

EB-2024-0342

Enbridge Gas Inc.

Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Township of Tay Valley

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO.4 August 20, 2025

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on November 21, 2024, for an order under section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act* granting it a new certificate of public convenience and necessity (certificate) to construct works to supply natural gas in the Township of Tay Valley that would also cancel and supersede its existing certificate for the Township, which is in the name of the former Township of Bathurst.

On August 6, 2025, Climate Network Lanark (CNL) filed a letter requesting that a technical conference be held, or alternatively, that Enbridge Gas be directed to provide full and adequate responses to certain interrogatories and to answer certain follow-up questions. CNL argues that this additional discovery is necessary to explore Enbridge Gas's assertions regarding the need for a certificate that covers an expanded area.

In particular, CNL argues that there is a "contradiction" in Enbridge Gas's evidence that needs to be explored: on the one hand Enbridge Gas says that the expanded certificate is needed in order to avoid delay responding to new requests for gas service, while on the other hand it says that it currently has no plans to build pipelines in the areas that would be added to the certificate.

On August 8, 2025, Enbridge Gas filed a letter urging the OEB to deny CNL's request. Enbridge Gas argued that a technical conference would result in "regulatory inefficiencies / burdens" and that the issues CNL wishes to explore further are not germane to the proceeding. Enbridge Gas denied that there is any contradiction "between wanting to avoid any delays responding to requests for natural gas service in currently unserved areas of Tay Valley Township and there currently being no plans in place related to constructing pipelines in the areas proposed to be added to Enbridge Gas' current CPCN." Enbridge Gas maintained that "this reflects how the utility distribution business works": having the certificate already in place would avoid any delay in having to amend it after receiving a request for a new service connection.

On August 8, 2025, the Township of Tay Valley filed a letter stating that there were information gaps that need to be addressed and requested that the OEB provide further steps in the process.

Findings

The additional information requested by CNL may, with one exception described below, be of assistance to the OEB's understanding of the positions of the parties in this proceeding. The OEB finds that a technical conference is not required; it would be more efficient to proceed by way of written responses. This will only extend the current hearing timelines by a short time. In light of the fact that there are no current plans for any construction activities in the expanded areas, this minor delay will cause no significant prejudice to Enbridge Gas.

Enbridge Gas is therefore directed to provide written responses to the following questions identified by CNL by August 29, 2025:

- In respect of interrogatories EGI-OEB-2, Enbridge Gas shall provide the number
 of prospective customers and their general location (including whether they are
 inside or outside the expanded area that Enbridge Gas seeks to add to the
 certificate), and a map showing the location of any service requests or planned
 infrastructure
- In respect of EGI-CNL-9, Enbridge Gas shall provide the information that was requested in parts (b) and (c)
- Enbridge Gas shall respond to CNL's "Follow up question 1", with the exception of part (e) (an aerial map showing the land use in the expanded areas that are closest to Enbridge Gas pipelines), which the OEB finds is not necessary
- Enbridge Gas shall respond to CNL's "Follow up question 2"

The OEB has adjusted the remaining dates in the proceeding accordingly.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Enbridge Gas shall file with the OEB written responses in accordance with the directions provided above and serve them on all parties by **August 29, 2025**.
- 2. The Township of Tay Valley, and CNL shall file their written submissions with the OEB and serve them on all parties by **September 5, 2025**.

- 3. OEB Staff shall file its written submission with the OEB and serve it on all parties by **September 12, 2025.**
- 4. Enbridge Gas shall file a written reply submission, if any, with the OEB and serve it on all parties by **September 19, 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 <u>Rules of Practice and Procedure</u>.

Please quote file number, **EB-2024-0342** for all materials filed and submit them in searchable/unrestricted PDF format with a digital signature through the <u>OEB's online filing portal</u>.

- 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 <u>Regulatory Electronic Submission System (RESS)</u> <u>Document Guidelines</u> found at the <u>File documents online page</u> on the OEB's website.
- Parties are encouraged to use RESS. Those who have not yet <u>set up an account</u>, or require assistance using the online filing portal can contact <u>registrar@oeb.ca</u> for assistance.
- Cost claims are filed through the OEB's online filing portal. Please visit the <u>File</u>
 <u>documents online page</u> of the OEB's website for more information. All
 participants shall download a copy of their submitted cost claim and serve it to all
 required parties as per the <u>Practice Direction on Cost Awards</u>.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar and be received by end of business, 4:45 p.m., on the required date.

Email: registrar@oeb.ca

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

DATED at Toronto, **August 20, 2025**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Ritchie Murray Acting Registrar