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**Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario**  
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**BY E-MAIL**

March 3, 2016

Jay Sheppard  
Counsel for Ontario Geothermal Association  
Jay Sheppard Professional Corporation  
2200 Yonge Street  
Toronto, ON M4S 2C6

Dear Mr. Sheppard:

**Re: Ontario Energy Board Generic Proceeding – Natural Gas Community Expansion (EB-2016-0004)**

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) initiated a generic proceeding on February 5, 2016, to establish an alternative framework to facilitate the provision of natural gas distribution services in communities that do not have access to natural gas. The OEB issued Procedural Order No. 1 on February 10, 2016 outlining the procedural timelines. The OEB directed that any party wishing to file evidence in the proceeding must do so on or before March 4, 2016.

By letter dated March 3, 2016, counsel for Ontario Geothermal Association (OGA) requested an extension to the deadline for filing evidence to seven days after the later of a) the OEB's decision on OGA's intervenor request and cost eligibility, and b) the OEB's decision on the final Issues List for the proceeding.

OGA indicated that given its limited resources, it required confirmation from the OEB on cost eligibility before it could proceed on preparing a majority of its evidence. OGA further noted that it was difficult to finalize the scope of the evidence and put together the actual evidence package until the OEB's decision on the final Issues List has been issued.

The OEB understands the concerns of OGA and has determined that OGA is not required to file the evidence by the due date, that is, March 4, 2016. The OEB will issue further guidance on this matter at a later date and will provide a revised date for the filing of OGA's evidence.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary