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Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
2300 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
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April 9, 2010

Attention: Ms. Kirsten Wall, Board Secretary

Re: Northgate Minerals Corporation – Young Davidson Project  
Application for leave to construct Transmission Facilities  
Application Board File Number EB-2010-0150

Dear Ms. Wall:

It is my understanding that Northgate Minerals has submitted an application for leave to construct Transmission Facilities to facilitate the development of the Young Davidson project.

The Elk Lake Community Forest functions as an Economic Development office for the Township of James and surrounding communities. As such we are very pleased with Northgate's recent announcement and are confident that their operation will bring a wide variety of secondary economic benefits to the region.

We are aware of the significant deficiencies in the transmission grid in this area and fully support Northgate Mineral's application to the Ontario Energy Board. Since time is of the essence, I trust that the review will be carried out in an expeditious manner.

If you have any concerns regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Kind regards,

Jeff Barton B.Sc.F., R.P.F  
Economic Development Forester  
Elk Lake Community Forest

c.c. Andrew Cormier; Northgate Minerals Corporation