

OGA INTERROGATORY #20

INTERROGATORY

Issue 1.2 - Should the new business activity – Geothermal Energy Service Program – be considered as part of the utility’s regulated business?¹

Reference: Ex. B, Tab 1, Schedule 1, p. 27-30 & Appendix 11

Preamble:

In EB-2016-0004, the OGA submitted a report and interrogatory responses regarding the cost of geothermal. This evidence discussed how the costs of geothermal energy would decline with economies of scale and technological improvements.

Interrogatory:

Please:

- (a) Discuss whether the Enbridge has assumed an increase in customer uptake (i.e. customer attachments) as the cost of heat pumps and other geothermal system equipment declines with economies of scale and technological improvements;
- (b) If not, please put forward Enbridge’s best estimates for an increase in customer uptake (i.e. customer attachments) as the cost of heat pumps and other geothermal system equipment declines with economies of scale and technological improvements.

RESPONSE

- a) Enbridge has presented its 10 year customer additions estimate which is filed in response to Board Staff Interrogatory #13 filed at Exhibit I.2.EGDI.STAFF.13. This assumes the GreenON rebate program to start the market and also assumes that heat pump prices will decline as adoption grows.
- b) The Company has had discussions with OGA members, a lot of whom are heat pump suppliers and currently there are no quantitative estimates of the reduction of heat pump prices.

¹ Note that these interrogatories also relate to issue 2.3 - Are the services fees for the Geothermal Energy Service Program reasonable and appropriate?