Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 27<sup>th</sup> floor - 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4

PETER C.P. THOMPSON, Q.C. direct tel.: (613) 787-3528 e-mail: pthompson@blgcanada.com

Dear Ms Walli,

Union Gas Limited ("Union") Dawn Gateway

Board File No.: EB-2008-0411 Our File No.: 339583-000003

We are writing this letter to seek intervenor status and cost award eligibility in this proceeding on behalf of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters ("CME").

## Request for Intervenor Status

The reasons why CME should be granted intervenor status in this proceeding include the following:

- (i) CME is Canada's leading business network. Its members represent 75% of manufactured output in the Province of Ontario, and 90% of all exports.
- (ii) Manufacturing is important to the Province of Ontario. It is the single largest sector of the economy (17.5% of Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") or \$300B) employing, directly, over 1M people in the Province.
- (iii) Natural gas is significant to manufacturing as one of the sources of energy for the manufacturing sector. As a result, the members of CME are vitally concerned with all matters pertaining to the supply and price of natural gas commodity, including its transmission and distribution.
- (iv) Many of CME's 1,200 Ontario-based member companies are distribution customers of Union Gas Limited ("Union"). The rate changes Union asks the Board to approve will have an impact on these companies.
- (v) CME is interested in determining whether the proposal to sell 11.7 kilometres of natural gas pipeline operates to produce a decrease in Union's regulated revenue requirement and rates. CME is also interested in determining the extent to which the transmission of gas by Union on the proposed new "Dawn Gateway Line" is likely to affect Union's regulated rates.

## Request for Cost Award Eligibility

CME seeks a determination that it is eligible for a Cost Award on the following grounds:

- (i) CME is a not-for-profit organization funded by membership fees and revenues from the services it renders to Federal and Provincial Governments and Agencies to foster the development of national and international markets for its members and to break down trade barriers.
- (ii) About 85% of CME's 1,200 Ontario-based member companies are Small to Medium sized business enterprises ("SMEs") with 500 employees or less. The views of these businesses should be considered in this proceeding.
- (iii) CME's ability to actively participate in this proceeding is dependent upon a determination that it is eligible for a Cost Award. In many prior proceedings, the Board has determined that CME is eligible for a Cost Award.

## Written or Oral Hearing

CME is comfortable with a written hearing process for the purposes of determining matters in issue in this proceeding.

## **CME Contacts**

If the relief requested in this letter is granted, then CME requests that further communications with respect to this matter be sent to the following:

Paul Clipsham
Director of Policy
Ontario Division
Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters
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Mississauga ON L4V 1V2

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Please contact the undersigned if the Board requires any further information in connection with these requests.

Yours very truly,

Peter C.P. Thompson, Q.C.

PCT\slc

c. Mark Murray (Union)

Sharon Wong (Blake, Cassels & Graydon)

Paul Clipsham (CME)

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