Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario



EB-2013-0183

**IN THE MATTER OF** the *Ontario Energy Board Act 1998*, S.O.1998, c.15, (Schedule B);

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an Application by Natural Resource Gas Limited for an Order or Orders approving or fixing just and reasonable rates and other charges for the sale, distribution, transmission and storage of gas effective October 1, 2013.

**BEFORE:** Ken Quesnelle Presiding Member

> Allison Duff Board Member

# RATE ORDER September 12, 2013

Natural Resource Gas ("NRG") filed an Application on April 22, 2013 with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. c.15, (Schedule B), for an order of the Board approving or fixing rates for the distribution, transmission and storage of natural gas, effective October 1, 2013. The Application was filed pursuant to the Board's annual rate setting incentive regulation mechanism approved in NRG's EB-2010-0018 proceeding. The Board assigned file number EB-2013-0183 to the Application and issued a Notice of Application on May 10, 2013.

The Board conducted a written hearing. Union Gas Limited ("Union") and Integrated Grain Processors Co-operative ("IGPC") requested and received intervenor status.

The Board issued its Decision on August 22, 2013 approving NRG's proposed rate adjustments as filed. In its Decision, the Board ordered NRG to file a draft Rate Order and provided dates for parties to file comments.

NRG filed the draft Rate Order on August 27, 2013. No parties filed comments in response to the draft Rate Order.

The Board has reviewed the draft Rate Order and finds that it reflects its Decision of August 22, 2013.

No cost awards were sought in the proceeding.

# THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Appendix "A" of this Rate Order is approved, effective October 1, 2013 for natural gas consumed or estimated to have been consumed on and after such date.
- 2. The Tariff of Rates and Charges set out in Appendix "A" of this Order supersedes all previous distribution rate schedules approved by the Board for NRG and is final in all respects.
- 3. NRG shall notify customers of the rate changes in the next bill reflecting the new rates.

DATED at Toronto, September 12, 2013

# ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary APPENDIX "A"

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BOARD ORDER EB-2013-0183

DATED: SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

#### **RATE 1 - General Service Rate**

#### **Rate Availability**

The entire service area of the Company.

## Eligibility

All customers.

## Rate

a)	Monthly Fixed Charge	\$13.50
	Rate Rider for Shared Tax Savings - effective until September 30, 2014	\$(0.11)
b)	Delivery Charge First 1,000 m <sup>3</sup> per month All over 1,000 m <sup>3</sup> per month	15.6601 cents per m <sup>3</sup> 10.6527 cents per m <sup>3</sup>

c) Gas Supply Charge and System Gas Refund Rate Rider (if applicable) Schedule A

#### **Meter Readings**

Gas consumption by each customer under this rate schedule shall be determined by monthly meter reading, provided that in circumstances beyond the control of the company such as strikes or non-access to a meter, the company may estimate the consumption each month as of the scheduled date of the regular monthly meter reading and render a monthly bill to the customer thereof.

#### **Delayed Payment Penalty**

When payment is not made in full by the due date noted on the bill, which date shall not be less than 16 calendar days after the date of mailing, hand delivery or electronic transmission of the bill, the balance owing will be increased by 1.5%. Any balance remaining unpaid in subsequent months will be increased by a further 1.5% per month. The minimum delayed payment penalty shall be one dollar (\$1.00).

## **Bundled Direct Purchase Delivery**

Where a customer elects under this rate schedule to directly purchase its gas from a supplier other than NRG, the customer or their agent, must enter into a Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract with NRG for delivery of gas to NRG. Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract rates are described in rate schedule BT1. The gas supply charge will not be applicable to customers who elect said Bundled T transportation service.

Unless otherwise authorized by NRG, customers who are delivering gas to NRG under direct purchase arrangements must obligate to deliver said gas at a point acceptable to NRG, and must acquire and maintain firm transportation on all pipeline systems upstream of Ontario.

#### **RATE 2 - Seasonal Service**

## **Rate Availability**

The entire service area of the company.

#### Eligibility

All customers.

