

Evan Tomek Senior Advisor Regulatory Applications - LTC Regulatory Affairs

Tel: (226) 229-9598 Evan.tomek@enbridge.com EGIRegulatoryProceedings@enbridge.com Enbridge Gas Inc. 3840 Rhodes Drive P.O. Box 700 Windsor, ON N9A 6N7 Canada

April 10, 2025

### VIA RESS AND EMAIL

Nancy Marconi Registrar Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street, Suite 2700 Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Nancy Marconi:

#### Re: Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) Ontario Energy Board (OEB) File: EB-2024-0303 Tweed Community Expansion Project Interrogatory Responses

In accordance with the OEB's Procedural Order No. 1 dated March 6, 2025, enclosed please find the interrogatory responses of Enbridge Gas.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Evan Tomsk

Evan Tomek Senior Advisor, Regulatory Applications – Leave to Construct

cc: Tania Persad (Enbridge Gas Counsel) Arend Wakeford (Enbridge Gas Counsel) Kristen Lozynsky (Enbridge Gas Counsel) Catherine Nguyen (OEB Case Manager) Lawren Murray (OEB Counsel)

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# ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

# Answer to Interrogatory from <u>OEB Staff</u>

### Interrogatory

## Reference:

Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 2: Delegation Letter, February 9, 2024; Attachment 9: Indigenous Consultation Report: Summary Table and Attachment 10: Indigenous Consultation Log (as of March 6, 2025)

## Preamble:

Ten Indigenous communities have been identified by the Ministry of Energy and Electrification (Ministry of Energy) as potentially impacted by the project:

- Alderville First Nation
- Beausoleil First Nation
- Curve Lake First Nation
- Chippewas of Georgina Island
- Chippewas of Rama First Nation
- Hiawatha First Nation
- Huron-Wendat Nation
- Kawartha Nishnawbe First Nation
- Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation
- Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

Enbridge Gas provided the following information to each of the ten Indigenous communities identified by the Ministry of Energy as potentially impacted by the project:

- A detailed description of the nature and initial scope of the project. This included a list of other provincial or federal approvals that may be required for the project to proceed
- Maps of the project location
- Letter containing information on the Virtual Open House
- Environmental Report (ER), providing information about the potential effects of the project on the Environment, including archaeological assessments (AA)
- Updated ER

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- Notice of Project Change, providing information about the changed route, if the adjusted route reduces potential cumulative effects and interference and safety hazards
- OEB's Notice of Hearing, providing information on how to participate in the OEB's hearing regarding the Project

As required by the OEB's Environmental Guidelines on Hydrocarbon Projects and Facilities in Ontario, Enbridge Gas filed an Indigenous Consultation Report (ICR) and log of the consultation with its application. Enbridge Gas provided an updated ICR on March 19, 2025, as required by Procedural Order No. 1.

## <u>Question(s)</u>:

- a) On March 19, 2025, Enbridge Gas filed an updated ICR, including engagement activities up to March 6, 2025. In its update, Enbridge Gas stated that it has provided responses to Curve Lake First Nation's comments on the Environmental Report on January 15, 2025. Enbridge Gas stated that Curve Lake First Nation is reviewing the responses and will contact Enbridge Gas if there are any concerns.
  - i. Please advise whether there has been any further response from Curve Lake First Nation, providing a copy of any response that has been received.
  - ii. Please confirm whether there are any outstanding concerns that Enbridge Gas is aware of with respect to Curve Lake First Nation.
  - Please describe any additional engagement activity undertaken by Enbridge Gas with respect to Curve Lake First Nation, since March 6, 2025.
- b) Please discuss any outstanding concerns Indigenous communities raised after March 6, 2025. How is Enbridge Gas addressing these concerns?
- c) Please describe Enbridge Gas's plans for continuing engagement with the ten Indigenous communities. Which channels of communication will be used and which information regarding the project construction, operation or any other aspect of the project will be conveyed?

