



EB-2024-0198

Enbridge Gas Inc.

**Application for Multi-Year Natural Gas Demand Side  
Management Plan (2026-2030)**

**PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 5  
July 18, 2025**

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) filed a multi-year natural gas demand side management (DSM) plan application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on November 29, 2024 under section 36(1) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. The application was filed for approval of a new natural gas DSM policy framework effective January 1, 2026 and a new multi-year DSM plan, inclusive of budgets, programs and targets, from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2030.

On March 20, 2025, Enbridge Gas filed a [letter](#) with the OEB requesting that the OEB place the application in abeyance. This request was for the preparation of updated evidence in response to the Government of Canada's decision to set the federal carbon charge under the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Act* to zero effective April 1, 2025. Enbridge Gas proposed to file the updates no later than May 30, 2025. The OEB granted the request by [letter](#) dated March 24, 2025.

As part of the OEB's [Decision on Issues List and Procedural Order No. 2](#) issued on April 10, 2025, the OEB provided direction to Enbridge Gas on its abeyance request, including a requirement that Enbridge Gas report on its preparation of the updates by May 2, 2025.

Enbridge Gas filed a [letter](#) on May 2, 2025. Enbridge Gas indicated it would file an update by May 30, 2025, requesting that the OEB roll forward the approved 2023-2025 DSM Plan to the 2026 program year. Enbridge Gas indicated that it would also seek a decision on its 2026 DSM activities by September 30, 2025 to avoid any program disruptions.

On May 13, 2025, the OEB issued [Procedural Order No. 3](#) which, among other things, directed Enbridge Gas to file additional evidence relating to its DSM plan for 2026 by May 30, 2025. On May 23, 2025, Enbridge Gas filed a letter with the OEB requesting an extension to file its evidence to June 20, 2025. Enbridge Gas indicated that it required more time to provide the additional evidence required by the OEB.

On May 28, 2025, the OEB issued a [letter](#) and accepted Enbridge Gas's request for an extension to June 20, 2025.

On June 20, 2025, Enbridge Gas filed updated evidence for its [2026 DSM Plan](#).

On July 3, 2025, the OEB issued [Procedural Order No. 4](#) which, among other things, took this application out of abeyance and established procedural steps for the balance of the proceeding, including Enbridge Gas' request to roll over the 2023-2025 programs into 2026.

### **Intervenor Evidence**

On July 11, 2025, Environmental Defence Canada (EDC) / Green Energy Coalition (GEC) and Small Business Utility Alliance (SBUA) each filed letters with the OEB discussing intervenor evidence. On July 14, 2025, Enbridge Gas filed a reply letter.

EDC/GEC filed a subsequent letter on July 16, 2025, informing the OEB that they had initiated discussions with Enbridge Gas regarding certain residential program design details they had discussed in its original letter. EDC/GEC indicated that Enbridge Gas confirmed that it was already intending to review residential program mechanisms, including streamlining initial participant paperwork, and considering alternative options for contractors to size heat pumps appropriately. Enbridge Gas indicated it hopes to complete this initial review in time to implement any changes in January, subject to discussions with the IESO. In response to these details, EDC/GEC retracted its request for leave to file evidence.

SBUA indicated its interest in exploring modest revisions to the eligibility criteria of the proposed 2026 Residential Program in an attempt to begin to address the OEB's comments in its previous DSM Order<sup>1</sup> regarding the needs of small and micro business customers. SBUA stated that it does not seek to enter new evidence in this proceeding but that it may rely on relevant portions of expert evidence previously filed by SBUA in the previous DSM proceeding.<sup>2</sup>

Enbridge Gas submitted that SBUA's requests are out of scope for this rollover proceeding and the OEB should confirm this in its decision. Enbridge Gas acknowledged that, as part of its next multi-year DSM plan, improvements are expected regarding DSM programs for small business customers. This is confirmed in the OEB's findings in the last DSM proceeding which resulted in subsequent discussions and recommendations by the Stakeholder Advisory Group. However, expanding the

---

<sup>1</sup> EB-2021-0002, [Decision and Order](#), November 15, 2022, p. 37.

<sup>2</sup> EB-2021-0002

eligibility criteria of the current residential offerings to small commercial businesses would require a number of changes and updates across the DSM plan.

## Findings

The OEB appreciates the efforts made by EDC/GEC and Enbridge Gas to resolve potential issues in an expedited manner. It is no longer necessary to consider the proposed evidence by EDC/GEC. As indicated in the July 16, 2025 letter from EDC/GEC, Enbridge Gas is actively reviewing and considering how to implement some changes to the residential program design identified by EDC/GEC and as a result, EDC/GEC have advised that they no longer intend to file evidence regarding the 2026 DSM rollover proposal.

The OEB denies SUBA's proposal to consider revisions to the eligibility criteria for the proposed 2026 Residential Program. Participation by small businesses in the residential program is not within the scope of the 2026 rollover application. The OEB notes that small business participation and specific programs for these customers can be raised when the OEB considers the multi-year DSM plan that Enbridge Gas intends to file later this year. The OEB encourages SBUA to raise these issues with Enbridge Gas in advance of that filing.

## Scheduling Change

The OEB will be adjusting some dates established in Procedural Order No. 4 to accommodate a scheduling conflict identified by Enbridge Gas. In particular, the dates for filing intervenor evidence, dates and time estimates for the technical conference and the date for filing responses to the undertakings for the technical conference will be changed.

The OEB is making provision for the following procedural steps related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

## THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Any intervenors granted leave by the OEB to file evidence shall file their evidence with the OEB, copying all other parties, by **Monday, July 21, 2025**.
2. The OEB is making provision for a virtual transcribed technical conference in lieu of interrogatories on **Thursday, July 24, 2025** starting at 9:30 a.m. and will continue on **Friday, July 25, 2025**. In preparation for the technical conference, the OEB will require parties to provide an estimate of the time required, appreciating the limited scope of discovery related to the Residential Program, by **Tuesday, July 22, 2025**.

3. Responses to undertakings from the technical conference shall be filed with the OEB and sent to all parties by **Friday, August 8**.
4. Any written submissions by OEB staff and Intervenorors shall be filed with the OEB and served on Enbridge Gas and Intervenorors by **Monday, August 18, 2025**.
5. Enbridge Gas may file a written reply submission with the OEB and serve it on Intervenorors and OEB staff by **Friday, August 29, 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-2024-0198** 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](mailto: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, Michael Bell at [Michael.Bell@oeb.ca](mailto:Michael.Bell@oeb.ca) and OEB Counsel, Lawren Murray at [Lawren.Murray@oeb.ca](mailto:Lawren.Murray@oeb.ca).

Email: [registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)

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

**DATED** at Toronto, **July 18, 2025**

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Ritchie Murray  
Acting Registrar