## Rate

For all gas consumed from:		April 1 through October 31:	November 1 through March 31:
a)	Monthly Fixed Charge	\$15.00	\$15.00
	Rate Rider for Shared Tax Savings – effective until September 30, 2014	\$(0.19)	
b)	Delivery Charge First 1,000 m <sup>3</sup> per month Next 24,000 m <sup>3</sup> per month All over 25,000 m <sup>3</sup> per month	14.5236 cents per $m^3$ 9.4826 cents per $m^3$ 6.1698 cents per $m^3$	18.3068 cents per $m^3$ 15.6960 cents per $m^3$ 15.2899 cents per $m^3$

c) Gas Supply Charge and System Gas Refund Rate Rider (if applicable)

#### Meter Readings

Gas consumption by each customer under this rate schedule shall be determined by monthly meter reading, provided that in circumstances beyond the control of the company such as strikes or non-access to a meter, the company may estimate the consumption each month as of the scheduled date of the regular monthly meter reading and render a monthly bill to the customer thereof.

Schedule A

#### **Delayed Payment Penalty**

When payment is not made in full by the due date noted on the bill, which date shall not be less than 16 calendar days after the date of mailing, hand delivery or electronic transmission of the bill, the balance owing will be increased by 1.5%. Any balance remaining unpaid in subsequent months will be increased by a further 1.5% per month. The minimum delayed payment penalty shall be one dollar (\$1.00).

#### **Bundled Direct Purchase Delivery**

Where a customer elects under this rate schedule to directly purchase its gas from a supplier other than NRG, the customer or their agent, must enter into a Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract with NRG for delivery of gas to NRG. Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract rates are described in rate schedule BT1. The gas supply charge will not be applicable to customers who elect said Bundled T transportation service.

Unless otherwise authorized by NRG, customers who are delivering gas to NRG under direct purchase arrangements must obligate to deliver said gas at a point acceptable to NRG, and must acquire and maintain firm transportation on all pipeline systems upstream of Ontario.

## **RATE 3 - Special Large Volume Contract Rate**

#### Rate Availability

Entire service area of the company.

#### **Eligibility**

A customer who enters into a contract with the company for the purchase or transportation of gas:

- a) for a minimum term of one year;
- b) that specifies a combined daily contracted demand for firm and interruptible service of at least 700  $m^3$ ; and
- c) a qualifying annual volume of at least  $113,000 \text{ m}^3$ .

#### Rate

- 1. Bills will be rendered monthly and shall be the total of:
  - a) A Monthly Customer Charge:

A Monthly Customer Charge of \$150.00 for firm or interruptible customers; or A Monthly Customer Charge of \$175.00 for combined (firm and interruptible) customers.

Rate Rider for Shared Tax Savings - effective until September 30, 2014 \$(8.34)

b) A Monthly Demand Charge:

A Monthly Demand Charge of 29.0974 cents per m<sup>3</sup> for each m<sup>3</sup> of daily contracted firm demand.

- c) A Monthly Delivery Charge:
  - (i) A Monthly Firm Delivery Charge for all firm volumes of 3.8521 cents per m<sup>3</sup>,
  - (ii) A Monthly Interruptible Delivery Charge for all interruptible volumes to be negotiated between the company and the customer not to exceed 10.9612 cents per m<sup>3</sup> and not to be less than 7.9412 per m<sup>3</sup>.
- d) Gas Supply Charge and System Gas Refund Rate Rider (if applicable) Schedule A
- e) Overrun Gas Charges:

Overrun gas is available without penalty provided that it is authorized by the company in advance. The company will not unreasonably withhold authorization.

If, on any day, the customer should take, without the company's approval in advance, a volume of gas in excess of the maximum quantity of gas which the company is obligated to deliver to the customer on such day, or if, on any day, the customer fails to comply with any curtailment notice reducing the customer's take of gas, then,

- (i) the volume of gas taken in excess of the company's maximum delivery obligation for such day, or
- (ii) the volume of gas taken in the period on such day covered by such curtailment notice (as determined by the company in accordance with its usual practice) in excess of the volume of gas authorized to be taken in such period by such curtailment notice,

as the case may be, shall constitute unauthorized overrun volume.

