

Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
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ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD  
OFFICE OF THE BOARD SECRETARY

20110216

EB-2011-0024

Maria Pisciotto\_LtrComment\_20110216

Attached are the 7 copies of my letter of comment being my written submission pertaining to EB2011-0024.

Trusting this is satisfactory.

Sincerely,

Maria and Ottavio Pisciotto

[REDACTED]

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As a resident of Lloydtown-Aurora Road, in Pottageville and as for the reasons stated below, I support a hearing in favour of a re-routing of the planned pipeline Enbridge is proposing to construct on our road in front of our home. Enbridge chose our road as the preferred route for the construction of a high pressure 16inch 650psi gas pipeline, due to cost reasons and despite the negative socio-economic impacts and safety hazards stated. This pipe will connect the Gate Station at 4955 Lloydtown-Aurora Road and the power plant at 18781 Dufferin Street. If this pipeline project is to proceed, it is imperative that a re-routing, away from our homes, be ordered.

**RISKS TO RESIDENTS:** This pipeline poses serious risks to the Pottageville residents, in particular Lloydtown-Aurora Road residents. Of the 17.5km total route of the pipeline, the section of Lloydtown-Aurora Road between the Gate Station and Weston road alone is densely populated with homes on both sides of the road, a public school, a group home and two gas stations. Additionally, there are many more homes on the adjacent streets branching off. Many of these homes are less than 30m from the proposed pipeline. Safety Hazards reports presented in January 2010 (*Natural Gas Pipeline Rupture/Fire, Dr. Charles Rhodes, P.Eng., Ph.D.*) outlined the great risks the pipeline presents to residents with a 100% casualties rate should an explosion occur. It was noted that in the event of an explosion, fire, emergency personnel would not be able to approach the site. The Private Member's Bill introduced to the Ontario Legislative Assembly in 2010 as Bill 8 refers to the Separation Distances for Natural Gas Power Plants Act, 2010 and **prohibits construction of a natural gas power plant within 1,500m of land zoned residential or a school, day nursery or health care facility.** The same principle should apply to a high pressure gas pipeline of 16in in diameter and a delivery rate of 650psi. Some of **our homes, a school, two gas stations and a group home are less than 30m from this proposed pipe.**

**ROUTE SELECTION:** In their proposed route selection, Enbridge screened 10 alternate routes, and then narrowed it down to Route4 and Route5. As per Enbridge's pipeline project website, in their route selection summary: *"Based on the criteria laid out in section 5.2.2 Route4 has the least socio-economic impact on the surrounding area. Route4 will traverse the least number of driveways. In addition, Route4 parallels the least amount of potentially contaminated area and has the least amount of groundwater wells within 200, of the proposed pipeline route".* Despite these facts, however, Lloydtown-Aurora Road (Route5) was chosen as the preferred route, because, as per the same section on the Enbridge website, *"Route 5 has the least amount of specimen trees along its route and crosses the least amount of known municipal/agricultural drains".* It is obvious that in this matter, costs and environment concerns have been chosen over socio-economic factors. Human lives and public safety have been pushed aside.

**PROPERTIES DEVALUATION:** It should be noted that residents fear a devaluation of their properties due to the safety risks involved in having this pipeline on their doorsteps.

**PUBLIC INTEREST:** For the reasons stated in this letter, it not in the public interest to have this pipeline routed through Lloydtown-Aurora Road.

**OUR RIGHTS TO SAFETY:** Many factors could compromise the integrity of this pipe, putting our lives at risks. Lloydtown-Aurora Road is a heavily populated and traveled road. Commuters use it. There are many School buses traveling daily with hundreds of children. Farm equipments use it. Additionally, our home well maintenance, road maintenance, snowploughing, hydro repairs, weather conditions, pipe shifting, water table, etc. can affect the pipeline and lead to disaster. Accidents, as we know, happen, e.g. the San Bruno disaster, the Milton explosion and others. If loss of lives, injuries and damages occur where only a small pipe delivering gas to the homes is involved then it is obvious that the proposed pipeline on Lloydtown-Aurora Road, being a high pressure **16in pipe, 650psi, poses much higher risks to residents.** Therefore, such a pipe has no business being installed in front of people's homes.

The Pottageville community is concerned about the risks this pipeline poses and does not want this pipeline on their road. This situation is wrong. Enbridge has no right dictating the best route of choice. We are tax paying citizens, and Enbridge Customers. We deserve a right to a hearing to why Enbridge will not chose R4 ( Hwy 9 ) instead of R5 ( Lloydtown Road). We all fear for our families lives. We have a right to safety and we urgently demand that this pipeline be re-routed.

Maria Pisciotta, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]