



Ontario | Commission
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BY EMAIL

March 4, 2026

Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4
Registrar@oeb.ca

Dear Ritchie Murray:

**Re: Ontario Energy Board (OEB) Staff Submission
Enbridge Gas Inc.
Lanark and Balderson Community Expansion Project
OEB File Number: EB-2025-0306**

Please find attached OEB staff's submission on intervenor evidence in the above referenced proceeding, pursuant to Procedural Order No. 01.

Yours truly,

Natalya Plummer

Advisor, Natural Gas

Encl.

cc: All parties in EB-2025-0306



ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

OEB Staff Submission on Intervenor Evidence

Enbridge Gas Inc.

Lanark and Balderson Community Expansion Project

EB-2025-0306

March 4, 2026

Background

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) applied to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on November 27, 2025, under Sections 90 and 97 of the OEB Act to construct natural gas pipelines and associated facilities in the communities of Lanark, Balderson and the surrounding areas in the Township of Lanark Highlands and in the Township of Drummond/North Elmsley.

On February 18, 2026, the OEB issued Procedural Order No.1 (PO1) which approved Climate Network Lanark, the Federation of Rental-housing Providers of Ontario and Pollution Probe as intervenors. PO1 made provision for Climate Network Lanark to file a letter that provides a full description and cost estimate of the evidence it wishes to file. PO1 also provided for the filing of submissions on Enbridge Gas's confidentiality request.

On March 1, 2026, Climate Network Lanark filed a letter with the OEB describing the nature of evidence that it proposes to file.

OEB Staff Submission

In its application, Enbridge Gas states that it conducted surveys of potential residential customers to gauge interest in natural gas distribution service and conversion within the Project area. Enbridge Gas retained Forum Research, a third-party research supplier, to conduct surveys by telephone, online and in-person of potential residential customers in the Project area between June 3 and June 19, 2023. A total of 121 surveys were completed from a list of 297 homeowners.

Climate Network Lanark states that it seeks to retain a public opinion research firm to critique the survey completed by Enbridge Gas and to conduct an updated survey. In doing so, Climate Network Lanark states that it wishes to file evidence relating to the following:

- Local views on the proposed project, including views in the impacted municipalities that have not indicated support for the project;
- Enbridge marketing to potential local customers, and whether it has been fair and accurate; and
- Factors that may have a potential impact on the number of connections.

Climate Network Lanark states that the cost to prepare this evidence being between \$14,000 and \$18,000, plus approximately \$1,500 in incremental counsel time.

OEB staff is of the view that an additional survey solicited by Climate Network Lanark is not necessary. OEB staff does not agree that the commissioning and filing of an entirely

new survey is required for Climate Network Lanark to critique Enbridge Gas' survey. OEB staff expects that such evidence will cause unnecessary delays and entail substantial costs that are not commensurate with the probative value of a new survey. OEB staff also submits that issues pertaining to marketing materials are outside of the scope of this proceeding.

OEB staff is also of the view that the updated information that Climate Network Lanark is requesting about potential residential customers in the Project area may be provided by Enbridge Gas in its interrogatory responses and that other outreach activities that Enbridge Gas may have completed after the surveys were conducted may provide additional information regarding potential residential customers in the Project area.

~All of which is respectfully submitted~