Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 27th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Telephone: 416- 481-1967 Facsimile: 416- 440-7656 Toll free: 1-888-632-6273

Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario C.P. 2319 27e étage 2300, rue Yonge Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Téléphone: 416- 481-1967 Télécopieur: 416- 440-7656 Numéro sans frais: 1-888-632-6273



**BY E-MAIL** 

November 2, 2016

Mr. Todd Anderson Sagatay Transmission LP 345 Davis Road Oakville ON L6J 2X1

Dear Mr. Anderson:

## Re: Sagatay Transmission LP Application for Leave to Construct Transmission Facilities OEB File Number: EB-2016-0017

This letter is with reference to your application to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for leave to construct a transmission line from Ignace to Pickle Lake and related transmission facilities. By letter dated February 18, 2016, you were advised that your application was being held in abeyance pending the filing of certain reports. Your application remains incomplete at this time.

In the intervening period, on July 29, 2016 the OEB received a Directive from the Minister of Energy directing the OEB to amend the electricity transmission licence issued to 2472883 Ontario Limited on behalf of Wataynikaneyap Power LP (Wataynikaneyap Power) to require it to develop and seek approvals for the following transmission projects:

- (a) A new 230 kV line originating at a point between Ignace and Dryden and terminating in Pickle Lake. The development of this line is to accord with the scope recommended by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO); and
- (b) Transmission lines extending north from Red Lake and Pickle Lake required to connect certain named remote First Nation communities to the provincial electricity grid. The development of these lines is to accord with the scope supported by the IESO.

The OEB amended Wataynikaneyap Power's licence accordingly on September 1, 2016. The OEB has now also received from the IESO a report dated October 13, 2016 setting out the IESO's recommended scope for the new line to Pickle Lake and its supported scope for the transmission lines north from Red Lake and Pickle Lake. The IESO's recommended scope for the new line to Pickle Lake is as outlined in the IESO's 2015 North of Dryden Integrated Regional Resource Plan, as further clarified in the IESO's October 13, 2016 report to the OEB. In particular, the recommended scope is that the new single circuit 230 kV line to Pickle Lake be built by interconnecting to circuit D26A near Dryden/Ignace and terminating at a new or expanded existing transformer station near Pickle Lake (approximately 300 km).

Under section 97.1 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (Act), the OEB cannot grant leave to construct to an applicant if a licence issued to another person includes an obligation to develop, construct, expand or reinforce the transmission line that is the subject of an applicant's application, whether that application was filed before or after the day on which section 97.1 of the Act came into force (July 1, 2016).

The OEB has concluded that this section of the Act precludes the OEB from granting your application for leave to construct, as the transmission line proposed in your application is functionally equivalent to the new line to Pickle Lake that Wataynikaneyap Power is required by its licence to develop.

The OEB therefore intends to dismiss your application. If you wish to make a written submission regarding the proposed dismissal of your application, you may do so by November 14, 2016.

The Minister's Directive, the OEB's Decision and Order amending Wataynikaneyap Power's licence and the IESO's October 13, 2016 report are all available on the OEB's <u>Priority Transmission Projects</u> webpage, as is the Order in Council declaring the transmission lines to Pickle Lake and extending north from Red Lake and Pickle Lake to be needed as priority projects.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Kristi Sebalj Registrar

c: Tom Brett, Fogler Rubinoff LLP