

EB-2024-0130

## **EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership**

Application for natural gas distribution rates and other charges effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2029

## INTERIM RATE ORDER December 3, 2024

EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership (ENGLP) filed its application to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on July 18, 2024 for natural gas distribution rates and other charges for the Aylmer service territory using an Incentive Rate-setting (IR) plan for period commencing January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2029, pursuant to section 36 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998 (Act).

In its application, ENGLP requested that, in the event that the OEB is unable to provide a Decision and Rate Order in time for ENGLP to implement its rates effective January 1, 2025, the OEB declare current rates interim effective January 1, 2025 and approve rate riders to recover any change between current and approved revenue between the implementation date of the OEB's 2025 Rate Order and January 1, 2025.

As the application was filed on July 18, 2024, it will not be possible for the OEB to issue the final 2025 rate order by the requested effective date of January 1, 2025. The OEB's performance standard to hear this type of application is 230 days.

The OEB will therefore declare ENGLP's rates interim as of January 1, 2025, noting that ENGLP will remove the rate riders that are expiring by December 31, 2024 from its rate schedules.

This determination is made without prejudice to the OEB's decision on ENGLP's application, and should not be construed as predictive, in any way whatsoever, of the OEB's final determination with regards to the effective date for ENGLP's rates arising from this application.

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Despite granting an interim rate order at this time, the OEB retains the discretion to set the effective date at a date later than the date of the interim rate order. The OEB will ultimately set the effective date of the final rate order to whatever date it determines to be just and reasonable.

## THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. ENGLP's current Tariff of Rates and Charges are declared interim as of January 1, 2025 and until such time as a final rate order is issued by the OEB.
- 2. Effective January 1, 2025, any rate riders that are expiring by December 31, 2024 will be removed from ENGLP's current Tariff of Rates and Charges that are declared interim as of January 1, 2025.

**DATED** at Toronto, **December 3, 2024** 

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD** 

Nancy Marconi Registrar