



Enbridge Gas Inc.

**Application to change its natural gas rates and other
charges beginning January 1, 2024**

**DECISION ON ENERGY PROBE MOTION AND PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 10
December 20, 2024 (Revised January 13, 2025)**

Enbridge Gas Inc. filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, c. 15 (Schedule B), seeking approval for changes to the rates that Enbridge Gas charges for natural gas distribution, transportation and storage, beginning January 1, 2024. The OEB is currently reviewing the second of three phases of the application.

Energy Probe Motion

Environmental Defence filed evidence prepared by Dr. David Hill and Mr. Chris Neme. Environmental Defence presented these witnesses as experts for the purpose of giving opinion evidence relating to energy transition planning and analysis for the gas sector. Energy Probe, by way of letter filed December 17, 2024, objected to the proposed qualification of the witnesses as experts for the purpose of providing opinion evidence. No other party, including the applicant, Enbridge Gas, raised objections. Environmental Defence responded to Energy Probe's objection by way of letter filed December 20, 2024.

The OEB has reviewed the submissions made by Energy Probe and Environmental Defence, and the CVs and evidence filed by the witnesses. As the OEB stated in response to Energy Probe's objection to witnesses earlier in this hearing, the ability to provide opinion evidence is based on either formal qualifications or experience, or some combination of these things.

Based on submissions, and our review of the filed evidence and the CVs that go with that evidence, the OEB is satisfied that Dr. Hill and Mr. Neme are qualified to assist the OEB on the specific issue before us, based on their experience and qualifications. In particular, Mr. Neme is well known to the OEB and has participated in the OEB's decision making process on numerous occasions over many years in his capacity as an expert witness, including Phase 1 of this proceeding. Dr. Hill has a Ph.D. in energy

management and policy planning, along with 30 years of experience in the energy sector. Their evidence is consistent with their qualifications and experience.

The OEB's acceptance of Dr. Hill and Mr. Neme as experts is not any indication of what weight, if any, the OEB will give to their evidence. That is for the OEB to determine at the end of the proceeding, when we have heard all of the evidence and are deliberating on our decision.

Schedule For Written Submissions

In Procedural Order No. 8, the OEB set out a schedule for written submissions on the Phase 2 unsettled issues.

During the third day of the hybrid hearing, Enbridge Gas, in consultation with other parties, proposed revising the schedule for the filing of submissions to allow Environmental Defence and Green Energy Coalition to file submissions on the unsettled issue related to revenue decoupling prior to the filing of Enbridge Gas's argument-in-chief, and submissions from OEB staff and intervenors. Environmental Defence and Green Energy Coalition did not oppose this proposal.

The OEB accepts the proposal. The dates set out in Procedural Order No. 8 for the filing of Enbridge Gas's argument-in-chief and final submissions are cancelled. A revised schedule is provided below.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. The OEB has not amended the dates for any other procedural steps in this proceeding.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Environmental Defence and Green Energy Coalition shall file their submissions on the unsettled issue related to revenue decoupling with the OEB and send it to all parties by **January 27, 2025**.
2. Enbridge Gas shall file its argument-in-chief on all the unsettled issues with the OEB and send it to all parties by **February 6, 2025**.
3. OEB staff and intervenors shall file any submissions on all the unsettled issues with the OEB and send them to all parties by **February 18, 2025**.
4. Environmental Defence and Green Energy Coalition shall file any submissions on the unsettled issues, separate from revenue decoupling, with the OEB and send them to all parties by **February 18, 2025**.

5. Enbridge Gas shall file its reply argument on all the unsettled issues with the OEB and send it to all parties by **March 6, 2025**.
6. Environmental Defence and Green Energy Coalition shall file their reply argument on the unsettled issue related to revenue decoupling with the OEB and send it to all parties by **March 6, 2025**.

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-2024-0111** 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 at the address below 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, Khalil Viraney, at Khalil.Viraney@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Michael Millar, at Michael.Millar@oeb.ca, and Ian Richler, at Ian.Richler@oeb.ca.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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

DATED at Toronto, **December 20, 2024 (Revised January 13, 2025)**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi
Registrar