

**Town of Saugeen Shores** 

600 Tomlinson Drive, P.O. Box 820 Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0

March 26, 2016

Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Attention: Ms. Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Dear Ms. Walli:

## Re: Application File Number EB-2016-0004

Please find attached a copy of Town of Saugeen Shores Resolution 140-2016, passed by Council on Tuesday, May 24, 2016, regarding the expansion of Natural Gas to unserviced areas.

Yours truly,

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Linda White Clerk

## THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF SAUGEEN SHORES

MOVED BY: Jawe Myette, RESOLUTION NO: 140-2016 SECONDED BY: Alle hart DATE: May 24, 2016

Whereas: The Ontario Energy Board has issued EB-2016-0004 a notice of Hearing to consider what mechanisms may be used to recover the cost of expanding Natural Gas service to Ontario Communities that are currently not serviced by Natural Gas;

Whereas: The Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores recognizes that the expansion of and provision of natural gas to any community is seen as an advantage and an economic driver as it allows diversification of energy supply, and gives its citizens access to one of the lowest cost heating fuel sources;

Whereas: The Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores encourages the expansion of Natural Gas Service to any and all municipalities and towns not currently being serviced so as to improve the fuel diversity and economic advantages that it brings;

Whereas: Expansion of Natural Gas service has already taken place into the Town of Saugeen Shores, and was done so without subsidy from neighbouring municipalities, but largely on a cost of service basis;

Whereas: Our current Natural Gas provider made a commitment to install Natural Gas service to the most densely populated urban areas of Saugeen Shores first and secondly to expand the service to the less densely populated areas;

Whereas: The secondary expansion of Natural Gas Service to the less densely populated areas of the Town of Saugeen Shores has been slow or non-existent, and many habited areas on the fringe of serviced areas are not being provided with Natural Gas as previously committed;

Therefore be it resolved: The Town of Saugeen Shores does not believe that the OEB has the authority to require the ratepayers of one utility to subsidize the costs of another utility to expand into new communities;

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Therefore be it further resolved: The Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores Would like the OEB to consider imposing conditions or making other changes to Municipal Franchise Agreements and Certificates of Public Convenience necessary to reduce barriers to natural Gas expansion into less dense populated urban and rural areas of Municipalities already serviced by Natural Gas.

