

Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto, Ontario M4 P 1E4

Via Fax – 416-440-7656 Email – <u>boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca</u>

Attention: Ms. Kirsten Walli - Board Secretary

March 9, 2012

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Request for Intervenor Status File EB-2011-0140

The Municipality of Wawa and the Algoma Coalition hereby makes a request for intervenor status on the above noted File.

The Algoma Coalition is a group of Municipalities across the District of Algoma who are legitimately concerned about the future of electrical rates and the availability of electricity in the District of Algoma and the Province of Ontario. The Muncipality is the lead agency in this regard and is aware that the terminus of the East-West Tie Line is within its boundaries.

It is the opinion of the Municipality of Wawa and the Algoma Coalition that the proposal may have a significant impact on a host of issues that affect the Coalition members and residents in the catchment area. First and foremost, there is concern that the proposed project will affect rates in the area, which are already among the highest across the Province of Ontario. Second, there is also a concern that the proposed project will travel along corridors that are subject to municipal land use planning policies and that these may not be taken into consideration. Lastly, it is important from the perspective of the members to understand the immediate and collateral economic impacts of the project.

It is our intention to see an award of costs. The reasoning is due to our representation of the many residents who cannot afford either the funds or time





necessary to intervene in such a complex process. It is our opinion that we primarily represent the interest of the members' ratepayers as those interests relate to the regulated services of electricity. Moreover, we believe that this is a matter of public interest and further that we have an interest in land over which this project will travel. Finally, we do not appear to be a party that would be excluded for a cost award as designated under *Section 3.05 of the Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

Lastly, we note that the above noted Proceeding will be conducted only through the use of a written hearing. This, in our opinion, does not serve the best interest of our ratepayers or the general public. The proposed project is of prime importance and concern to us and others who live in Northern Ontario. We would also suggest that due to its implications to the remainder of the Province, that it is also important to residents in that area as well. To that end, we would request that the Board reconsider its decision and hold the Proceeding by way of oral hearing in Northern Ontario.

We thank you for your consideration in this matter and look forward to your favourable response. If you need further information, please call the undersigned at 705-856-2244 (extension 223).

Best Regards,

Chris Wray, AMCT CAO / Clerk-Treasurer

Cc: Algoma Coalition Members
P. Cassan – Wishart Law Firm

Mayor and Council