From:	Office of the Registrar
To:	Zulma DeBonis
Subject:	Redacted - Letter of Comment Submitted: EB-2025-0163
Date:	Wednesday, August 13, 2025 11:22:42 AM

From: Ontario Energy Board <webmaster@oeb.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 10:40 AM
To: Office of the Registrar <Registrar@oeb.ca>
Cc: Webmaster <Webmaster@oeb.ca>
Subject: Redacted - Letter of Comment Submitted: EB-2025-0163

LETTER OF COMMENT

Comments:

I am writing to express my opposition to Enbridge Gas Incs application to increase natural gas distribution rates effective January 1 2026 including the proposed increase for Union South and other service areas under OEB file number EB20250163 While I understand that the proposed rate adjustments are set using an OEB approved formula tied to inflation and efficiency factors I do not believe this justifies passing additional costs onto consumers at this time Families individuals and businesses across Ontario are already facing rising costs for housing groceries and utilities Increasing energy rates will place an even greater financial burden on households particularly those on fixed or modest incomes No one should have to choose between heating their home and buying groceries According to Enbridges application typical residential customers could see annual bill increases ranging from 3136 to 4618 For commercial customers the increases are comparable These are not negligible amounts and when combined with other cost of living increases they represent a meaningful financial strain This comes less than a year after the OEB approved changes to Enbridge Gas rates effective July 1 2025 While that change resulted in an overall annual bill decrease of 4424 for a typical residential customer the adjustment included multiple onetime charges and increases including a 5348 rise in the gas supply commodity charge and additional DSM program charges which offset some of the relief The fact that customers are still adjusting to those changes makes it unreasonable to impose another increase so soon Enbridge reported net profits near 4 billion last year and paid its president and chief executive officer Gregory L Ebel 237 million PostMedia As a monopoly with a growing customer base Enbridge should be delivering efficiencies not higher rates The inflation formula does not justify further charges when productivity gains and existing profits can cover costs Customers have also reported inaccurate estimates and rising fixed charges eroding trust in the companys billing practices Last year the province overrode an OEB decision with Bill 165 forcing existing customers to subsidize new pipelines at a cost of about 600 per household Communities and intervenors have pushed back before and the OEB has reduced unnecessary spending to protect consumers That same scrutiny should be applied here The additional requests in this application including updates to miscellaneous service charges the hydrogen gas rate rider and unit rates for the Panhandle Regional Expansion Project will further contribute to higher energy costs While some of these measures may be tied to operational changes or infrastructure projects I believe the company should first focus on cost control operational efficiencies and reducing nonessential expenditures before seeking additional funds from ratepayers Energy is an essential service and affordability must remain a top priority At a time when many Ontarians are struggling financially approving another increase sends the wrong message and risks deepening affordability challenges for both residents and businesses For these reasons I urge

the Ontario Energy Board to reject Enbridge Gass application in its current form and to explore alternatives that protect consumers from further cost increases As an aside I find it very strange that no special characters can be used in this form and as such no punctuation Respectfully submitted

Name: Christine Dwyer

Do you reside in the impacted service area?: Yes