

EB-2015-0179

Union Gas Limited

Application for approval to expand natural gas service to certain rural and remote communities in Ontario; for certain exemptions to meet revenue recovery requirements that apply to pipeline projects and approval to construct facilities to serve the communities of Milverton, Prince Township and the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point and Lambton Shores

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1 October 16, 2015

Union Gas Limited (Union) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on July 23, 2015 seeking approval to provide natural gas service to certain rural and remote communities in Ontario. Union has also proposed changes to how it recovers revenues to meet the investments required, including a proposal to collect a surcharge from new customers and a proposal to collect a contribution from the municipalities of the new communities. Union is also seeking a change to the financial viability tests established by the OEB for natural gas distribution system expansion (E.B.O. 188) which would result in existing Union customers paying a portion of the costs to serve the new communities.

Union has indicated that under its proposal, it can complete approximately 30 projects to provide natural gas service to 20,000 homes and businesses in 34 communities at an estimated cost of \$150 million. In this application, Union has identified five specific projects for which it is seeking rate recovery under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*. The five projects will provide service to the communities of Milverton, Prince Township, Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation and Lambton Shores, Walpole Island First Nation and Delaware Nation of Moraviantown.

Of the five communities identified above for expansion, Union is seeking approval to construct facilities under section 90(1) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act* for the communities of Milverton, Prince Township and the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation and Lambton Shores.

A Notice was issued on September 10, 2015 and was served and published as directed by the OEB.

The following parties applied for intervenor status:

- Association of Power Producers of Ontario (APPrO)
- Building Owners and Managers Association Toronto (BOMA)
- Canadian Propane Association (CPA)
- Consumers Council of Canada (CCC)
- Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe)
- Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.
- Epcor Utilities Inc.
- Federation of Rental-Housing Providers of Ontario (FRPO)
- Industrial Gas Users Association (IGUA)
- John Frostiak (Chukuni McManus Subdivision Residents)
- London Property Management Association (LPMA)
- Municipalities of Kincardine, Arran-Elderslie and the Township of Huron-Kinloss (South Bruce)
- Northern Cross Energy Limited
- Northeast Midstream LP
- Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)
- Ontario Producers and Storage Companies
- School Energy Coalition (SEC)
- Six Nations Natural Gas Company Limited (SNNG)
- The Corporation of the City of Kitchener (Kitchener)
- The Corporation of the Township of Prince
- Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC)

Each of APPrO, BOMA, CCC, CPA, Energy Probe, FRPO, IGUA, LPMA, OFA, SEC and VECC also applied for cost award eligibility. No objections were received regarding the requests for intervenor status or cost eligibility.

I hereby grant intervenor status to each of the parties listed above. I also find that each of APPrO, BOMA, CCC, CPA, Energy Probe, FRPO, IGUA, LPMA, OFA, SEC and VECC is eligible to apply for an award of costs under the OEB's *Practice*

Direction on Cost Awards.

Cost eligible intervenors should be aware that the OEB will not generally allow the recovery of costs for the attendance of more than one representative of any party, unless a compelling reason is provided when cost claims are filed. The OEB also expects that intervenors will combine their interventions with those of similarly interested parties, will co-operate with all other parties to the extent possible and will be mindful of avoidable duplication.

The list of intervenors in this proceeding is attached as Schedule A to this procedural order.

I consider it necessary to make provision for the following matters related to this proceeding. The OEB may issue further procedural orders from time to time.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- OEB staff and intervenors that require information and material from Union that is in addition to Union's evidence and that is relevant to the hearing, shall request it by written interrogatories filed with the OEB and delivered to Union and all intervenors by November 17, 2015.
- Union shall file with the OEB complete responses to the interrogatories and deliver them to all intervenors by **December 9, 2015**.
- A Technical Conference involving OEB staff, intervenors and Union will be convened on **December 15, 2015** starting at 9:30 a.m. The Technical Conference will be held in the OEB's North Hearing Room at 2300 Yonge Street, 25th Floor, Toronto.
- 4. Union shall file the responses to any undertakings given at technical conference by **December 22, 2015**.

All filings to the OEB must quote the file number, EB-2015-0179 and be made electronically in searchable / unrestricted PDF format through the OEB's web portal at https://www.pes.ontarioenergyboard.ca/eservice/. Two paper copies must also be filed. Filings must clearly state the sender's name, postal address and telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. Parties must use the document naming conventions and document submission standards outlined in the RESS Document Guideline found at http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/Industry. If the web portal is not available parties may email their documents to the address below. Those who do not have internet access are required to submit all filings on a CD in PDF format, along with two paper copies. Those who do not have computer access are required to file 7 paper copies.

All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on the required date.

ADDRESS

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

E-mail: boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll free)

Fax: 416-440-7656

DATED at Toronto, October 16, 2015

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

By delegation, before: Kristi Sebalj

Original signed by

Kristi Sebalj Registrar

Schedule A

То

Procedural Order No. 1

Union Gas Limited

EB-2015-0179

Applicant and List of Intervenors

October 16, 2015

APPLICANT & LIST OF INTERVENORS

October 16, 2015

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