



Ontario
Energy
Board | Commission
de l'énergie
de l'Ontario

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS

EB-2024-0067

**Consultation to Review 2024 Annual Update to Five-Year
Natural Gas Supply Plan of Enbridge Gas Inc.**

By Delegation Before: Theodore Antonopoulos
Vice President, Major Applications

March 25, 2025

OVERVIEW

On April 15, 2024, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a [letter](#) initiating a consultation to review Enbridge Gas Inc.'s (Enbridge Gas) Annual Update to its natural gas supply plan, in accordance with the gas supply plan assessment process established in the OEB's [Report of the Ontario Energy Board: Framework for the Assessment of Distributor Gas Supply Plans](#) (Gas Supply Framework).¹ The letter stated that cost awards for up to 12 hours will be available to eligible participants under section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act). The OEB stated that costs awarded would be recovered from Enbridge Gas.

On May 21, 2024, the OEB issued its Decision on Cost Award Eligibility.² The following participants were approved as participants that are eligible for an award of costs:

- Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Energy Probe Research Foundation (EP)
- Environmental Defence Canada Inc. (ED)
- Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario (FRPO)
- Pollution Probe
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)
- Three Fires Group Inc. (TFG)
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

On January 24, 2025, the OEB issued a [Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards](#) outlining the process for claiming costs. The OEB received cost claims from BOMA, CCC, EP, ED, FRPO, Pollution Probe, SEC, TFG, and VECC. Enbridge Gas filed a submission noted that it reviewed the submitted cost claims and had no objections.

Findings

The OEB has reviewed the cost claims to ensure compliance with its [Practice Direction on Cost Awards](#).

The OEB approves all the cost claims as submitted, with the following exceptions:

¹ EB-2017-0129, October 25, 2018

² The OEB also issued a letter on June 11, 2024, that accepted a late request for intervenor status from Energy Probe Research Foundation.

FRPO and TFG

The OEB has reviewed the submissions on the Gas Supply Framework and identified two areas where the hours claimed by FRPO and TFG are not justified. Specifically, the OEB finds that the 10.0 hours claimed for written questions and 12.0 hours for written comments by both FRPO and TFG are excessive compared to other participants. VECC claimed 8.0 hours out of the maximum allowable of 10 hours for written questions and CCC claimed 6.5 hours out of the maximum allowable of 12 hours for written comments.

The OEB has determined that the contributions from FRPO and TFG, while helpful, were not substantially more so than those of other participants. Consequently, the higher hours claimed in those categories were not justified. The OEB will therefore reduce the claimed hours for FRPO by two, for the written questions category, and by four hours for the written comments category, leading to a reduction of 6.0 hours in total. The OEB will reduce the claimed hours for TFG by two for the written questions category and by two for the written comments category, leading to a reduction of 4.0 hours in total. The OEB notes that TFG claimed only a nominal amount of time for preparation for the stakeholder conference.

The OEB finds that the claims of BOMA, CCC, EP, ED, Pollution Probe, SEC, and VECC and the adjusted claims of FRPO and TFG are reasonable and within the maximum eligible hours for cost awards in this consultation. These costs will be reimbursed by Enbridge Gas.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the OEB Act, Enbridge Gas Inc. shall immediately pay the following amounts directly to the participants for their costs:

• Building Owners and Managers Association	\$3,449.33
• Consumers Council of Canada	\$6,226.30
• Energy Probe Research Foundation	\$4,920.30
• Environmental Defence Canada Inc.	\$3,636.34
• Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario	\$8,856.38
• Pollution Probe	\$6,898.65
• School Energy Coalition	\$5,030.20
• Three Fires Group Inc.	\$6,124.15
• Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition	\$5,488.03

DATED at Toronto March 25, 2025

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Nancy Marconi
Registrar