

April 4th 2016

Mrs. Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M4P 1E4

Dear Mrs Walli

Re : Board file number EB-2016-0004

The Corporation of The Nation Municipality wishes to submit its support of Enbridge Gas Distribution's submission to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) under EB-2016-0004 where it seeks the expansion of its natural gas distribution system to currently unserved areas in Ontario.

In its submission, Enbridge has identified a number of communities under consideration as potential expansion projects – St- Isidore and Seguinbourg as being communities located within The Nation Municipality. Our records show that The Nation Municipality has been corresponding with Enbridge since 2000 to try to bring natural gas services to the Village of St-Isidore.

We understand that in order to be able to expand natural gas service to communities like St. Isidore and Seguinbourg, Enbridge has proposed specific forms of regulatory flexibility and/or exemptions from current OEB guidelines that apply to expansion of natural gas service to new communities.

We support the concepts that Enbridge Gas Distribution is proposing in its filing with the OEB, including:

- An ongoing volumetric surcharge to collect capital contributions from new customers over time;
- A municipal contribution mechanism to provide municipalities with a manner in which to contribute toward the economic feasibility of a community expansion project (i.e. cancellation of municipal taxes on new pipelines) ; and

- A reduction in the economic feasibility threshold that a project must meet before the utility is able to proceed with the expansion
- A mechanism to facilitate the amendment of our existing Franchise Agreement as per our Municipal By- Law 65-2007. Franchise Agreements are viewed as impediments to competitive access to natural gas services.

Access to natural gas will attract new industry, help create jobs and offer a more environmentally friendly energy choice at a lower energy price to our residents and businesses. On behalf of the Nation Municipality, I respectfully request that the OEB approve the regulatory changes proposed by Enbridge such that it can expand its natural gas distribution network to communities like ours.

Should you have any questions regarding this please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "François St-Amour". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

François St-Amour
Mayor

Cc: Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus
Natural Gas Working Group