

Vivian Bloom
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June 3, 2016

The Honourable Kathleen O. Wynne, Premier
Queen's Park
Main Legislative Building, Room 281
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Wynne:

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of Hastings Highlands passed the following motion at the Regular Meeting of Council on May 18, 2016 regarding:

Ontario Energy Board Application

Resolution #272-2016

Motion Details
Moved by: Councillor Matheson
Seconded by: Councillor Cannon
CARRIED

THAT Council receives this report "Ontario Energy Board Application," as provided by the Acting Deputy Clerk and;

WHEREAS The Council for the Municipality of Hastings Highlands supports and endorses the Township of North Stormont's resolution dated April 12, 2016;

THAT Council approves the following motion;

WHEREAS the OEB file EB-2015-0179 (dated July 23, 2015) application and pre-filed evidence from Union Gas Limited is seeking approval of its proposed Community Expansion Program with intent to support the expansion of infrastructure necessary to provide natural gas to communities that would

otherwise not receive natural gas service (Rural areas);

WHEREAS the Ontario Energy Board issued a Notice for Public Hearing **EB2016-004** (dated January 2016) regarding OEB's intent to review the following issues in May 2016:

1. Should the OEB implement new ratemaking mechanisms including changes to current economic tests to encourage utilities to expand natural gas distribution service to new communities? If so, what should these new mechanisms be?
2. Should the OEB consider imposing conditions or making other changes to Municipal Franchise Agreements and Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity to reduce barriers to natural gas expansion?
3. Does the OEB have the authority to require the ratepayers of one utility to subsidize the costs of another utility to expand into new communities? If so, under what circumstances (if any) would this be appropriate?

WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus's letter of comment (dated April 6, 2016) regarding the Ontario Energy Board's Generic Proceeding EB-2016-004 with intent for the Warden Caucus to support the initial application from Union Gas (EB-2015-0179) and also similar entities that wish to expand natural gas service to rural and remote communities;

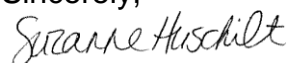
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of Municipality of Hasting Highlands that the OEB examine the proposal to expand natural gas services and make it available to all of Eastern Ontario rural areas as it is vital to our Economic Development and to Business expansion and retention as well as the increase of employability in our sector.

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT this resolution supports the letter of comment sent to the Ontario Energy Board by the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, Mike Bossio, MP for Hastings-Lennox and Addington, the OEB and the Ministers of Economic Development, Employment, Infrastructure, Energy, and Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

Thank you for receiving our correspondence and considering the request.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Huschilt,
Acting Deputy Clerk

cc: Hon. Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Navdeep.Bains@parl.gc.ca
cc: Hon. Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Amarjeet.Sohi@parl.gc.ca
cc: Hon. MaryAnn Mihychuk, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour MaryAnn.Mihychuk@parl.gc.ca
cc: Hon. Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs minister.omafra@ontario.ca
cc: Hon. Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy bchiarelli.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
cc: Mike Bossio, MP for Hastings-Lennox and Addington mike.bossio@parl.gc.ca
cc: Ontario Energy Board – Kristin Walli boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca