



RP-2000-0001

NOTICE OF PROPOSED EXEMPTION FROM THE GAS DISTRIBUTION ACCESS RULE

February 13, 2004

On December 11, 2002, the Ontario Energy Board exercised its authority under section 44 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, to make the Gas Distribution Access Rule.

Enbridge Gas Distribution (“Enbridge”) and Union Gas Limited (“Union”) have appealed certain provisions of the Rule dealing with billing, 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 has also received an application from Union for an exemption from Chapter 6 of the Rule.

The Board is proposing to exempt gas distributors from subsection 6.1.2.3 of the Rule. Section 6.1.2. of the Rule states,

Gas distributors shall have the ability to accommodate each of the following billing options:

6.1.2.1 gas distributor-consolidated billing;

6.1.2.2 split billing; and

6.1.2.3 gas vendor-consolidated billing.

This proposed exemption would be subject to the right of any person to apply to the Board to end the exemption.

Any person who wishes to make a written representation on the proposed exemption, shall file with the Board Secretary, no later than 4:45 p.m. on Monday, March 15, 2004, **original and 12 paper copies** of the representation, and an electronic copy, in PDF format, if possible.

The written representations received by the Board will be available for public inspection on the Board’s website at **www.oeb.gov.on.ca** and at the office of the Board during normal business hours.

If you have any questions, please contact Judith Fernandes at 416 440-7654 or Jim MacDougall at 416 440-8141.

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Yours truly,

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Peter H. O'Dell
Assistant Secretary