Any unauthorized firm overrun gas taken in any month shall be paid for at the Rate 3 Firm Delivery Charge in effect at the time the overrun occurs. In addition, the Contract Demand level shall be adjusted to the actual

maximum daily volume taken and the Demand Charges stated above shall apply for the whole contract year, including retroactively, if necessary, thereby requiring recomputation of bills rendered previously in the contract year.

Any unauthorized interruptible overrun gas taken in any month shall be paid for at the Rate 1 Delivery Charge in effect at the time the overrun occurs plus any Gas Supply Charge applicable.

For any unauthorized overrun gas taken, the customer shall, in addition, indemnify the company in respect of any penalties or additional costs imposed on the company by the company=s suppliers, any additional gas cost incurred or any sales margins lost as a consequence of the customer taking the unauthorized overrun volume.

2. In negotiating the Monthly Interruptible Commodity Charge referred to in 1(c)(ii) above, the matters to be considered include:

- a) The volume of gas for which the customer is willing to contract;
- b) The load factor of the customer's anticipated gas consumption, the pattern of annual use, and the minimum annual quantity of gas which the customer is willing to contract to take or in any event pay for;
- c) Interruptible or curtailment provisions;
- d) Competition.

3. In each contract year, the customer shall take delivery from the company, or in any event pay for it if available and not accepted by the customer, a minimum volume of gas as specified in the contract between the parties. Overrun volumes will not contribute to the minimum volume. The rate applicable to the shortfall from this minimum shall be 3.1530 cents per m<sup>3</sup> for firm gas and 5.4412 cents per m3 for interruptible gas.

4. The contract may provide that the Monthly Demand Charge specified in Rate Section 1 above shall not apply on all or part of the daily contracted firm demand used by the customer during the testing, commissioning, phasing in, decommissioning and phasing out of gas-using equipment for a period not to exceed one year (the transition period). In such event, the contract will provide for a Monthly Firm Delivery Commodity Charge to be applied on such volume during the transition of 5.7163 cents per m<sup>3</sup> and a gas supply commodity charge as set out in Schedule A, if applicable. Gas purchased under this clause will not contribute to the minimum volume.

## **Bundled Direct Purchase Delivery**

Where a customer elects under this rate schedule to directly purchase its gas from a supplier other than NRG, the customer or their agent, must enter into a Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract with NRG for delivery of gas to NRG. Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract rates are described in rate schedule BT1. The gas supply charge will not be applicable to customers who elect said Bundled T transportation service.

Unless otherwise authorized by NRG, customers who are delivering gas to NRG under direct purchase arrangements must obligate to deliver said gas at a point acceptable to NRG, and must acquire and maintain firm transportation on all pipeline systems upstream of Ontario.

## **Delayed Payment Penalty**

When payment is not made in full by the due date noted on the bill, which date shall not be less than 16 calendar days after the date of mailing, hand delivery or electronic transmission of the bill, the balance owing will be increased by 1.5%. Any balance remaining unpaid in subsequent months will be increased by a further 1.5% per month. The minimum delayed payment penalty shall be one dollar (\$1.00).

#### **RATE 4 - General Service Peaking**

## **Rate Availability**

The entire service area of the company.

#### **Eligibility**

All customers whose operations, in the judgment of Natural Resource Gas Limited, can readily accept interruption and restoration of gas service with 24 hours notice.

#### Rate

For all gas consumed from:		April 1 through December 31:	January 1 through March 31:
a)	Monthly Fixed Charge	\$15.00	\$15.00
	Rate Rider for Shared Tax Savings - effective until September 30, 2014	\$(0.55)	
b)	Delivery Charge First 1,000 m <sup>3</sup> per month All over 1,000 m <sup>3</sup> per month	15.1257cents per $m^3$ 10.5218 cents per $m^3$	19.2963 cents per $m^3$ 16.9052 cents per $m^3$
c)	Gas Supply Charge and System Gas Ref	und Rate Rider (if applicable)	Schedule A

#### **Meter Readings**

Gas consumption by each customer under this rate schedule shall be determined by monthly meter reading provided that in circumstances beyond the control of the company such as strikes or non-access to a meter, the company may estimate the consumption each month as of the scheduled date of the regular monthly meter reading and render a monthly bill to the customer thereof.

