

EB-2006-0162 EB-2006-0163 EB-2006-0164 EB-2006-0165 EB-2006-0166 EB-2006-0167

**IN THE MATTER** OF the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998,* S.O. 1998, c.15, Schedule B; and in particular sections 36.1(1), 38(1), 39(2), 40(1), 90(1), thereof;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Market Hub Partners Canada L.P. for an Order designating the area known as the St. Clair Storage Pool, in the Geographic Township of St. Clair, County of Lambton, as a gas storage area:

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Market Hub Partners Canada L.P. for authority to inject gas into, store gas in and remove gas from the areas designated as the St. Clair Pool, and to enter into and upon the lands in the said areas and use the said lands for such purposes;

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an application by Market Hub Partners Canada L.P. to the Ministry of Natural Resources for a license to drill a well in the said areas;

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** an application by Market Hub Partners Canada L.P. for approval storage services contracts entered into by Market Hub Partners Canada L.P.;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Market Hub Partners Canada L.P. for an Order granting leave to construct natural gas pipelines in the Township of St. Clair in the County of Lambton.

### PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1

Market Hub Partners Canada L.P. ("MHP Canada" or the "Applicant") proposes to provide storage services upon development of approximately 32,200 10<sup>3</sup>m<sup>3</sup> (1.1 Bcf) of natural gas storage space in its St. Clair Gas Storage Pool ("St. Clair Storage Project").

On June 30, 2006 MHP Canada requested that the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") re-activate a proceeding on the St. Clair Storage Project (the "Adjourned Proceeding"). The Board has assigned the following File Numbers to the re-activated proceeding: EB-2006-0162/EB-2006-0163/ EB-2006-0164/EB-2006-0165/ EB-2006-0166/EB-2006-0167. The St. Clair gas storage pool is proposed to connect to Union Gas Limited's system. MHP Canada requested the Board's approval by November 1, 2006 in order to meet the planned in-service date for the St. Clair Storage Project. The planned in-service date is June 30, 2007.

On August 11, 2006 the Board issued a Notice of Re-activated Proceeding (the "Notice") on the St. Clair Storage Project development. In the Notice of Re-activated Proceeding the Board indicated that it intended to hold a written hearing in this matter and that the Board would not hold a written hearing if a party satisfies the Board that there is good reason for holding an oral hearing. No party indicated a preference for a written or oral hearing. The Board intends to proceed by a way of written hearing.

The Applicant served the Notice of Re-activated Proceeding as directed by the Board. In addition to the intervenors registered in the Adjourned Proceeding two new parties received the intervenor status. The updated list of participants in the proceeding is attached as Appendix "A" to this Procedural Order.

MHP Canada has been an active participant in the Natural Gas Electricity Interface Review ("NGEIR") proceeding (EB-2005-0551) which commenced on December 29,

2005 and is currently in progress. In the NGEIR proceeding, MHP Canada asked that the Board expedite a decision on "Core Points" which are described in MHP Canada's NGEIR evidence as follows:

- MHP Canada cannot exercise market power;
- MHP Canada, similar to independent storage developers, will be granted authority to charge market-based rates for its services; and
- MHP Canada will be allowed flexibility to contract for services without requiring approval of individual contracts, provided that MHP Canada operates within a base set of service terms and conditions approved by the Board.

In the Notice of Re-activated Proceeding, the Board stated that it did not intend, in the St. Clair Storage Project proceeding, to consider evidence or issue a decision in relation to MHP Canada's request for a market-based rate pursuant to section 36 of the Act (EB-2006-0162), nor to consider the evidence or issue a decision in relation to MHP Canada's request for approval to enter into agreements for storage services, pursuant to section 39(2) of the Act (EB-2006-0165). In the Notice the Board stated that these two issues would be addressed in the NGEIR proceeding as part of the "Core Points" decision.

In its oral decision on "Core Points" issued on September 7, 2006, in the NGEIR proceeding, the Board addressed each of the "Core Points", including allowing MHP to contract for services without requiring approval of individual contracts, provided that MHP files its proposed standard terms and conditions for its storage contracts in the St. Clair Storage Project proceeding. Accordingly, the Board is, by this Procedural Order, expanding the scope of the St. Clair Storage Project proceeding to include the review of the general terms and conditions for contracts for storage services offered by MHP Canada (EB-2006-0165).

In this proceeding the Board intends to consider evidence relating to the Applicant's request for the following approvals related to the St.Clair Storage Project application:

- Designation of the storage area pursuant to section 36.1(1) of the Act (EB-2006-0163);
- Authority to inject gas into, store gas in, and remove gas from the St. Clair Pool
  pursuant to subsection 38(1) of the Act (EB-2006-0164);
- General terms and conditions of storage services contracts (EB-2006-0165);
- A report of the Board, under subsection 40(1) of the Act, to the Minister of Natural Resources to whom MHP Canada has applied for a licence to drill one horizontal injection/withdrawal well within the proposed St. Clair Pool (EB-2006-0166); and
- Leave to construct transmission and gathering pipelines within the proposed St.
   Clair pool, pursuant to subsection 90(1) of the Act (EB-2006-0167).

The Board may issue further Procedural Orders from time to time. The Board considers it necessary to make provision for the following items related to the application.

### THE BOARD ORDERS THAT:

- 1. MHP Canada shall file with the Board and deliver to all intervenors copies of its proposed standard terms and conditions for storage contracts (EB-2006-0165) as directed in the Board's oral decision dated September 7, 2006 (EB-2005-0551) on or before **Monday, September 18, 2006.**
- 2. Intervenors or Board Staff wishing to file any evidence on any matter related to the proceeding shall file such evidence with the Board and deliver copies to MHP Canada and all intervenors on or before **Monday**, **September 25**, **2006**.
- 3. Written interrogatories on the Applicant's pre-filed evidence, intervenor or Board Staff evidence shall be filed with the Board and copies delivered to MHP Canada and all intervenors on or before **Monday**, **October 2**, **2006**. All

interrogatories must include a reference to the section that identifies the specific evidence on which the interrogatory is based.

- 4. Responses to the interrogatories shall be filed with the Board and delivered to MHP Canada and all intervenors on or before **Tuesday October 10, 2006**.
- 5. MHP Canada shall file its argument-in-chief on or before **Friday**, **October 20**, **2006**.
- 6. Intervenors and Board Staff shall file their final arguments on or before **Friday**, **October 27, 2006**.
- 7. MHP Canada shall file its reply argument to intervenors and Board Staff on or before **Friday**, **November 3**, **2006**.
- 8. All filings to the Board noted in this Order must be in the form of <u>9 hard copies</u> and must be received by the Board by 4:45 p.m. on the stated dates. The Board requests that all parties also submit an electronic copy of their filings in searchable pdf format.

ISSUED at Toronto, September 11, 2006

### **ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Original Signed By

Peter H. O'Dell Assistant Board Secretary

# Appendix A

EB-2006-0162

EB-2006-0163

EB-2006-0164

EB-2006-0165

EB-2006-0166

EB-2006-0167

# MARKET HUBS PARTNERS CANADA ST. CLAIR STORAGE POOL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

# EB-2006-0162/0163/0164/0165/0166/0167

# APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENTIONS FROM ADJORNED PROCEEDINGS

**September 11, 2006** 

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