

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3903

November 15, 2019

Mr. Al Monaco  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Enbridge  
5400 Westheimer Court  
Houston, TX 77056

Dear Mr. Monaco,

I write to request information regarding Enbridge's preparations for the upcoming winter and efforts to ensure that there is an adequate supply of natural gas to provide heat to homes and businesses in Rhode Island throughout the season. I am also sending a similar letter to National Grid.

The Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) and the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (RIPUC) recently issued two reports detailing the system failures that led to the historic natural gas outage in Newport, Rhode Island in January. While there were a number of contributing factors, modeling included in the reports suggests that had any one of these system failures not occurred, there would have been adequate supplies of natural gas to avoid a disruption in service to National Grid customers. Specifically, the reports found that the Weymouth Meter and Regulator station, operated by Enbridge, experienced a meter configuration error that prevented Enbridge from quickly responding to a decrease in supply to the system serving Rhode Island's Aquidneck Island.

I am concerned by these findings and the implications for our residents and businesses in the upcoming winter season. Given concerns I have heard from constituents, I request additional information regarding Enbridge's preparations for the coming winter months and efforts to respond to the findings of these reports:

- How does Enbridge plan to work with National Grid to improve forecasting and modeling in order to avoid another service disruption? Does Enbridge have any plans to improve your delivery systems to better manage the transmission of natural gas throughout the region during peak weather events?
- How is Enbridge improving the operation of its metering systems to respond to peak weather events?
- What secondary measures and emergency management systems does Enbridge have in place to respond quickly to or avoid the kinds of errors and failures experienced last winter?

Washington, DC:

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Washington, DC 20510-3903  
(202) 224-4642

Rhode Island:

1000 Chapel View Boulevard, Suite 290  
Cranston, RI 02903-3074  
(401) 943-3100

One Exchange Terrace, Room 408  
Providence, RI 02903-1744  
(401) 528-5200

1 (800) 284-4200

TDD Relay Rhode Island  
1 (800) 745-5555

<http://reed.senate.gov>

The coming winter months will undoubtedly put strains on the natural gas supply system and there is clearly a need to improve the planning process for peak weather events. I look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jack Reed", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jack Reed  
United States Senator