## **Delayed Payment Penalty**

When payment is not made in full by the due date noted on the bill, which date shall not be less than 16 calendar days after the date of mailing, hand delivery or electronic transmission of the bill, the balance owing will be increased by 1.5%. Any balance remaining unpaid in subsequent months will be increased by a further 1.5% per month. The minimum delayed payment penalty shall be one dollar (\$1.00).

#### **Bundled Direct Purchase Delivery**

Where a customer elects under this rate schedule to directly purchase its gas from a supplier other than NRG, the customer or their agent, must enter into a Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract with NRG for delivery of gas to NRG. Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract rates are described in rate schedule BT1. The gas supply charge will not be applicable to customers who elect said Bundled T transportation service.

Unless otherwise authorized by NRG, customers who are delivering gas to NRG under direct purchase arrangements must obligate to deliver said gas at a point acceptable to NRG, and must acquire and maintain firm transportation on all pipeline systems upstream of Ontario.

## **RATE 5 - Interruptible Peaking Contract Rate**

## **Rate Availability**

Entire service area of the company.

## <u>Eligibility</u>

A customer who enters into a contract with the company for the purchase or transportation of gas:

- a) for a minimum term of one year;
- b) that specifies a daily contracted demand for interruptible service of at least 700 m<sup>3</sup>; and
- c) a qualifying annual volume of at least  $50,000 \text{ m}^{3}$ .

# Rate

- Bills will be rendered monthly and shall be the total of:
  - a) Monthly Fixed Charge \$150.00. Rate Rider for Shared Tax Savings - effective until September 30, 2014 \$(3.02)
  - b) A Monthly Delivery Charge:

A Monthly Delivery Charge for all interruptible volumes to be negotiated between the company and the customer not to exceed 8.4612 cents per  $m^3$  and not to be less than 5.4612 per  $m^3$ .

- c) Gas Supply Charge and System Gas Refund Rate Rider (if applicable) Schedule A
- d) Overrun Gas Charge:

Overrun gas is available without penalty provided that it is authorized by the company in advance. The company will not unreasonably withhold authorization.

If, on any day, the customer should take, without the company's approval in advance, a volume of gas in excess of the maximum quantity of gas which the company is obligated to deliver to the customer on such day, or if, on any day, the customer fails to comply with any curtailment notice reducing the customer's take of gas, then

- (i) the volume of gas taken in excess of the company's maximum delivery obligation for such day, or
- (ii) the volume of gas taken in the period on such day covered by such curtailment notice (as determined by the company in accordance with its usual practice) in excess of the volume of gas authorized to be taken in such period by such curtailment notice,

as the case may be, shall constitute unauthorized overrun volume.

Any unauthorized overrun gas taken in any month shall be paid for at the Rate 1 Delivery Charge in effect at the time the overrun occurs plus any applicable Gas Supply Charge.

For any unauthorized overrun gas taken, the customer shall, in addition, indemnify the company in respect of any penalties or additional costs imposed on the company by the company=s suppliers, any additional gas cost incurred or any sales margins lost as a consequence of the customer taking the unauthorized overrun volume.

2. In negotiating the Monthly Interruptible Commodity Charge referred to in 1(c) above, the matters to be considered include:

a) The volume of gas for which the customer is willing to contract;

- b) The load factor of the customer's anticipated gas consumption and the pattern of annual use and the minimum annual quantity of gas which the customer is willing to contract to take or in any event pay for;
- c) Interruptible or curtailment provisions;
- d) Competition.

3. In each contract year, the customer shall take delivery from the company, or in any event pay for it if available and not accepted by the customer, a minimum volume of gas of  $50,000 \text{ m}^3$ . Overrun volumes will not contribute to the minimum volume. The rate applicable to the shortfall from this annual minimum shall be 7.0069 cents per m<sup>3</sup> for interruptible gas.

