From: Office of the Registrar

To: Morgan Dew-Jones

Subject: FW: Redacted - Letter of Comment Submitted: EB-2025-0163

**Date:** Wednesday, September 10, 2025 2:38:38 PM

**From:** Ontario Energy Board <webmaster@oeb.ca>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 13, 2025 4:15 PM **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:**

To the Members of the Ontario Energy Board, I am writing to register my strong objection to Enbridge Gas Inc.'s proposed natural gas rate increase, Application EB-2025-0163, scheduled for January 1, 2026. I urge the Board to deny, or at minimum significantly cap, this increase to protect the basic human right to a warm and secure home. Ontarians are facing a relentless affordability crisis. As costs for food and shelter remain elevated, Ontario's poverty rate is rising, increasing from 7.7 percent in 2021 to 10.9 percent in 2022. This has disproportionately affected children, with over 100,000 more falling into poverty in that single year. Meanwhile, social assistance rates for Ontario Works and ODSP remain critically insufficient, leaving recipients far below the poverty line. In stark contrast to the hardship faced by households, Enbridge Inc. reported record financial gains in 2024, with adjusted earnings reaching 6 billion USD and distributable cash flow growing to 12 billion USD. These surging profits are difficult to reconcile with the financial precarity of working families. This proposed hike comes after a decade of steadily climbing rates. Over the last 10 years, the effective price per cubic metre has increased by more than 50 percent, adding hundreds of dollars to the average household's annual heating costs. Low and fixed-income families, who cannot easily reduce their essential gas usage, are hit the hardest. As a regulated utility, Enbridge's role should be to provide an essential service, not to profiteer from it. It is reasonable and just that the company's ability to absorb modest revenue constraints be balanced against the province's growing affordability crisis. I respectfully ask the Board to reject or cap the proposed increases. Please promote policies that affirm heat as a fundamental necessity, not a luxury, and explore alternative cost-recovery mechanisms that do not place the heaviest burden on low-income households. The OEB has a duty to weigh these profound human consequences. Thank you for your consideration.

Name: Anit Desai

Do you reside in the impacted service area?: Yes