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

Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 10:23 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 oppose the companys application to raise natural gas distribution rates as of January 1, 2026. This increase, ranging from about CA31 to CA46 a year for the average home depending on location, comes at a time when the cost of living in our province is already hitting people hard. Housing costs, grocery prices, and utility bills have all climbed in recent years. Another bump in energy rates would pile even more pressure onto households, especially families on fixed incomes, and small businesses trying to stay afloat. For some, these are not just numbers on paper, they represent real tradeoffs like cutting back on essentials to keep the heat on. The timing makes this proposal particularly unreasonable. We have only just seen changes to Enbridge rates in July 2025. While that adjustment was advertised as an overall decrease, it also included one time charges and other cost increases, including higher commodity prices and added DSM program fees. Many customers have not even had a chance to fully absorb those changes, and now another rate hike is already in the pipeline. Enbridges financial position does not support the need for yet another increase. In 2024, the company reported adjusted earnings of around CA6 billion and an EBITDA of CA18.6 billion, up 13 percent from the year before. Their CEO earned roughly CA23.8 million in compensation. For a monopoly serving millions of customers, this level of profitability should make it possible to manage infrastructure costs and operational needs without further burdening ratepayers. Customers are also still paying the price for the provincial governments Bill 165, which reversed the OEBs decision to end subsidies for new gas pipelines. That reversal means existing customers are once again footing the bill for expansion projects, costing about CA600 per household over five years, regardless of whether they benefit from them. Now, this new application layers on more costs through updates to service fees, the hydrogen gas rider, and unit rates for the Panhandle Regional Expansion Project. I am not against maintaining and improving our energy infrastructure. But I believe the first step should be improving efficiency, cutting unnecessary spending, and making use of existing profits, not raising bills for households already stretched to their limits. For these reasons, I respectfully ask the OEB to reject Enbridge Gas application in its current form and explore options that protect affordability for Ontarians. Energy is an essential service, and decisions about rates should prioritize stability and fairness for the people who rely on it every day. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Name: Linh Nguyen

Do you reside in the impacted service area?: Yes