#### **Bundled Direct Purchase Delivery**

Where a customer elects under this rate schedule to directly purchase its gas from a supplier other than NRG, the customer or their agent, must enter into a Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract with NRG for delivery of gas to NRG. Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract rates are described in rate schedule BT1. The gas supply charge will not be applicable to customers who elect said Bundled T transportation service.

Unless otherwise authorized by NRG, customers who are delivering gas to NRG under direct purchase arrangements must obligate to deliver said gas at a point acceptable to NRG, and must acquire and maintain firm transportation on all pipeline systems upstream of Ontario.

#### **Delayed Payment Penalty**

When payment is not made in full by the due date noted on the bill, which date shall not be less than 16 calendar days after the date of mailing, hand delivery or electronic transmission of the bill, the balance owing will be increased by 1.5%. Any balance remaining unpaid in subsequent months will be increased by a further 1.5% per month. The minimum delayed payment penalty shall be one dollar (\$1.00).

## RATE 6 – Integrated Grain Processors Co-Operative Aylmer Ethanol Production Facility

## **Rate Availability**

Rate 6 is available to the Integrated Grain Processors Co-Operative, Aylmer Ethanol Production Facility only.

## <u>Eligibility</u>

Integrated Grain Processors Co-Operative's ("IGPC") ethanol production facility located in the Town of Aylmer

## <u>Rate</u>

1. Bills will be rendered monthly and shall be the total of:

a) Monthly Customer Charge of \$150.00 for firm services

Rate Rider for Shared Tax Savings - effective until September 30, 2014 \$(301.10)

b) A Monthly Demand Charge:

A Monthly Demand Charge of 18.3951 cents per m<sup>3</sup> for each m<sup>3</sup> of daily contracted firm demand.

- c) A Monthly Delivery Charge:
  - (i) A Monthly Firm Delivery Charge for all firm volumes of 3.7976 cents per m<sup>3</sup>,
  - (ii) A Monthly Interruptible Delivery Charge for all interruptible volumes to be negotiated between the company and IGPC not to exceed 10.9612 cents per m<sup>3</sup> and not to be less than 7.9412 per m<sup>3</sup>.
- d) Gas Supply Charge and System Gas Refund Rate Rider (if applicable) Schedule A
- e) Overrun Gas Charges:

Overrun gas is available without penalty provided that it is authorized by the company in advance. The company will not unreasonably withhold authorization.

If, on any day, IGPC should take, without the company's approval in advance, a volume of gas in excess of the maximum quantity of gas which the company is obligated to deliver to IGPC on such day, or if, on any day, IGPC fails to comply with any curtailment notice reducing IGPC's take of gas, then,

- (i) the volume of gas taken in excess of the company's maximum delivery obligation for such day, or
- (ii) the volume of gas taken in the period on such day covered by such curtailment notice (as determined by the company in accordance with its usual practice) in excess of the volume of gas authorized to be taken in such period by such curtailment notice,

as the case may be, shall constitute unauthorized overrun volume.

Any unauthorized firm overrun gas taken in any month shall be paid for at the Rate 6 Firm Delivery Charge in effect at the time the overrun occurs. In addition, the Contract Demand level shall be adjusted to the actual maximum daily volume taken and the Demand Charges stated above shall apply for the whole contract year, including retroactively, if necessary, thereby requiring recomputation of bills rendered previously in the contract year.

Any unauthorized interruptible overrun gas taken in any month shall be paid for at the Rate 1 Delivery Charge in effect at the time the overrun occurs plus any Gas Supply Charge applicable.

For any unauthorized overrun gas taken, IGPC shall, in addition, indemnify the company in respect of any penalties or additional costs imposed on the company by the company's suppliers, any additional gas cost incurred or any sales margins lost as a consequence of the customer taking the unauthorized overrun volume.

2. In negotiating the Monthly Interruptible Commodity Charge referred to in 1(c)(ii) above, the matters to be considered include:

- a) The volume of gas for which IGPC is willing to contract;
- b) The load factor of IGPC's anticipated gas consumption, the pattern of annual use, and the minimum annual quantity of gas which IGPC is willing to contract to take or in any event pay for;
- c) Interruptible or curtailment provisions;
- d) Competition.

