



Ontario
Energy
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de l'énergie
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BY EMAIL

March 5, 2026

Patricia Squires
Manager, Regulatory Applications, Leave to Construct
Enbridge Gas Inc.
500 Consumers Road
North York ON M2J 1P8
EGIRegulatoryProceedings@enbridge.com

Dear Patricia Squires:

**Re: Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas)
Washago Community Expansion Project
OEB File Number: EB-2025-0271**

Enbridge Gas Inc. applied, pursuant to section 90(1) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act), for approval for leave to construct natural gas pipelines to serve the community of Washago and surrounding areas in the Township of Severn and the Town of Gravenhurst in Ontario (Project).

One of the questions at issue for adjudication in this proceeding is whether the duty to consult and accommodate has been discharged.

On January 17, 2025, the Ministry of Energy and Mines (Ministry) issued its delegation letter, delegating the procedural aspects of the Crown's duty to consult in relation to the Project to Enbridge Gas and identifying ten Indigenous communities to be consulted:

- Alderville First Nation
- Chippewas of Beausoleil First Nation
- Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation
- Chippewas of Rama First Nation
- Curve Lake First Nation
- Hiawatha First Nation
- Huron Wendat Nation
- Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation
- Kawartha Nishnawbe First Nation

- Métis Nation of Ontario Region 7

As part of its application, Enbridge Gas noted that it had provided its Indigenous Consultation Report (ICR) for the Project to the Ministry for its review. Enbridge Gas stated in its application that it expects to receive a Letter of Opinion from the Ministry as to whether its consultation has been sufficient and that it will file this letter with the OEB once received. As of this date, Enbridge Gas has not yet filed with the OEB a Letter of Opinion from the Ministry.

In accordance with the OEB's Protocol for Adjusting Adjudicative Timelines, the OEB hereby places Enbridge Gas's application in abeyance effective **March 5, 2026**.

Specifically, the OEB places the application in abeyance until the earlier of a period of 45 calendar days from the date of this issuance, or such date as the Ministry's Letter of Opinion is received by Enbridge Gas and submitted to the OEB for its review. In the latter case, the OEB will give written notice that the abeyance period has ended. The 45 calendar days period ends on **April 20, 2026**.

If after 45 days, the Ministry's Letter of Opinion is still pending, the OEB may extend the abeyance or pursue another course of action.

The OEB finds that placing the application in abeyance is necessary to provide additional time for consultation and for filing of the Ministry's Letter of Opinion.

Any questions relating to this application may be directed to the Case Manager, Zora Crnojacki at Zora.Crnjacki@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Michael Millar at Michael.Millar@oeb.ca.

Yours truly,

Ritch Murray
Acting Registrar

c: EGIRegulatoryProceedings@enbridge.com, Richard Lanni, Senior Legal Counsel, Enbridge Gas Inc.