



EB-2009-0055

IN THE MATTER OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act 1998*,
S.O.1998, c.15, (Schedule B);

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Enbridge Gas
Distribution Inc. for an order or orders approving the
clearance or disposition of amounts recorded in certain
deferral or variance accounts.

BEFORE: Pamela Nowina
Presiding Member and Vice Chair

Paul Sommerville
Member

SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY DECISION AND ORDER

Deferral and Variance Accounts

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. (“Enbridge” or the “Applicant”) filed an application dated March 18, 2009 (the “Application”) with the Ontario Energy Board (the “Board”) under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act 1998*, S.O. 1998, c.15, Schedule B (the “Act”) for an order approving the disposition of balances in certain deferral or variance accounts. The Board assigned file number EB-2009-0055 to the Application and issued a Notice of Application dated April 1, 2009. The Board issued its Decision and Order on the matter on August 7, 2009 (the “Order”) and approved the balances for clearance to customers. In its Order, the Board ordered the clearances to occur in October and November of 2009 to coincide with the October 1, 2009 quarterly commodity rate adjustment process for Enbridge (“QRAM”).

On September 2, 2009, the Board received a letter from Enbridge seeking to vary the Order to alter the timing of the clearance of the balances. In its letter, Enbridge requested that the clearance dates be postponed until 2010 when it expected that its new Customer Information System (“CIS”) would be able to facilitate the billing of the

clearances. Enbridge provided reasons for the postponement, all of them related to testing and validating its new CIS. Enbridge indicated that it would not know for some time whether a January 2010 clearance date was advisable, and proposed that as part of its January 1, 2010 QRAM Application, it would either request the clearances occur in January and February 2010 or provide the Board with dates when the clearances could be effected.

The Board issued a Supplementary Decision and Order on September 17, 2009 in which it approved Enbridge's request to postpone the clearance until 2010. The Board stated:

The Board finds that Enbridge's proposal is acceptable. The Board will therefore await notice from Enbridge in its January 2010 QRAM Application on the appropriate timing of the clearances, including the advisability of clearing the accounts in January and February of 2010. The Board notes that the January 1, 2010 QRAM Application filing is expected on or around the first of December 2009.

By letter dated December 11, 2009 Enbridge indicated that while a January 1, 2010 clearance was not advisable, an April 1, 2010 clearance in connection with the QRAM could be implemented. By letter dated December 16, 2009 IGUA expressed concern about the timing and recovery of the clearances, and stated that Enbridge should be more forthcoming about the reasons for the postponement. By letter dated December 21, 2009 Enbridge responded that an April 1st clearance would allow the CIS project team time to "address all the implications of adding the new billing activity [clearance of deferral and variance accounts] into the operations of the new CIS to achieve comprehensive validation and accuracy". Enbridge stated that its reasons for postponement remained the same as those stated in its September 2, 2009 correspondence with the Board.

The Board accepts the information provided by Enbridge and the reason for postponement.

While the Board accepts that extra time has been needed, the Board is concerned that the clearance of balances has been postponed twice with the most recent postponement setting dates that are 6 months later than those originally set in the Order. The Board is of the view that by April 1st, the Company will have had ample time to ensure that the new CIS can incorporate the clearances and function reliably. The Board will therefore order that the clearances occur in connection with the April 1, 2010

QRAM. In keeping with the original Order, the balances shall be cleared over two months in equal installments.

THE BOARD THEREFORE ORDERS THAT:

1. Enbridge shall clear the 2008 deferral and variance accounts to coincide with the April 1, 2010 QRAM. The balances will be cleared to customers in two equal installments during the April 2010 and May 2010 billing cycles.
2. Enbridge shall file information schedules with the April 2010 QRAM Application to support the derivation of the unit clearance rates.
3. All filings to the Board must quote file number EB-2009-0055, and consist of two paper copies and one electronic copy in searchable / unrestricted PDF format filed through the Board's web portal at www.errr.oeb.gov.on.ca. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number and, if available, a fax number and e-mail address. Please use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found on the "e-Filing Services" webpage of the Board's website at www.oeb.gov.on.ca. If the web portal is not available you may email your document to BoardSec@oeb.gov.on.ca.

DATED at Toronto, January 6, 2010

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary