1 2		NP-CA-32 2007 NP General Rate Application
3		Page 1 of 1
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8 9	Q:	Reference: Page 16, Lines 20-23 and Page 17, Lines 8-11
10		"This can be illustrated by comparing NP's achieved equity returns, over time and
11		in comparison with its allowed ROCEs, with the similar return histories for Enbridge
12		Gas Distribution Inc. and Union Gas – two major utilities with diversified customer
13		bases but that do not have the benefit of weather normalization reserves."
14		
15		"Indeed, the extent of the negative impact of weather risk (that NP does not face)
16 17		on Ontario gas and electricity distributors was noted by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) in its 2007 Enbridge Gas Distribution Rates Decision"
18		(OEB) III its 2007 Elibridge Gas Distribution Rates Decision
19		All other things equal, how much is weather risk worth in terms of either allowed
20		common equity return or common equity ratio for Enbridge Gas Distribution and
21		Union Gas?
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26	A:	Dr. Cannon did not attempt to "price" weather risk in isolation as he prepared his
27		evidence. Rather, he considered the presence (versus absence) and extent of a wide
28		range of business and financial risks in making his judgment about the allowed-return
29 30		differential that would be appropriate between utilities in different overall risk
31		categories. His conclusion was that the virtual absence of weather risk in NP's ROCE results combined with numerous other relative-risk differences (as compared with other
32		regulated utilities) would warrant a 12-15 basis point reduction in NP's allowed ROCE
33		relative to the benchmark utility.
34		20. 20 to the continuity willing.