

February 26, 2016

BY COURIER (2 COPIES) AND RESS

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, Suite 2700, P.O. Box 2319
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: EB-2016-0004 - Approaches to Recover Costs of Expanding Natural Gas Service to Communities that are not Currently Served

We are writing on behalf of Environmental Defence to provide comments on the draft issues list.

Environmental Defence does not propose any changes to the draft issues list.

Environmental Defence expects to propose that expansions of Ontario's natural gas system be subsidized by existing customers in instances where (a) this would lead to a net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. by displacing heating oil), (b) this would be a cost-effective option to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in comparison to alternatives such as energy efficiency or renewable energy investments, and (c) a subsidy from existing customers is necessary for the expansion project to proceed.

Environmental Defence believes that the issues it wishes to raise are already encompassed by the draft issues list.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if anything further is required.

Yours truly,



Kent Elson