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November 2, 2009

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
27th Floor
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Via Courier & Email

Dear Ms. Walli:

**RE: Staff Discussion Paper on a Storage and Transportation Access Rule
("STAR")
Board File No.: EB-2008-0052**

These comments are being submitted by Altagas Energy Limited Partnership ("AltaGas") in response to the revised STAR that was proposed on September 18, 2009.

Section 2.1 Allocation of Transportation Capacity

Following a transportation open season as contemplated in subsection 2.1.2 of the proposed STAR, the transmitter should be compelled to post "operationally available capacity" on their websites. By posting operationally available capacity, existing and new shippers will be in a better position to gauge whether interruptible or firm capacity is currently available and its history of availability.

Section 2.4 Storage Company – Standard Terms of Service and Standard Forms of Contracts for Transportation Services

The requirements under section 2.4 may result in detrimental repercussions for storage service providers. With respect to subsection 2.4.5, to the extent that a competitive storage company or storage provider must contract for services with a transmitter to effectively provide storage services, the publication of these service provisions on the transmitter's website could have the detrimental effect of placing the storage provider in a competitive disadvantage by divulging to the competition the nature of the services being contracted.

The M16 transportation service is a regulated service wherein the Board approves the rate schedules as well as the terms of service. Transportation capacity is available on a first come first served basis at approved rates. To the extent firm capacity is no longer available, facilities expansion applications and hearings would ensue. We fail to see the advantages of having such new or existing transportation capacity arrangements for



storage providers posted. Where the transportation arrangements supporting the storage are governed by tolls previously approved by the Board, it is our position that only Negotiated Contracts as defined in subsection 2.3.6 that are of a firm delivery nature should be posted on the transmitter's website.

The benefits to the marketplace resulting from the posting of the interruptible service contracts on a transmitter's website are unclear whereas the inherent disadvantage to service providers is clearly evident.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Should you require further clarity please contact:

Mike Kilby
Divisional Vice President Gas Services
AltaGas Energy Limited Partnership
880 Richmond Street
Chatham, ON N7M 5J5

Phone: 519-436-1420 ext. 108

Fax: 519-436-1574

email: mike.kilby@altagas.ca

Yours truly,

**AltaGas Energy Limited Partnership by its
general partner AltaGas Holdings #2 Inc.**



Mike Kilby
Divisional Vice President Gas Services