 7, 2023, recommending the potential need for both a technical conference and an oral hearing component to work through all the issues, the OEB received an e-mail from the Building Owners and Managers Association on its indifference towards an oral or written hearing. Enbridge Gas filed a letter to the OEB on August 22, 2024, reaffirming its request to proceed with a written hearing. No other submissions on this matter were received.

The OEB will decide upon Enbridge Gas's Southern Lake Huron IRP Pilot Project application following the receipt of Enbridge Gas's written argument-in-chief, submissions from intervenors and OEB staff, followed by a reply by Enbridge Gas. This proceeding has provided ample opportunity for parties to test Enbridge Gas's evidence through interrogatories and a technical conference such that an oral hearing is not needed. Each party will have the opportunity to critique Enbridge Gas's application through final submissions.

Final Submissions

At this time the OEB is making provision for final submissions.

The OEB notes that Enbridge Gas's IRP Pilot Project proposal has evolved from its original filing. The OEB reminds parties to ensure their submissions align with the amended Issues List attached at Schedule A.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Enbridge Gas shall file its argument-in-chief with the OEB and serve it on all intervenors by **September 24, 2024**.
2. Intervenors and OEB staff who wish to file final arguments shall file them with the OEB and serve them on all parties by **October 8, 2024**.
3. Enbridge Gas shall file its reply argument with the OEB and serve it on all intervenors by **October 22, 2024**.

Parties are responsible for ensuring that any documents they file with the OEB, such as applicant and intervenor evidence, interrogatories and responses to interrogatories or any other type of document, **do not include personal information** (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB's [Rules of Practice and Procedure](#).

Please quote file number, **EB-2022-0335** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the [OEB's online filing portal](#).

- Filings should clearly state the sender's name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the [Regulatory Electronic Submission System \(RESS\) Document Guidelines](#) found at the [File documents online page](#) on the OEB's website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet [set up an account](#), or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact registrar@oeb.ca for assistance.

- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the [File documents online page](#) of the OEB's website for more information. All participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it on all required parties as per the [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Stephanie Cheng at stephanie.cheng@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Lawren Murray at lawren.murray@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

Tel: 1-877-632-2727 (Toll free)

DATED at Toronto, **September 5, 2024**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi
Registrar

Schedule A

Enbridge Gas Inc.

EB-2022-0335

Amended Issues List

Issues List

Issue 1.0: Project Need

1.1: Will the Pilot Project assist in understanding and evaluating how IRP can be implemented to avoid, delay or reduce facility projects?

1.2 Are the objectives developed for the Pilot Project appropriate?

Issue 2.0: Project Alternatives

2.1: Is Enbridge Gas's IRP pilot project selection process, selection criteria, and decision to select the Southern Lake Huron community appropriate?

2.2: Will the Pilot Project selected give Enbridge Gas the ability to apply learnings to future IRPA design, performance and have the potential for scalability?

Issue 3.0: Proposed Project

3.1: For the Pilot Project, has Enbridge Gas appropriately described the identified system need, and the baseline facility alternative?

3.2: Has Enbridge Gas appropriately described how the Pilot Project meets the applicable IRP Framework Guiding Principles?¹

3.3: Taking into consideration the OEB's IRP Framework that says that electricity IRPAs will not be included in the first generation IRP projects, is it appropriate to include a limited offering of electrification measures as an IRPA for the Pilot Project?

3.4: Are Enbridge Gas's proposed IRPAs for the Pilot Project appropriate?

3.5: Is Enbridge Gas's proposed spending appropriately allocated between the IRPAs (e.g., efficiency programs vs. electrification measures vs. advanced technologies) for the Pilot Project?

3.6: Are Enbridge Gas's proposed program designs for IRPAs (e.g., measures included, sectors targeted, incentive levels, marketing and outreach strategy, attribution approach between DSM and IRP) appropriate for the Pilot Project?

3.7: Are Enbridge Gas's proposed evaluation, measurement, and verification objectives and methodologies appropriate for the Pilot Project? Do they enable Enbridge Gas to determine the effectiveness of IRPAs and to report on the results of the IRP pilot project?

3.8: Is the timeframe for the Pilot Project appropriate?

¹ EB-2020-0091, IRP Framework Decision, Appendix A, p. 5.

Issue 4.0: Project Cost and Economics

- 4.1:** Is Enbridge Gas's proposed budget for the Pilot Project appropriate?
- 4.2:** Is Enbridge Gas's economic analysis for the Pilot Project appropriate?
- 4.3:** Is Enbridge Gas's proposed approach to cost allocation and cost recovery appropriate and consistent with the intended use of the two OEB approved IRP Operating Cost and Capital Cost Deferral Accounts?

Issue 5.0: Stakeholding

- 5.1:** Has Enbridge Gas appropriately engaged with stakeholders and the IRP Technical Working Group on the Pilot Project?

Issue 6.0: Other

- 6.1:** Are there appropriate milestones/ checkpoints/ metrics in place to ensure Enbridge Gas is monitoring and adjusting the design of a Pilot Project on a timely basis to optimize project performance and achieve the intended project outcomes?
- 6.2:** What timing, frequency, and format is appropriate for reporting on the Pilot Project?
- 6.3:** What are the appropriate Conditions of Approval for the Pilot Project?