## Response:

a)

- i. On March 27 2025, Enbridge Gas had a face-to-face meeting with Curve Lake First Nation (CLFN). The CLFN representative expressed that they were satisfied with Enbridge Gas's responses to its comments on the Environmental Report (ER). The CLFN representative also expressed interest in a larger radius when completing the archaeological assessment (AA), and asked if Enbridge Gas's archaeological consultant could provide known locations of archaeological sites registered with the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as it would save CLFN time when reviewing the AA. Enbridge Gas advised they would take this request back to the Environment team. The CLFN representative requested a copy of the Stage 2 AA report, which was provided on April 3, 2025.
- ii. At this time, Enbridge Gas is not aware of any outstanding concerns from CLFN with respect to the Project.
- iii. Please see the response at part a) i. of this Exhibit.
- b) On March 20, 2025, a Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ) representative requested a copy of the ER and Stage 2 AA report. Enbridge Gas provided a copy of the ER and the Stage 2 AA report on March 20, 2025, and April 3, 2025, respectively. At this time, Enbridge Gas is not aware of any outstanding questions or concerns from MBQ.

On March 31, 2025, Huron-Wendat Nation (HWN) representatives emailed Enbridge Gas regarding the timing of the Stage 2 AA. HWN asked for the Stage 2 AA prior to the application being approved.<sup>1</sup> Enbridge Gas provided the Stage 2 AA report on April 3, 2025. At an in-person meeting with HWN on April 3, 2025, Enbridge Gas explained the reasoning behind the typical timing of the Stage 2 AA. Enbridge Gas advised that the Stage 2 AA is conducted once the Preliminary Preferred Route (PPR) has been chosen, following the ER review by the Ontario Pipeline Coordinating Committee and Indigenous Nations. Since the PPR is finalized after the ER review, Enbridge Gas does not conduct the Stage 2 AA prior to the ER being sent out. In some cases, Enbridge Gas is able to provide the Stage 2 AA report prior to the OEB application approval.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EB-2024-0325, Exhibit I.OEB STAFF-1, Attachment 1, Line-item attachment 2.26.

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c) Enbridge Gas plans to continue engagement with the Indigenous communities by providing Project updates and responding to any follow-up questions from the Indigenous communities. The channels of communication may include in-person or virtual meetings, emails, and site tours. Project updates typically include information regarding construction progress. Information provided during ongoing operations will vary depending on the circumstances, including the nature of any planned operational activities that may be undertaken. Enbridge Gas will remain available to answer any questions or address any concerns related to such operations.

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# ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

# Answer to Interrogatory from <u>OEB Staff</u>

#### Interrogatory

#### Reference:

Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 9: Indigenous Consultation Report: Summary Tables (as of March 6, 2025)

#### Preamble:

Regarding capacity funding, Enbridge Gas noted that it offered funding to each Indigenous community identified as potentially impacted by the project. According to Enbridge Gas, capacity funding will support timely activities such as technical review of project documents and engagement in meaningful consultation.

#### Question(s):

- a) Please provide information on which Indigenous communities accepted and were provided capacity funding by Enbridge Gas and provide a description of the activities supported by the capacity funding that was provided.
- b) Please advise if any Indigenous communities raised concerns with Enbridge Gas with respect to the capacity funding being offered and if so, how Enbridge Gas responded to such concerns.

#### Response:

- a) Enbridge Gas has provided capacity funding to the Mississaugas of the Scugog Island First Nation and Alderville First Nation. Huron Wendt Nation also requested capacity funding at an April 3, 2025 meeting, and Enbridge Gas agreed to make arrangements to provide the funding. Capacity funding is provided to support engagement activities related to the Project including the review of Project documentation, meetings and general engagement.
- b) No concerns have been raised with Enbridge Gas regarding the capacity funding that has been offered in relation to the Project.

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# ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

# Answer to Interrogatory from <u>OEB Staff</u>

#### Interrogatory

### Reference:

Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 9: Indigenous Consultation Report: Summary Tables (as of March 6, 2025)

### Preamble:

In its summary table filed in evidence, Enbridge Gas summarizes questions or concerns that were raised by community members or representatives related to the project.

