



EB-2007-0719

IN THE MATTER OF the *Municipal Franchises Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55, as amended;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Union Gas Limited for an order seeking interim renewal of its franchise rights in the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex

By delegation, before: Neil McKay

INTERIM ORDER

Union Gas Limited ("Union") filed a letter dated August 14, 2007 with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") under section 10(4) of the *Municipal Franchises Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55 (the "Act") requesting an Order for an extension to its existing Franchise Agreement with the former Village of Wardsville, now within the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex (the "Municipality").

Union advised that it has reached an agreement with the Municipality with regards to associated terms and conditions and intends to file an application with the Board upon receipt of the By-law and form of the Franchise Agreement from the Municipality.

Union also advised that the Franchise Agreement for the former Village of Wardsville expired on August 3, 2007 and that the remaining municipalities within the Municipality are on perpetual Franchise Agreements with Union.

In order to ensure franchise coverage for the former Village of Wardsville, Union has requested an extension to the existing Franchise Agreement for three months or until

Union's proposed application for the amalgamated Municipality of Southwest Middlesex can be processed, whichever comes first.

The Board finds that, based on the information provided by Union, granting of an interim order extending Union's franchise agreement with the former Village of Wardsville is in the public interest.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The right of Union Gas Limited to construct and operate works and to extend and add to the works for the distribution of gas in the former Village of Wardsville, now part of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, is continued on the terms and conditions set out in the existing franchise agreement until November 2, 2007 or until a renewal of the franchise agreement is granted under the *Municipal Franchises Act*, whichever comes first.

DATED at Toronto, September 12, 2007

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Neil McKay
Manager, Facilities