

8.1 OEB Decision on Enbridge rate basis

- Arm's length, independent body governed by legislation
- Regulating for safe, reliable, affordable energy supply in the public interest, mandate is consumer protection
- Assesses infrastructure expansions, carefully examining financing proposal, accounting and risk-based analysis
- OEB Decision and Order – December 21, 2023. p. 22, states:
 - The OEB concluded that Enbridge Gas has not addressed the impact of the energy transition “in any meaningful way” and
 - sees a clear risk that Enbridge’s proposal will “lead to an overbuilt, underutilized gas system in the face of the energy transition”.
- Bill 165 threatens the independence and mandate of the OEB

Affordability

- Saves existing gas customers about \$600 over next 5 years
- Developers can avoid \$4400 per unit charge by not connecting to gas.
- Promote their development as an all-electric, “greener” choice with lower operating costs through heat pumps
- Avoid future costs to retrofit homes and safely disconnect from obsolete gas system

Support the OEB Decision because it:

- Aligns with Region's "growth pays for growth" policy
- Eliminates subsidy to build unnecessary/stranded gas infrastructure
- Fewer rising costs loaded onto existing gas ratepayers
- Potential to streamline energy servicing in new developments
- Reduces costs and risks of underground work on roads and properties
- Levels connection playing field with municipal energy utilities
- Improved health and safety in homes without methane gas
- Supports Regional climate change programs and targets