

Reply to the Attention of Mike Richmond
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Our File No. 231915
Date May 19, 2016

RESS

Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Attention: Kristen Walli
Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: EB-2016-0004 - Natural Gas Community Expansion – Generic Hearing (the “Proceeding”)

We are counsel to the Canadian Propane Association (the “CPA”), an intervenor in the Proceeding. This letter is further to the letter submitted May 17, 2016 on behalf of Environmental Defence.

The CPA agrees with Environmental Defence’s submission that the Ontario Government’s Climate Change Action Plan is likely to have a significant impact on the issues being considered in the Proceeding. The CPA accordingly supports the request of Environmental Defence to defer the submissions phase of the Proceeding until the Climate Change Action Plan is released, so that its impact may be considered in the discussion.

Further, we note that the Climate Change Action Plan may represent a significant change to government policy, which most parties appeared to assert during cross-examination, and the Board may have suggested as well, was the primary reason for the generic hearing. If the policies cited by the Globe and Mail are accurate, the Climate Change Action Plan may also represent a significant change in attachment forecasts and forecasting methods, which in turn may have a significant impact on how projects may be or ought to be financed – a key issue in the generic hearing.

Accordingly, the CPA requests that the Board consider not only deferring closing arguments in the Proceeding as Environmental Defence has recommended, but also whether there is any merit in allowing parties to submit updates to their evidence to reflect such changes, and/or whether a further round of interrogatories ought to be allowed so that parties may ask LDCs and other intervenors to provide updated program data and forecasts reflective of any such new policy, in

order to allow parties to submit their final argument based on such updated data and forecasts rather than obsolete data.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Richmond". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Mike Richmond