

March 31, 2017

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street  
P.O. Box 2319  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: EB-2016-0137/EB-2016-0138/EB-2016-0139 – Applications by EPCOR Southern Bruce Gas Inc.**

I am a consultant to the Consumers Council of Canada (“Council”). On January 17, 2017, the Council intervened in the proceeding to consider the Applications by EPCOR Southern Bruce Gas Inc. to the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) seeking approval for its franchise agreements with, and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, Municipality of Kincardine and the Township of Huron-Kinloss (“the EPCOR Applications”). On January 19, 2017 Union Gas Limited (“Union”) notified the OEB of its interest in serving the areas covered by the EPCOR Applications.

In its Procedural Order No. 2 the OEB indicated that it intended to hear the two competing proposals together in one proceeding. In addition, the OEB determined that it would consider the EPCOR Applications in a staged manner. In the first phase the OEB is seeking submissions on a number of threshold issues and the draft filing requirements. In the second phase the OEB will hear the competing proposals. The Council has been granted intervenor status for the first phase of the proceeding. With respect to the second phase the OEB is limiting interventions to parties whose constituencies are directly affected by the provision of natural gas service in the relevant municipalities.

Through this letter the Council is seeking intervenor status in the second phase of the proceeding and applying for cost eligibility for both phases. The Council is a public-interest entity which represents the interests of residential consumers in Ontario. Residential customers in the relevant municipalities will be affected by the outcome of this proceeding, as it will ultimately impact the rates that those residential consumers pay for the delivery of natural gas.

With respect to costs the Council has participated in many Ontario natural gas applications over a long period of time. In all of those proceedings the Council has been recognized as being eligible for an award of costs. In the absence of an award of costs the Council would be unable to participate in this proceeding.

On October 17, 2016, the Council filed with the Board, pursuant to Rule 22.03 of the Ontario Energy Board’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, a document describing the Council, its mandate and objectives, membership, the constituency represented, and the types of activities the Council carries out. In addition, we provided a list of the individuals authorized to represent the Council in Board proceedings.

Copies of all Board Notices, all correspondence and hard copies of the Applicant’s evidence should be sent to:

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Please let us know if any further information from the Council is required at this time.

Yours truly,

*Julie E. Girvan*

Julie E. Girvan

CC: M. Buonaguro, Counsel  
Mark Rodger, BLG  
Britt Tan, EPCOR Utilities Inc.  
Azalyn Manzano, Board Staff