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BY PRIORITY POST

February 13, 2004

Re: **Implementation of the Gas Distribution Access Rule**

The Board is aware of a number of industry stakeholder concerns with implementation of the Rule. Owing to the unresolved issues regarding the implementation of the Rule, the Board has determined that the March 1, 2004 implementation date is impractical.

Enbridge Gas Distribution ("Enbridge") and Union Gas Limited ("Union") have appealed certain provisions of the Rule and the Court of Appeal has granted leave to appeal. Enbridge has requested the Board's consent to a stay of those provisions of the Rule that are in issue on the appeal, including Chapter 6 of the Rule. The Board also has received an application from Union for an exemption from Chapter 6 of the Rule.

Having considered the above, the Board is proposing to:

- (i) amend implementation dates in the Rule
- (ii) provide an exemption to gas distributors from subsection 6.1.2.3 of the Rule
- (iii) require each gas distributor to file its proposed form of service agreement to be offered to gas vendors for Board approval.

The Board will address issues raised with respect to the scope and standardization of service agreements, service transaction requests and electronic business transaction requirements through the approval process for the form of service agreement to be offered to gas vendors.

Yours truly,

Peter H. O'Dell
Assistant Secretary