3. In each contract year, IGPC shall take delivery from the company, or in any event pay for it if available and not accepted by the IGPC, a minimum volume of gas as specified in the contract between the parties. Overrun volumes will not contribute to the minimum volume. The rate applicable to the shortfall from this minimum shall be 3.1530 cents per m<sup>3</sup> for firm gas and 5.4412 cents per m3 for interruptible gas.

4. The contract may provide that the Monthly Demand Charge specified in Rate Section 1 above shall not apply on all or part of the daily contracted firm demand used by the IGPC during the testing, commissioning, phasing in, decommissioning and phasing out of gas-using equipment for a period not to exceed one year (the transition period). In such event, the contract will provide for a Monthly Firm Delivery Commodity Charge to be applied on such volume during the transition of 5.7163 cents per m<sup>3</sup> and a gas supply commodity charge as set out in Schedule A, if applicable. Gas purchased under this clause will not contribute to the minimum volume.

## **Bundled Direct Purchase Delivery**

Where IGPC elects under this rate schedule to directly purchase its gas from a supplier other than NRG, IGPC or its agent, must enter into a Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract with NRG for delivery of gas to NRG. Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract rates are described in rate schedule BT1. The gas supply charge will not be applicable to IGPC if it elects said Bundled T transportation service.

Unless otherwise authorized by NRG, IGPC, when delivering gas to NRG under direct purchase arrangements, must obligate to deliver said gas at a point acceptable to NRG, and must acquire and maintain firm transportation on all pipeline systems upstream of Ontario.

## **Delayed Payment Penalty**

When payment is not made in full by the due date noted on the bill, which date shall not be less than 16 calendar days after the date of mailing, hand delivery or electronic transmission of the bill, the balance owing will be increased by 1.5%. Any balance remaining unpaid in subsequent months will be increased by a further 1.5% per month. The minimum delayed payment penalty shall be one dollar (\$1.00).

## **SCHEDULE A – Gas Supply Charges**

## **Rate Availability**

Entire service area of the company.

## **Eligibility**

All customers served under Rates 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

## Rate

The Gas Supply Charge applicable to all sales customers shall be made up of the following charges:

PGCVA Reference Price	(EB-2013-0205)
GPRA Recovery Rate	((EB-2013-0205)
System Gas Fee	(EB-2010-0018)
Total Gas Supply Charge	

 $\begin{array}{c} 20.0282 \; cents \; per \; m^{3} \\ 0.0208 \; cents \; per \; m^{3} \\ \underline{0.0363} \; cents \; per \; m^{3} \\ \hline \underline{20.0853} \; cents \; per \; m^{3} \end{array}$ 

Note:

PGCVA means Purchased Gas Commodity Variance Account GPRA means Gas Purchase Rebalancing Account

## **RATE BT1 – Bundled Direct Purchase Contract Rate**

## **Availability**

Rate BT1 is available to all customers or their agent, who enter into a Receipt Contract for delivery of gas to NRG. The availability of this option is subject to NRG obtaining a satisfactory agreement or arrangement with Union Gas and NRG's gas supplier for direct purchase volume and DCQ offsets.

## Eligibility

All customers electing to purchase gas directly from a supplier other than NRG must enter into a Bundled T-Service Receipt Contract with NRG either directly or through their agent, for delivery of gas to NRG at a mutually acceptable delivery point.

## Rate

For gas delivered to NRG at any point other than the Ontario Point of Delivery, NRG will charge a customer or their agent, all approved tolls and charges incurred by NRG to transport the gas to the Ontario Point of Delivery.

Note:

Ontario Point of Delivery means Dawn or Parkway on the Union Gas System as agreed to by NRG and NRG's customer or their agent.

## **Transmission Service**

## **Availability**

Transmission Service charges shall be applied to Natural Resource Gas Corp.

## **Eligibility**

Only Natural Resource Gas Corp. shall be charged the Transmission Service Rate. Fees and Charges will be applied only in those months that NRG Corp. delivers gas to a delivery point on NRG's system.

## <u>Rate</u>

Administrative Charge		\$250/month	
Transportation Rate	\$	0.95/mcf	