



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

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2014-0354

UNION GAS LIMITED AND ENBRIDGE GAS DISTRIBUTION INC.

**Joint application for approval of new and updated conservation
measures**

**BEFORE: Allison Duff
Presiding Member**

July 23, 2015

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Union Gas Limited (Union) and Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. (Enbridge) filed a joint application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) seeking approval for new and updated conservation measures. The OEB requires both utilities to annually update the assumptions that are used to determine savings for a list of Demand Side Management (DSM) measures.

The application includes new and updated measures, and the current approved measures assumptions. OEB staff and the Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC), an independent body that works towards the goal of establishing DSM technical and evaluation standards for the utilities, supported the application. No objections were received.

The OEB approves the application for the reasons provided in this Decision.

THE PROCESS

The OEB decided to hold a written hearing to consider the application. The OEB was aided by OEB staff who filed a written submission. Three parties who represented different groups of customers affected by the application were granted intervenor status to actively participate in the hearing: Building Owners and Managers Association, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, and Green Energy Coalition. However, none of these parties filed questions or submissions.

Union and Enbridge filed a joint reply submission requesting approval of the application.

THE DECISION

The OEB approves the application. The inclusion of two new measures, eight updated measures and values for commercial program “free riders” indicates that DSM programs continue to evolve within Ontario’s natural gas industry. It is apparent that Union and Enbridge are working with parties affected by DSM, especially the TEC, to consider options and seek improvements in programs and their evaluation.

OEB staff supported the application yet commented on potential inputs to the evaluation of the 2014 DSM results. OEB staff referred to the DSM Guidelines which indicate that

the best available information should be used when evaluating results, including results from the evaluation and audit process of the same program year.

The 2014 DSM results will be the subject of another, subsequent application from Union and Enbridge. At that time, the OEB will determine if the 2014 DSM results are consistent with the DSM Guidelines.

THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Union Gas and Enbridge are granted approval of the new and updated DSM measures and input assumptions as set out in the joint application.
2. Intervenors shall file with the OEB and forward to Union and Enbridge their respective cost claims, if any, by **August 4, 2015**.
3. Union and Enbridge shall file with the OEB and forward to intervenors any objections to the claimed costs by **August 11, 2015**.
4. Intervenors shall file with the OEB and forward to Union and Enbridge any responses to any objections for cost claims by **August 18, 2015**.
5. Union and Enbridge shall pay the OEB's costs incidental to this proceeding upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

DATED at Toronto July 23, 2015

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary