



BY EMAIL

March 5, 2026

To: All Parties in EB-2025-0295 - Application for Multi-Year Natural Gas Demand Side Management Plan (2027-2030)

Re: Issues Conference

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) filed a multi-year natural gas demand side management (DSM) plan application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on December 18, 2025 under section 36(1) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. Enbridge Gas seeks approval for a new natural gas DSM policy framework effective January 1, 2027 and approval of a new multi-year DSM plan, inclusive of budgets, programs and targets, from January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2030.

The OEB issued Procedural Order No. 1 on February 27, 2026 scheduling an Issues Conference on March 12, 2026 for parties to provide oral submissions on the draft Issues List. Parties are expected to file a letter by March 9, 2026 with brief comments related to any proposed changes to the draft Issues List.

The application will be heard by Commissioners: Allison Duff (presiding), James Sidlofsky and David Sword.

In the OEB's Decision and Order in Enbridge Gas's 2026 DSM plan application, the OEB indicated that "it is necessary for Enbridge Gas to consider how the economic cost of carbon should be reflected in the [Total Resource Cost]-Plus analysis of the programs it will propose in its upcoming DSM plan application".¹

Enbridge Gas addressed this topic as part of its pre-filed evidence and took the position that it would not be appropriate for the OEB to include a cost of carbon in DSM cost-effectiveness testing for several reasons, including the OEB's lack of jurisdiction to create or impose a carbon price; that doing so would conflict with Government of

¹ EB-2024-0198, Decision and Order, November 6, 2025, pp.1-2.

Ontario policy; and that it would be inconsistent with the objectives of the OEB's DSM Framework.²

Enbridge Gas indicated that it is important that the OEB clarify the scope of this proceeding in relation to the cost of carbon at an early stage in the proceeding. In doing so, the OEB would ensure regulatory efficiency and proper consideration of the OEB's statutory authority/framework.³

The primary purpose of an approved issues list is to define the scope of a proceeding. At the Issues Conference, the Panel expects to hear submissions from parties on whether the consideration of a cost of carbon for DSM cost-effectiveness testing should be within the scope of this proceeding, and added to the draft Issues List.

Following receipt of letters filed on March 9, 2026, and those indicating the intent to actively participate, OEB staff will establish a schedule for the Issues Conference on March 12, 2026.

Please contact the Case Manager, Michael Bell at michael.bell@oeb.ca or 416-440-7688 if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar

² EB-2025-0295, Exhibit C, Tab 1, Schedule 2, p. 5.

³ Application, Exhibit C, Tab 1, Schedule 2, Page 5 of 25 and Cover Letter page 6.