### Question(s):

a) Please provide a summary of all forms of accommodation that Enbridge Gas has committed and agreed to make or made to any of the ten consulted Indigenous communities in response to the concerns raised in the Indigenous consultation process for the Project?

#### Response:

a) Enbridge Gas primarily addressed concerns by providing relevant Project information and explaining how proposed mitigation measures would limit impacts on the matters of interest to the communities. In certain instances, Enbridge Gas made additional commitments. The following provides a summary of how expressed concerns were addressed, with further details included in the attachments to the Indigenous Consultation Report<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 10 (updated March 19, 2025).

## Curve Lake First Nation (CFLN)

In response to CLFN's comments and concerns regarding watercourse crossings, disturbance to wetlands and archaeology, Enbridge Gas explained its assessment, and relevant mitigation measures.

Enbridge Gas committed to notifying CLFN if a trenchless method of watercourse crossing cannot be performed and discussing the alternative crossing method, including any planned fish salvage activities and opportunities to observe those activities, with CLFN. In response to CLFN's request for Enbridge Gas to share the tree inventory, Enbridge Gas indicated there is no anticipated tree removals for the Project; however, if any trees need to be removed, Enbridge Gas would share the tree inventory with CLFN. Enbridge Gas committed to inviting CLFN to attend the post-construction monitoring site visits at 3- and 15-months post energization.

### Huron Wendat Nation (HWN)

In response to HWN's March 31, 2025 email request for Enbridge Gas to provide Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment (AA) reports for review prior to the Environmental Report and/or prior to Project approval for a number of Enbridge Gas projects including the Tweed Community Expansion Project, Enbridge Gas explained the reasoning behind the typical timing of the Stage 2 AA and provided the Stage 2 AA report for the Project to HWN. Please see the response at Exhibit I.OEB STAFF-1, part b).

## Other Indigenous Communities

While no other specific substantive concerns have been identified by other Nations to date, Enbridge Gas notes that the mitigation measures identified in the Environmental Report are designed to minimize the extent of impacts of the Project, including impacts on wildlife, watercourses, vegetation, and archaeological resources, which are often matters of concern to Indigenous communities. Enbridge Gas also provided interested Nations with the opportunity to participate in Stage 2 AA fieldwork.

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# ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

# Answer to Interrogatory from <u>OEB Staff</u>

### Interrogatory

## Reference:

Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 7: Sufficiency Letter (not filed)

### Preamble:

The Ministry of Energy delegated the procedural aspects of consultation to Enbridge Gas and will provide a letter with its opinion on the adequacy of the procedural aspects of Indigenous consultation undertaken by Enbridge Gas related to the project. This letter is referred to interchangeably as the "Sufficiency Letter" or as the "Letter of Opinion". Enbridge Gas stated that the Sufficiency Letter would be filed on the record once it had been received by Enbridge Gas.

### Question(s):

a) What is the expected date when Enbridge Gas anticipates that the Sufficiency Letter would be provided by the Ministry of Energy?

#### Response:

a) Enbridge Gas anticipates that the Sufficiency Letter will be provided closer to the closing of the regulatory proceeding, and will file the letter as Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 7 upon receipt.

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# ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

# Answer to Interrogatory from <u>OEB Staff</u>

### Interrogatory

Reference:

Exhibit I, Tab 1, Schedule 1: Conditions of Approval

## Preamble:

Enbridge Gas stated that it will comply with any conditions of approval that might be specified by the OEB in its approval of this application.

## Question(s):

a) Please specify the conditions of approval that Enbridge Gas proposes for the project.

## Response:

a) Enbridge Gas acknowledges that OEB staff, in Schedule A of its submission<sup>1</sup> for the EB-2024-0084 proceeding, proposed several conditions of approval for exemption from the requirement to obtain leave to construct for Enbridge Gas's Cherry Valley Community Expansion Project. Enbridge Gas proposes that the OEB adopt the same conditions of approval for this application.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EB-2024-0084 OEB Staff Submission