



Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Ontario AgriCentre

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Ms. Kirsten Walli,
ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD
P.O. Box 2319, 27th Floor
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 1E4

Re: EB-2016-0004

Application under the Ontario Energy Board's own motion to consider potential alternative approaches to recover costs of expanding natural gas service to communities that are not currently served

Dear Ms. Walli:

Please accept this as our request for intervenor status in the matter of EB-2016-0004, the application by the OEB to consider potential alternative approaches to recover costs of expanding natural gas service to communities that are not currently served.

The attached paper outlines our interests in the proceedings. Thank you in advance for your considerations.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Currie', enclosed in a large, loopy parentheses.

Neil Currie
General Manager
Ontario Federation of Agriculture

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**NOTICE OF INTERVENTION OF THE ONTARIO FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE**

1. The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is applying for intervenor status in this proceeding.
2. The OFA is not a frequent intervenor and does not have frequent intervenor status in Board proceedings.
3. If the OFA is found eligible for reimbursement of reasonably incurred costs in these proceedings, we intend to apply for recovery of said costs incurred in the course of its intervention in this matter.

Statement of Interest

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is the leading advocate for Ontario farmers. The OFA is Canada's largest voluntary farm organization representing more than 36,000 farm families across Ontario, 52 county and regional federations, and 31 organizational members and affiliates. The OFA advocates their interests through government relations, lobby efforts, community representation and media relations. OFA members have a substantial interest in this proceeding, including all issues that affect rates and services available to them.

Issues to be Addressed

The OFA's intended participation will focus on the following issues:

- a. Supporting the Community Expansion Projects framework;
- b. Possible exemption proposals under EBO-188;
- c. Possible alternative cost recoveries for otherwise under-profitable community expansion projects including cross customer and cross utility subsidies;
- d. Generally to represent the interests of farmers in this process, both those currently with access to natural gas hook up and those without access.

The Intervenor's Intended Participation

The OFA intends to participate in any pre-hearing procedures, including interrogatories or technical conferences, and settlement conferences. The OFA also intends to participate in any oral hearing of this matter, and in written or oral submissions, as well as any other parts of the process that the Board should order.

Nature of Hearing Requested

Until interrogatories have been answered, we believe it is premature to assess whether a written or an oral hearing is more appropriate in this proceeding.

Reimbursement of reasonable costs

The OFA will be requesting an award of costs for its participation in this proceeding and believes that, as a federation representing the direct interests of individual farmers, farm businesses, regional federations and commodity organizations, it meets the eligibility criteria set out in the Ontario Energy Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Section 41) and its' Practice Direction on Cost Awards (Section 3.03).

Representative

The OFA requests that a copy of all documents filed with the Board by each party to this proceeding be served on the intervenor as follows, (electronic copies only):

Ontario Federation of Agriculture
Attn: Ian Nokes
100 Stone Road West, Suite 206
Guelph, ON N1G5L3
Phone: 519-821-8883 ext.253
Fax: 519-821-8810
Email: ian.nokes@ofa.on.ca

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, this February 22nd, 2016.

Original signed by



*Neil Currie
General Manager
Ontario Federation of Agriculture*