



Enbridge Gas Inc.

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

DECISION ON ISSUES LIST AND PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 2

May 16, 2025

This is a decision by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) approving an Issues List to define the structure and scope of Phase 3 of this proceeding. The OEB is also providing a procedural schedule for Phase 3.

Enbridge Gas Inc. filed an application on October 31, 2022 with the 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 third of the three phases of the application.

ISSUES LIST

In Procedural Order No. 1, issued March 21, 2025, the OEB made provision for an issues list conference. The OEB noted that the draft issues list included with Enbridge Gas's Phase 3 evidence¹ would be used as the starting point for discussions.

An issues conference was held on March 27, 2025. Enbridge Gas and intervenors reached a consensus on a proposed issues list for Phase 3.

The OEB has considered the proposed issues list and approves it with minor revisions. In the proposed issues list, Issue #13 is described as follows:

**Is the proposal for a common reference price methodology to set
gas costs appropriate in relation to the 2024 Test Year gas cost
forecast?**

The OEB has moved this issue to section A under rate harmonization. The OEB believes that the harmonization of setting gas costs fits with the consideration of harmonizing other matters in this application. The OEB has also separated the draft issue into two sentences as the OEB finds there are two proposals under consideration.

¹ Exhibit 1, Tab 3, Schedule 1, Attachment 3

The first sentence addresses the appropriateness of the common reference price methodology to set gas costs. The second sentence addresses the appropriateness of using the common reference price methodology to set the gas costs in relation to the 2024 Test Year gas forecast. Accordingly, the issue is Issue #7 and has been revised as follows:

Is the proposal for a common reference price methodology appropriate? If so, is it appropriate for the setting of gas costs in relation to the 2024 Test Year gas cost forecast?

NEXT PROCEDURAL STEPS

OEB Staff and Intervenor Evidence

If OEB staff or any intervenor wishes to file evidence (including expert evidence) in Phase 3 it must submit a request in accordance with Rule 13 of the OEB's [*Rules of Practice and Procedure*](#). Deadlines are set out below.

Interrogatories

Provision is being made for written interrogatories on the Phase 3 evidence. Parties should consult sections 26 and 27 of the OEB's *Rules of Practice and Procedure* for information related to interrogatories. Similar to Phases 1 and 2, the OEB will be using the exhibit and tab numbers as the reference for naming interrogatories. The numbering for each interrogatory should be continuous and start from one for this proceeding. Parties should not restart the numbering for interrogatories associated with each exhibit and tab of the evidence. As an example, OEB staff's fifth interrogatory could be related to customer engagement. Therefore, it would be titled as "1.6-Staff-5". OEB staff's 40th interrogatory could be related to rate harmonization. Therefore, it would be titled as "8.2-Staff-40".

Technical Conference

A transcribed technical conference will be held to provide clarification on interrogatory responses. In preparation for the technical conference, the OEB will require parties to file a description of the specific areas that they will be focusing on and an estimate of time required for each area of focus. This will allow a technical conference schedule to be developed. If parties wish to file specific questions in advance, they may do so.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. The approved issues list for Phase 3 is attached as Schedule A.
2. If OEB staff or intervenors wish to file evidence (including expert evidence), they shall submit a request in accordance with Rule 13 by **May 30, 2025**.
3. OEB staff and intervenors shall request any relevant information and documentation from Enbridge Gas that is in addition to the evidence already filed by Enbridge Gas, through written interrogatories filed with the OEB and served on all parties by **June 5, 2025**.
4. Enbridge Gas shall file with the OEB complete written responses to all interrogatories and serve them on OEB staff and all intervenors by **July 4, 2025**.
5. A transcribed technical conference will be held on **July 16, 2025** starting at 9:30 a.m. If necessary, the technical conference will continue on **July 17, 2025**. OEB staff and intervenors shall file with the OEB, and provide to Enbridge Gas, a description of the specific areas they will focus on at the technical conference, with time estimates, by **July 11, 2025**. Further information on how to participate will be communicated to parties closer to the date.
6. Responses to undertakings from the technical conference shall be filed with the OEB and sent to all parties by **August 1, 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-2025-0064** 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, **May 16, 2025**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar

SCHEDULE A
ENBRIDGE GAS INC.
EB-2025-0064
APPROVED ISSUES LIST

ISSUES LIST

A. Rate Harmonization, Cost Allocation and Rate Design, and Gas Cost Common Reference Price Methodology

- 1) Is the proposal for harmonization of rate zones and rate classes appropriate, including:
 - a) The proposal for one rate zone.
 - b) The proposal for harmonized rate classes.
- 2) Is the 2024 Cost Allocation Study to allocate costs to the harmonized rate classes appropriate, including the methodologies?
- 3) Is the proposed rate design of harmonized rate classes appropriate, including:
 - a) Rate design for the general service rate classes.
 - b) Rate design for the in-franchise contract rate classes.
 - c) Rate design for the ex-franchise rate classes.
- 4) Is the proposed rate design proposal for the gas supply charges and the applicability of the Parkway Delivery Commitment Incentive appropriate?
- 5) Are the proposed services and related charges, and the ex-franchise terms and conditions for the harmonized rate classes appropriate?
- 6) Are the proposed harmonized rates and related charges, based on the updated 2024 Revenue Requirement, just and reasonable?
- 7) Is the proposal for a common reference price methodology appropriate? If so, is it appropriate for the setting of gas costs in relation to the 2024 Test Year gas cost forecast?

Rate Implementation and Mitigation

- 8) Is the proposed rate harmonization implementation plan appropriate?

- 9) Is the rate mitigation plan for harmonized rate classes and Rider R – Rate Mitigation Rider appropriate?

D. Deferral & Variance Accounts

- 10) Is the proposal for harmonization of the following gas supply variance accounts appropriate?
- a) Purchase Gas Variance Account (PGVA) (Account No. 179-101)
 - b) Third-Party Transportation Variance Account (Account No. 179-102)
 - c) Load Balancing Price Variance Account (Account No. 179-103)
 - d) Inventory Revaluation Variance Account (Account No. 179-104)
 - e) Market-Based Storage Variance Account (Account No. 179-204)
- 11) Is the proposal to establish a new Rate Harmonization Variance Account appropriate?
- 12) Should the OEB establish any other deferral or variance accounts related to the matters at issue in Phase 3?

E. Other

- 13) Has Enbridge Gas identified and responded appropriately to all relevant OEB directions and Enbridge Gas commitments made in OEB proceedings (inclusive of any relevant directions arising from the OEB's pending decision on Phase 2), including those relating to:
- a) an update on the Automated Metering Infrastructure pilot project;
 - b) a report on the steps that it has taken to achieve the capital reduction set out in the Phase 1 Decision;
 - c) reporting on the status of its responses to previous Integrated Resource Planning directions;
 - d) filing updated written marketing materials or reference materials aimed at customers, potential customers, HVAC contractors or builders that include or previously included energy comparison information; and
 - e) various cost allocation and rate design directives and commitments, including the study regarding interruptible rates.