

## Decision on Enbridge's Application for an Exemption from Leave to Construct for the Boblo Island Community Expansion Project

On May 14, 2026, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued its [Decision and Order](#) granting Enbridge Gas Inc.'s (Enbridge) application for an exemption, under [section 95\(2\)](#) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, from the requirement to obtain leave to construct (LTC) for natural gas pipelines to serve customers in the community of Boblo Island in the Town of Amherstburg (the Project).

The Project is among those selected to receive funding assistance under Phase 2 of the Government of Ontario's [Natural Gas Expansion Program](#).<sup>1</sup> Expected to cost \$5.2 million, the Project is intended to connect approximately 347 homes and businesses that do not have access to natural gas service.

Under the applicable exemption regulation<sup>2</sup>, the OEB must grant an exemption if:

- The proposed pipeline is projected to cost more than \$2 million and less than \$10 million.
- The OEB is satisfied that the Crown's duty to consult, if it applies in respect of the application, has been adequately discharged.

The OEB issued an order exempting Enbridge from the requirement to obtain LTC for the Project, subject to the conditions of its Decision and Order. In doing so, it considered the adequacy of Indigenous consultation, noting that six potentially affected Indigenous communities were notified and that input was received from Caldwell First Nation and Chippewas of the Thames First Nation.

The OEB was satisfied that Enbridge had followed the [Environmental Guidelines](#) with respect to Indigenous consultation and expects it to continue engaging affected Indigenous communities throughout the life of the Project.

### ABOUT THE OEB

The OEB is the independent regulator of Ontario's electricity and natural gas sectors. We protect the interests of consumers and enable the delivery of clean, reliable, secure and affordable energy that supports economic growth across the province. This includes ensuring that the people and businesses of Ontario pay rates that are reasonable while allowing for needed investments in an energy system that sustains our economy.

A key part of how we deliver on this mandate is through independent adjudication. When an application comes before us, the OEB applies a rigorous, impartial review that balances our legislated objectives and is free from interference.

Learn more at [oeb.ca](http://oeb.ca).

<sup>1</sup> Ontario Regulation 24/19: (Expansion of Natural Gas Distribution Systems), made under the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*.

<sup>2</sup> Ontario Regulation 328/03: General, section 3.0.1.

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*Ce document est aussi disponible en français.*

*This Backgrounder was prepared by OEB staff to inform Ontario's energy consumers about the OEB's decision and is not for use in legal or regulatory proceedings. It is not part of the OEB's reasons for decision; those may be found in the Decision and Order issued May 14, 2026, which is the official OEB document.*