Ontario Energy Board | Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario

BY EMAIL

March 17, 2026

Nancy Marconi
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Marconi:

Re: Enbridge Gas Inc.
Merrickville-Wolford Expansion Project (Project) – Application for Exemption from Leave-to-Construct (LTC) Requirement
OEB File Number: EB-2025-0323

In accordance with Procedural Order No. 1, please find attached the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) Staff interrogatories in the above proceeding. All parties to the proceeding have been copied on this filing.

Enbridge Gas's responses to these interrogatories are due by March 31, 2026.

Any questions relating to this letter should be directed to Arturo Lau at Arturo.Lau@oeb.ca. The OEB's toll-free number is 1-888-632-6273.

Yours truly,

Arturo Lau
Digitally signed by Arturo Lau
Date: 2026.03.17 11:05:47 -04'00'

Arturo Lau
Senior Advisor

Encl.

c: EGIRegulatoryProceedings@enbridge.com; richard.lanni@enbridge.com;

OEB Staff Interrogatories
Enbridge Gas Inc.
EB-2025-0323

Please note, Enbridge Gas Inc. is responsible for ensuring that all documents it files with the OEB, including responses to OEB staff interrogatories and any other supporting documentation, do not include personal information (as that phrase is defined in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*), unless filed in accordance with rule 9A of the OEB's *Rules of Practice and Procedure*.

OEB STAFF-1

Reference: Updated Application, March 10, 2026 -Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 2: Delegation Letter, April 14, 2023; Attachment 11: Indigenous Consultation Report: Summary Tables and Attachment 12: Indigenous Consultation Log (as of March 2, 2026)

Preamble:

One Indigenous community has been identified by the Ministry of Energy and Mines[1] (MEM) as potentially impacted by the Project:

- Algonquins of Ontario (AOO)

In addition, as a result of additional communications from the MEM, Enbridge Gas engaged two additional Indigenous communities:

- Mohawks Council of Akwesasne (MCA)
- Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation (AOPFN)

Enbridge Gas has stated that it provided the following project information to each of the Indigenous communities identified by the MEM as potentially impacted by the Project:

- Notification Letter provided an overview of the proposed Project, a list of potential authorizations required, and contact information for the Ministry of Energy
- Maps of the Project location
- Open House and Virtual Open House information for the Project, which contained information on the environmental process for the Project.
- Environmental Report providing information about the potential effects of the Project on the environment and related mitigation measures.

As required by the OEB's Environmental Guidelines on Hydrocarbon Projects and Facilities in Ontario, Enbridge Gas filed an Indigenous Consultation Report (ICR) and a

[1] Formerly the Ministry of Energy

Log of its consultation activities with its application. Enbridge Gas provided an updated ICR on March 10, 2026, as required by Procedural Order No. 1.

Question(s):

1) Please discuss any outstanding concerns raised by Indigenous communities after March 2, 2026. How is Enbridge Gas addressing these concerns?

2) Please describe Enbridge Gas's plans for continued engagement with Indigenous communities. Which channels of communication will be used and what information regarding the Project construction, operation or any other aspect of the Project will be conveyed?

OEB STAFF-2

Reference: Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 11: Indigenous Consultation Report: Summary Tables (as of March 2, 2026)

Preamble:

Regarding capacity funding, Enbridge Gas noted that it offered funding to AOO, MCA and AOPFN. According to Enbridge Gas, capacity funding will support timely activities such as technical review of project documents and engagement in meaningful consultation.

Question(s):

1) Please confirm whether any of the Indigenous communities have accepted the capacity funding offered and were provided capacity funding by Enbridge Gas and provide a description of the activities supported by the capacity funding that was provided.

2) Please advise if the Indigenous communities raised concerns with Enbridge Gas with respect to the capacity funding being offered and if so, how Enbridge Gas responded to such concerns.

OEB STAFF-3

Reference: Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, para 7

Preamble:

In its application filed on December 12, 2025, Enbridge Gas stated that the ICR was provided to MEM on the date of the filing of the application with the OEB.

Question(s):

1) Please confirm if an ICR was provided to MEM, the date it was provided, and whether the ICR provided to MEM is the same as that provided to the OEB. If there is any difference in the information provided to MEM, please provide an explanation and also provide the ICR submitted to MEM.

   a) If Enbridge Gas has not yet provided the ICR to MEM, please explain why and provide a timeline for when the ICR is expected to be provided to MEM.

2) Please confirm if the updated ICR (to March 2, 2026) was filed with MEM.

OEB STAFF-4

Reference: Letter of Comment, Algonquins of Ontario, March 5, 2026

Preamble:

In a Letter of Comment dated March 5, 2026, the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) raised concerns based on a review of the Environmental Report, including that fisheries surveys should be conducted in the spring months for proper assessment; that consideration of cumulative impacts would strengthen the assessment; that the report does not include a clearly defined fisheries-focused response plan in the event of a drilling fluid release; and that the report does not address potential impacts on benthic communities.

Question(s):

1) Please comment on AOO's assertion that fisheries surveys should be conducted in the spring or, in absence of surveys conducted in the spring, a fisheries-specific mitigation plan should be developed and implemented in relation to construction noise and vibration.

2) Please provide a timeline on when the expected horizontal directional drilling across the Rideau River and associated watercourses will be conducted.

3) How does Enbridge Gas plan to address the concerns identified by the AOO including the absence of a fisheries-focused response plan in the event of a drilling fluid release during HDD activities, cumulative effects on aquatic ecosystems and potential impacts to benthic communities?

OEB STAFF-5

Reference: Exhibit H, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 9: Letter of Opinion (not filed)

Preamble:

The MEM delegated the procedural aspects of consultation to Enbridge Gas and will provide a letter with its opinion on the adequacy of the procedural aspects of Indigenous consultation undertaken by Enbridge Gas related to the Project. This letter is referred to interchangeably as the "Sufficiency Letter" or as the "Letter of Opinion". Enbridge Gas stated that the Letter of Opinion would be filed on the record once it had been received by Enbridge Gas.

Question(s):

1) What is the expected date when Enbridge Gas anticipates that the Letter of Opinion would be provided by the Ministry of Energy and Mines?