

BOARD STAFF INTERROGATORY #15

INTERROGATORY

Reference: Exhibit A, Tab 1, Schedule 3, pp. 17-18

Preamble:

Enbridge states: Despite the utilities having responsibility and accountability for an overall annual evaluation budget for their respective DSM portfolios, OEB Staff has refused to provide details on EM&V budgets for planned verifications or details regarding forecasted spending in a given year. At a minimum, the utilities require budget information to facilitate contract payment, to assist with budgeting for other aspect of program planning and utility led evaluation (e.g. process evaluation) as well as to support financial reporting requirements. Currently Enbridge has no ability to monitor spending or accrue funds, this has proved unnecessarily challenging.

Questions:

- a) Please confirm that OEB staff provided Enbridge Gas, when requested, with accrual amounts to assist them with managing their evaluation budgets.
  - i. Please confirm that accruals were provided at least twice annually, in March and December of each year.
- b) Please indicate what "facilitate contract payment" refers to in the text above.
- c) Please indicate what other aspects of program planning refers Enbridge Gas requires the DSM Evaluation budget for.
- d) Please indicate what utility-led process evaluations Enbridge Gas has funded since January 1, 2015.
  - i. Please indicate the cost of each evaluation.

RESPONSE

- a) Enbridge confirms that it asked OEB Staff for specific details outlining outstanding amounts owing relating to the evaluation process in order to satisfy year end accrual requirements in each of 2016 and 2017. These requests were made in November/December in each year. Emails sent by Enbridge to OEB Staff requesting accrual details were provided in the response to SEC Interrogatory #20, found at Exhibit I.EGDI.SEC.20. Enbridge confirms that OEB Staff provided high level estimates of accruals in December of 2016 and 2017 respectively in response to

Witnesses: D. Bullock  
D. Johnson

these requests.

- i. Enbridge confirms responses from OEB Staff to requests from the utility for accrual information was provided in December 2016 and 2017. Enbridge has no record of communications in March. Enbridge has not however received responses from OEB Staff regarding requests for budgets/forecasts of evaluation spending.
- b) Enbridge is referring to the need to have an understanding of forecasted evaluation work for which the utilities will have an obligation to facilitate payment, including forecasted schedules and related costs detailing the anticipated completion of milestones / deliverables relative to the costs proposed by OEB contracted evaluators.
- c) In addition to full process evaluations of identified programs which have been assigned to the utilities, outside of the evaluation process now under the governance of the EAC, the Company considers other evaluation and research work which helps to inform program planning and program improvements, assess program delivery, and customer satisfaction; and, analyze savings calculation approaches. In addition, broader policy and market assessment related studies might be considered in prioritizing evaluation efforts.
- d) Enbridge completed process evaluations for both its Residential Home Energy Conservation and Low Income Part 9 Winterproofing programs in 2016. The cost of these evaluation efforts was \$93,555

Witnesses: D. Bullock  
D. Johnson