

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2024-0294

ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Town of Aurora

By Delegation, before:

Theodore Antonopoulos Vice President Major Applications

February 4, 2025

1 OVERVIEW

This Decision and Order of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) approves an application filed by Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (certificate) for the Town of Aurora.

2 CONTEXT AND PROCESS

Enbridge Gas filed an application with the OEB on October 4, 2024, under section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*. The application is for an order approving a new certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct works to supply natural gas in the Town of Aurora.

The OEB held a written hearing. The OEB arranged for publication of the Notice of Hearing in the Auroran newspaper on Thursday, November 7, 2024 and on the <u>www.yorkregion.com</u> and the <u>www.auroratoday.ca</u> web sites from Thursday, November 7, 2024 through Thursday, November 14, 2024. Enbridge Gas also served the Notice of Hearing directly on the Clerk of the Town of Aurora and posted it on Enbridge Gas's website. No persons sought to become intervenors or otherwise participate in the proceeding.

In this Decision and Order, a reference to the Town of Aurora is a reference to the municipal corporation or its geographic area, as the context requires.

3 APPLICATION

Enbridge Gas is a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, with its head office in the City of Toronto.

The Town of Aurora is a municipal corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario. It is a lower-tier municipality located in the Regional Municipality of York.

The Village of Aurora was incorporated in 1863 and became the Town of Aurora in 1888. The boundaries of the Town of Aurora were expanded to include parts of the former Township of Whitchurch in 1968, and portions of the Township of King and additional portions of the Township of Whitchurch in 1971.

Enbridge Gas holds a franchise agreement with the Town of Aurora effective November 13, 2012.¹

Enbridge Gas holds certificates dated October 5, 1956, November 19, 1956, and December 5, 2013 that cover different parts of the geographic area of the Town of Aurora as it is currently constituted.² Enbridge Gas does not, however, currently hold a certificate relating to the parts of the Town of Aurora that were annexed from the former Township of Whitchurch in 1968 and 1971. Accordingly, Enbridge Gas notes that, if the application is granted, it would result in a change to the overall existing certificate rights held by Enbridge Gas in this area.

In support of its application, Enbridge Gas states that it has extensive facilities and several customers within the areas that were annexed to the Town of Aurora and that not having a certificate that covers the entire Town of Aurora would unnecessarily delay responding to service requests in unserved areas.³ Enbridge Gas also states that it has franchise agreements with, and certificates for, the Town of Newmarket, the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, the Township of King, and the Town of Richmond Hill, each of which is immediately adjacent to the Town of Aurora. Enbridge Gas advises that it is not aware of any other natural gas distributor holding a certificate for any part of the Town of Aurora.

¹ EB-2012-0306

² F.B.C. 78 for the Town of Aurora; F.B.C. 84 for the Township of King; and EB-2013-0337 for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

³ Enbridge Gas response to OEB Staff 1-b), January 9, 2025

4 FINDINGS

I find that it is in the public interest to approve Enbridge Gas's application for a certificate for the Town of Aurora. The issuance of a new certificate that is geographically aligned with its municipal borders is consistent with the intent of the OEB that certificate holders update service areas if boundaries of their existing certificate(s) are affected by municipal amalgamations, annexations, or name changes. Enbridge Gas filed a complete application and provided notice of the hearing in the manner instructed by the OEB. I note that no party intervened or otherwise objected the application.

A new certificate, attached as Schedule A to this Decision and Order, is granted to Enbridge Gas for the Town of Aurora. The new certificate supersedes Enbridge Gas's prior certificate authorization for the Town of Aurora. I also note that there are no other natural gas distributors within the certificate area.

5 ORDER

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 1. A certificate of public convenience and necessity, attached as Schedule A, is granted to Enbridge Gas Inc. to construct works or supply natural gas in the Town of Aurora. A current map of the Town of Aurora is attached as Schedule B.
- 2. This certificate of public convenience and necessity cancels and supersedes
 - F.B.C. 78.
 - Those parts of F.B.C. 84 related to the Township of King that were annexed into the Town of Aurora
- 3. Enbridge Gas Inc. shall pay the OEB's costs incidental to this proceeding upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, February 4, 2025

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Theodore Antonopoulos Vice President Major Applications

SCHEDULE A

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

EB-2024-0294

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

EB-2024-0294

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

The Ontario Energy Board grants

Enbridge Gas Inc.

approval under section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act,* R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55, as amended, to construct works to supply natural gas in the

Town of Aurora

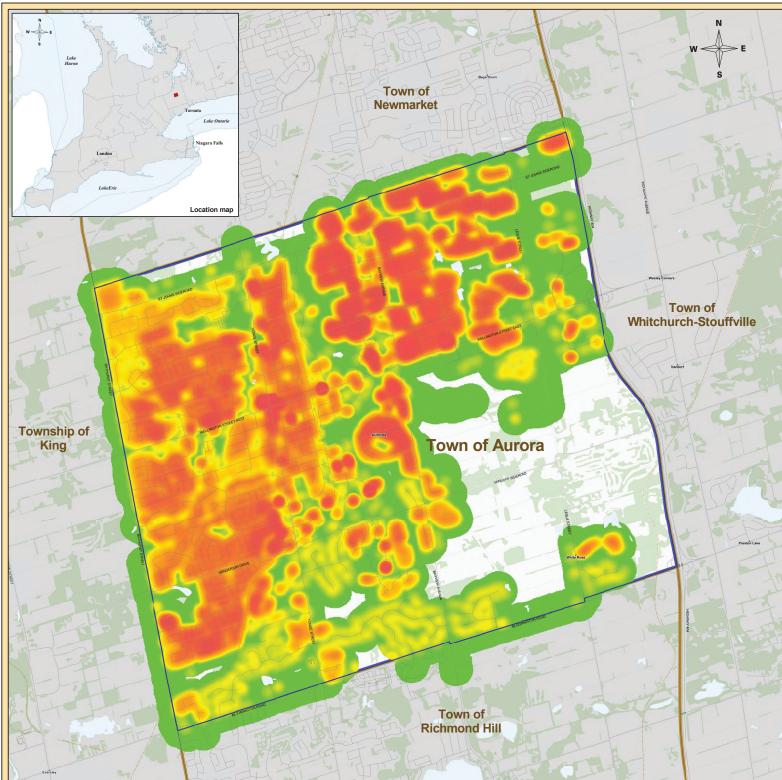
as it is constituted on the date of this Decision and Order.

This certificate of public convenience and necessity cancels and supersedes F.B.C. 78 and those parts of F.B.C. 84 related to the Township of King that were annexed into the Town of Aurora

DATED at Toronto, February 4, 2025

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Theodore Antonopoulos Vice President Major Applications SCHEDULE B MAP OF THE TOWN OF AURORA ENBRIDGE GAS INC. EB-2024-0294 FEBRUARY 4, 2025



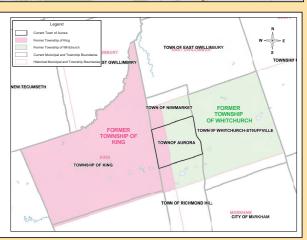
Town of Aurora

1.0

Disclaimer: The map is provided with no warranty express or Implied and is subject to change at any time. Any Person using the Density Map shall do so at its own Risk and the Density Map is not intended in any way As a tool to locate underground infrastructure for the purposes of excavation

2.0





Legend Enbridge Gas Pipeline Coverage Area Town of Aurora Roads Railways Municipal and Township Boundaries First Nation Boundaries

High

Customer Density

I ov

MA3750 CD