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Reply To: Thomas Brett
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Our File No. 161734

VIA EMAIL, RESS AND COURIER

Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
27th Floor
Toronto Ontario
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Attention: Kirsten Walli,
Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: EB-2016-0004: OEB, Application under its own motion to consider potential alternative approaches to recover costs of expanding natural gas service to communities that are not currently serviced

BOMA is writing to advise that it agrees with the issues currently on the Draft Issues List, and to suggest several issues that should be added to the Draft Issues List. The additional proposed issues are in Appendix A to this letter.

Yours sincerely,

FOGLER, RUBINOFF LLP

Thomas Brett
TB/dd
Encl.

cc: All Parties (*by email*)

APPENDIX A

EB-2016-0004

OEB, 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 serviced (EB-2015-0179)

Proposal to Add to or Modify the Draft Issues List

1. To what degree, if at all, should the Board have reference to EBO 134 in assessing whether to approve rural and remote community expansion projects? Should EBO 134 be subsumed into a revised EBO 188?
2. What are the objectives that expansion projects are intended to achieve?
3. How should the OEB incorporate the Government's proposed loan and grant programs into its assessment of whether to approve proposed rural and remote community expansion projects? How should the Ontario Government's proposed loans and grants be incorporated into the economic feasibility analysis? Should this proceeding be postponed until the details of the Government programs are made available?
4. What are the implications for GHG emissions of substituting natural gas for each of the existing energy sources now used in areas not served by natural gas, namely wood, propane, oil and electricity? To what extent should the Board take GHG emissions impacts into account?

5. What are the cost/benefit ratio and net environmental benefits of deploying technologies such as ground source heat pumps, solar thermal and solar photovoltaic instead of natural gas to replace electric water and space heating in these areas?
6. Are any of the potential expansion areas dense enough to make use of district energy systems supplied with cooling and heating from large loop (subdivision scale) ground source heat pumps, energy storage with off peak use of electricity?
7. How much of the potential expansion areas have distribution connected renewable energy where the cost of transmission could be removed from electricity bills?
8. What role should DSM/CDM programs deployed on an intensified basis play prior to the conversion to any new energy sources in the expansion areas?
9. Has Union and EGD adapted methane emissions reduction programs?
10. What are the tax impacts on customers of the various expansion incentive proposals?