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

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Attn: Board Secretary, Ontario Energy Board (OEB)

RE: Letter of Comment-Union Gas Limited, Parkway West Project-Leave to Construction Application, EB-2012-0433, Parts Lots 9 and 10, Concession 9, Town of Milton

Region of Halton Current Planning staff is providing this Letter of Comment regarding proposed construction of approximately 750 meters of NPS42 natural gas pipeline from the existing Parkway Compressor Site under the 407 to a valve nest at the proposed Parkway Compressor site, located west of 407 in Parts Lots 9 and 10, Concession 9, Trafalgar New Survey, Town of Milton. The pipeline site is in an agricultural rural area and the site contains agricultural type uses.

PPS-2005, Provincial Greenbelt and Places to Grow Plan

This proposal appears to satisfy PPS Policy 2005 in accordance with Policy 1.6.6, 1.7.1 a, e and h as well as Policies 4.8 and 4.9. The proposed pipeline appears to satisfy the policies of the Parkway Belt West Plan and there are no conflicts with other Provincial Plans. These lands are not under the jurisdiction of the Greenbelt Plan which is located north and west of the site.

Halton Region Official Plan, 2006 and Proposed Regional Amendment-ROPA 38 (2009)

The area proposed for pipe location is designated Agricultural Rural Area in the current Region of Halton Official Plan (ROP). Proposed Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 38 (ROPA 38) adopted by Regional Council but not yet approved by the Province, also designates the site as Agricultural Rural Area with a small piece of Natural Heritage System (NHS) located between the railway track and the 407 in the Town of Milton. Current Regional Policy 100(8) states Transportation and utility facilities are a permitted use within this designation. Section 176 of the current ROP also states the Region recognizes the importance of energy and utility provision and will assist in minimizing the possible impacts of utility corridors and generating facilities. ROPA 38 retains this same policy direction.

Upon Provincial approval ROPA's 38 Agricultural Rural Area policy 100 (8) would permit the 750m long gas pipeline as would Natural Heritage System policy 117.1(9) as the proposed pipeline is deemed an 'essential transportation and utility facility'. Regional staff reviewed Stantec's Environmental Report entitled 'Parkway West Compressor Station-Environmental Report, February 2013 (File 160960730) and are satisfied with its contents.

Reports submitted by the proponent in support of re-zoning application (Z-01/13/M) have been circulated and a response to the Town will be formulated by mid-April, 2013. Please be aware that a small portion of NHS exists west of 407, identified as being within Conservation Halton's

The Regional Municipality of Halton

Regulation Limit. Streams in the area are within their watershed. They are identified as a component of the NHS environmental layers hence they are shown as NHS on Map 1G of ROPA 38. Consequently they are identified as Greenlands A in the Town of Milton's Zoning Bylaw 144-2003. The Region will rely on Conservation Halton for technical expertise to mitigate potential environmental problems as per CH's and Region's Memorandum of Understanding.

There are no Environmentally Sensitive Areas, or wetlands of Regional or Provincial significance in the immediate vicinity of the proposed pipeline in Milton. There is also no known Regional infrastructure existing or proposed in the area of the pipeline. There are also no known First Nations Claims in the vicinity of the pipeline as stated by Stantec's Planning Justification report.

The proposed pipeline site is located near Derry Road (RR7) identified in the current ROP as having a 42m width. ROPA 38 identifies the future road width of this section of road as 47m wide in accordance with the Region's Transportation Master Plan. This section of Derry Road is a major east-west corridor capable of carrying high volumes of traffic as identified by the ROP.

Regional staff is satisfied that the related Compressor Station re-zoning application proposal (Z-01/13/M) will address any possible adverse effects and should also address MOE anticipated Environmental Compliance Approvals that may occur during and after construction. Any related land use applications will be subject to Municipal Approvals including the rezoning and Site Plan Approval application. We suggest these required local land use planning approvals be considered in the context of this OEB pipeline application. Monitoring and contingency measures will ensure mitigation and protective measures are effective in both the short and long term and any adverse residual environmental effects of this project should not be significant.

Circulation Comments-Halton Region

The application was circulated to various Regional Departments with no concern or comments identified. (Health, Transportation, Regional Engineering and Sustainable Planning Departments)

Conclusions

The Region of Halton does not object with Ontario Energy Board application EB-2012-0433.

Sincerely,



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