

BY E-MAIL AND WEB POSTING

December 14, 2020

**TO: All Participants EB-2020-0106
All Participants EB-2019-0137**

**RE: Consultation to Review Annual Update to Five-Year Natural Gas Supply
Plans
EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership (Aylmer and
Southern Bruce) 2020 Annual Update – EB-2020-0106**

Today the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a *Final OEB Staff Report to the OEB: Consultation to Review the Annual Update to the Natural Gas Supply Plans of EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership* (Final OEB Staff Report). The Final OEB Staff Report sets out OEB staff's assessment of EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership's (ENGLP) annual update to the five-year natural gas supply plans of ENGLP Aylmer and ENGLP Southern Bruce.

The OEB thanks the participants in this consultation. All material related to this consultation is available on the [OEB's website](#).

OEB staff will initiate a consultation as per the timeline determined in this letter to review the next annual update in accordance with the OEB's October 25, 2018 [Report of the Board: Framework for the Assessment of Distributor Gas Supply Plans](#) (Gas Supply Framework).¹

Filing of 2021 Annual Update

In a June 2020 letter, Enbridge Gas requested to forgo the review of its 2020 Gas Supply Plan update as it did not include any impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Enbridge Gas suggested filing of an annual update in early 2021.

¹ EB-2017-0129

In its July 6, 2020 initiation letter on the 2020 Gas Supply Plan review, the OEB determined that Enbridge Gas will be required to provide its 2021 update to its Gas Supply Plan by February 1, 2021. Enbridge Gas proposed that this earlier timeline should be made permanent for future gas supply plan filings.

In a letter dated August 20, 2020, ENGLP submitted that it had no concerns regarding a January or February filing deadline for the Aylmer operations but expressed concerns with respect to its Southern Bruce operations. ENGLP noted that a January or February submission deadline to review the Gas Supply Plan may impact ENGLP's ability to produce a supply plan that is relevant to the coming planning year (April to March).

The OEB has determined that the review of the annual update for both ENGLP Aylmer and ENGLP Southern Bruce should continue to be reviewed as per the Gas Supply Framework (with the annual filing required in May). The matter of the appropriate timing for the review of ENGLP's subsequent gas supply plans will be discussed as part of the 2021 update.

The question of whether the review of Enbridge Gas's annual update to its Gas Supply Plan should be moved to the early part of the year on a permanent basis will also be discussed as part of the 2021 update.

Cost Awards

The issuance of the Final OEB Staff Report marks the conclusion of the consultation. Cost-eligible activities related to this consultation are complete. A Notice of Hearing for Cost Awards will be issued separately.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Christine E. Long
Registrar