



March 23, 2011

Via Email: [Neil.Mckay@oeb.gov.on.ca](mailto:Neil.Mckay@oeb.gov.on.ca)

**Ontario Energy Board  
P.O. Box 2319  
2300 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
M4P 1E4**

**Attention: Neil Mackay – Manager of Gas Applications**

Dear Mr. Mackay,

**Subject: EB 2011-0040 Red Lake Gas Pipeline Project (RLGPP)  
– Leave to Construct Application**

Goldcorp is pleased that the Leave to Construct application for the RLGPP has been filed by Union Gas. Goldcorp strongly endorses this project and has expressed this support in a letter to the Board dated March 23, 2011 (copy attached).

Our pipeline project team has advised me that during the 10 month development phase, OEB staff has been very helpful in providing guidance on important regulatory issues and processes that might impact the project. I want to formally acknowledge this contribution and thank you and Board staff for your valuable and timely assistance.

As you know, both Union Gas and Goldcorp anticipated that the “Leave to Construct” application would be filed by early January 2011. All of the parties have worked cooperatively and diligently to achieve an early filing, however, there were some delays while agreements were refined and final evidence was prepared for submission.

We understand and appreciate the timelines for Board consideration of the “Leave to Construct” application. In the preparation of materials for Board review, we respectfully request that some consideration be given to the short construction window in the North-western Ontario due to cold weather and distance.

The ground in our region is frost free only 6 months of the year (May to November). Mobilization of pipeline construction crews and equipment to Red Lake can take several weeks. Steps have been taken by the parties to enable a November 2011 in-service date, subject to the Board’s granting of a “Leave to Construct”. Mill space has been reserved for the pipe order and the supply of pipe raw material, major services/equipment has been conditionally committed.

These efforts, combined with early and timely consideration of the "Leave to Construct" application could have a positive impact on the 2011 construction schedule. A delay to 2012 will impact the business case for the project due to higher capital cost as well as loss of energy savings potential for the November 2011-April 2012 heating season.

Red Lake has been pursuing natural gas service for more than 20 years. Today, all of the project sponsors are committed to bringing natural gas to our community. Goldcorp has taken up a key role in the project and we look forward to working with the OEB and Union Gas to advance the project to construction.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or our team if you require any additional information.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ML', with a small dot at the end.

Mike Lalonde  
Mine General Manager  
Goldcorp - Red Lake Gold Mines

c.c. Mayor Phil Vinet – Municipality of Red Lake  
Sarah Van Der Paelt - Director of Commercial Industrial Sales and Marketing - Union Gas  
David Boileau – Goldcorp RLGMP - Lead