



EB-2016-0137
EB-2016-0138
EB-2016-0139

South Bruce Expansion Applications

**Applications to serve the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie,
the Municipality of Kincardine and the Township of
Huron-Kinloss with natural gas distribution services**

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 7 July 26, 2017

EPCOR Southern Bruce Gas Inc. (EPCOR) filed applications with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on March 24, 2016 under sections 8 and 9 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55, seeking approval for its franchise agreements with and Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, Municipality of Kincardine and the Township of Huron-Kinloss ("the South Bruce Expansion Applications"). Procedural Order No. 1, which was issued on January 5, 2017, directed other parties interested in serving the areas covered by the South Bruce Expansion Applications to notify the OEB of their interest. Union Gas Limited (Union) filed a letter dated January 19, 2017 notifying the OEB of their interest in serving the areas covered by the South Bruce Expansion Applications.

Through procedural orders, the OEB determined that it would hear the applications to serve the areas in two phases, and granted intervenor status to several parties for each phase of the proceeding.

On June 23, 2017, the OEB issued a Partial Decision and Procedural Order No. 6, which ordered both EPCOR and Union to participate in a joint session with OEB staff on July 13, 2017 to determine the technical parameters of a Common Infrastructure Plan (CIP) for the area covered by the South Bruce Expansion Applications.

On July 20, 2017, OEB staff submitted a progress report which outlined the CIP parameters discussed in the joint session, areas of agreement and disagreement between proponents, draft permissible rate adjustment criteria and proposal comparison criteria. The proponents requested that the OEB allow for submissions on the areas of disagreement.

The OEB grants this request and will hear oral submissions from both proponents. The submissions should address each of the areas of disagreement listed in OEB staff's progress report: upstream reinforcements, inflation costs, OM&A costing methodology, treatment of capital costs, other CIP parameters, and permissible rate adjustments. The OEB will also be taking this opportunity to ask questions of clarification on the CIP proposal from proponents. Proponents should be prepared to discuss next steps following the hearing of oral submissions.

It is necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. Further procedural orders may be issued by the OEB.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The OEB will hear oral submissions from EPCOR Southern Bruce Gas Inc. and Union Gas Limited regarding the areas of disagreement as listed above and in OEB staff's report on **Wednesday, August 2, 2017**. The hearing will be held in the OEB's North Hearing Room at 2300 Yonge Street, 25th Floor, Toronto, and will commence at 1:00 p.m. Proponents should be prepared to discuss next steps following the hearing of oral submissions.

All filings to the OEB must quote the file numbers, EB-2016-0137 | EB-2016-0138 | EB-2016-0139, be made in searchable / unrestricted PDF format electronically through the OEB's web portal at <https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/>. Two paper copies must also be filed at the OEB's address provided below. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at <http://www.oeb.ca/Industry>. If the web portal is not available parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Registrar at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

With respect to distribution lists for all electronic correspondence and materials related to this proceeding, parties must include the Case Manager, Azalyn Manzano at Azalyn.Manzano@oeb.ca and OEB Counsel, Michael Millar at Michael.Millar@oeb.ca.

ADDRESS

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DATED at Toronto, **July 26, 2017**

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary