

The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

P.O. Box 130 21 Queen Street Ripley, Ontario NOG 2R0

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SENT VIA EMAIL

April 20th, 2016

Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4
ConsumerRelations@ontarioenergyboard.ca

Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus c/o County of Renfrew
9 International Drive
Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5

Ms Walli,

Re: Ontario Energy Board Generic Proceeding EB-2016-0004

Please find below a copy of the resolution adopted by the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council at the April 18th, 2016 session. I am including a copy of the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus's letter it references for your information.

Motion No: 148

Moved by: Gamble Seconded by: Abbott

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby endorses the resolutions of the Township of North Stormont pertaining to the Ontario Energy Board's Notice of Hearing EB-2016-0004 and in so doing supports the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus's letter of comment (date April 6, 2016); and

Further requests that the Ontario Energy Board examine all proposals to expand natural gas services to rural areas as it is vital to economic development and to business expansion and retention as well as the increase of employability. Carried.

Sincerely,

Sonya Watson

Clerk

Encl.

cc: Premier Kathleen Wynne (email: premier@ontario.ca)

Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy (write2us@ontario.ca)

Honourable Brad Duguid, Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure (email: bduguid.mpp@liberal.ola.org)

Honourable Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

(email: jleal.mpp@liberal.ola.org)

Township of North Stormont (email: mchenier@northstormont.ca)

COUNCIL April 18/16.



c/o County of Renfrew, 9 International Drive, Pembroke, ON K8A 6W5

Pembroke, April 6, 2016

Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge St. PO Box 2319 Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Re: Ontario Energy Board Generic Proceeding EB-2016-004

Dear Ms. Walli,

Regarding the Ontario Energy Board's Generic Proceeding EB-2016-004, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus would like to provide the following submission as a letter of comment.

As an organization representing the interests of municipal taxpayers in rural Eastern Ontario, the EOWC supports the initial application from Union Gas (EB-2015-0179) to expand natural gas service to rural and remote communities. Beyond that, however, the EOWC also supports any similar efforts from other entities, such as Enbridge Gas, that wish to provide natural gas services to rural and remote communities that do not currently have access to such services.

The expansion of the infrastructure required to provide natural gas to rural communities that would otherwise not receive this service would allow for significant economic benefits for every sector: residential, commercial and industrial. Natural gas is the most reliable, efficient, and economical form of energy, but due to the dispersed nature of our population — coupled with our geography and geology — many areas remain underserviced or are simply not serviced at all.

As the economic development of our region is a priority issue, the expansion of the natural gas network is of great importance to everyone who lives and does business in rural Eastern Ontario. If certain conditions were put into place, such as those being considered by the Ontario Energy Board, it may become financially feasible to extend natural gas to the EOWC region.

The EOWC is an incorporated non-profit organization comprised of the elected Wardens of the 13 County Councils in rural Eastern Ontario, stretching from Northumberland in the west to the Quebec border in the east, with a combined population of 750,000. In closing, on behalf of the EOWC, I strongly encourage the Board to consider and approve any measures raised in the Generic Proceeding EB-2016-004 that may allow for the provision of natural gas in our region.

Best regards,

Peter Emon

Chair, 2016, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus