

ENBRIDGE GAS INC.
Answer to Interrogatory from
Board Staff (STAFF)

Reference: AMP – Exhibit C1/Tab 2/Schedule 1/Pg.140

Question:

Isolated steel services are a small population of steel services (numbering approximately 2,200) that are disconnected from the cathodic protection of the original parent steel main. This occurs when poorly performing steel mains are replaced with plastic mains and existing steel services are reconnected to the plastic mains, isolating the services from the cathodic protection received through the original steel main. To remain cathodically protected, these isolated assets are reliant on their coatings and localized anode protection systems. Over time, these localized, sacrificial anodes degrade and no longer protect the service. The lack of cathodic protection over time, coupled with poor coating condition and environmental stressors causes accelerated degradation of isolated steel services and results in accelerated corrosion growth, which can ultimately lead to failure and loss of containment.

- a) Has Enbridge Gas considered any other approach apart from replacing poor performing steel mains with plastic mains?
- b) What measures has Enbridge Gas taken to slow down or delay the rapid degradation of isolated steel services and accelerated corrosion growth?

Response

- a) Yes, Enbridge Gas has considered other approaches to manage steel mains, such as using cathodic protection system to prevent corrosion when appropriate.
- b) Enbridge Gas will continue to identify isolated steel services in the system. For the isolated steel services in good condition, cathodic protection could be added to prevent accelerated corrosion. If an isolated steel service is discovered in poor condition, it would be more appropriate to replace it with a plastic service.