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For immediate release

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OEB approves interim commodity & final rates for Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.

Toronto – The Ontario Energy Board has approved changes to natural gas commodity and delivery rates charged by Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. (Enbridge) effective January 1, 2005. These changes will increase total costs for a typical residential customer.

The charges for consumers purchasing their natural gas from Enbridge (system gas customers) will reflect an increase in forecast prices of natural gas over the next 12 months; however, that increase will be somewhat offset by a reduction in delivery related charges. An average residential system gas customer, using 3,064 cubic metres (m³) of natural gas per year will see a net increase of about \$70 annually on their bill, reflecting a \$76 increase to the Gas Supply Charge and a decrease of about \$6 in delivery related charges.

The OEB has also approved a gas cost adjustment refund for system gas customers for the period of January 1, 2005 to September 30, 2005. A typical residential customer would see a refund of 1.2775 ¢/m³. The reimbursement is due to actual natural gas costs being lower than previously forecasted.

Consumers purchasing their natural gas commodity from a gas marketer (direct purchase customers) will see an adjustment on their bill reflecting only the changes in the delivery charge, a decrease of about \$6 annually to their bill.

The Board also approved a customer credit of about \$14 for a typical customer who used 3,064 cubic metres (m³) of natural gas in 2004. This one-time refund is a result of the OEB's approved earning sharing arrangement and other adjustments.

Natural gas commodity rates are approved by the Board and can change every three months to reflect a forecast of market prices. The market price of natural gas varies depending on supply and demand and quarterly rate adjustments help reduce the risk of large, one-time adjustments to the consumer.

The Ontario Energy Board is the regulator of Ontario's natural gas and electricity sectors.

For more information on the Board, please visit our web site at www.oeb.gov.on.ca or contact the Customer Service Centre at 416-314-2455 or toll-free at 1-877-632-2727.

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