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 17, 2016

Chief Leslee White-eye Chippewa of the Thames First Nation 320 Chippewa Road R.R. #1 Muncey ON NOL 1Y0 info@cottfn.com

Dear Chief White-eye:

## **Re:** Generic Proceeding on Community Expansion (Natural Gas)

Thank you for your interest in the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) hearing to consider cost recovery mechanisms for expanding natural gas service to Ontario communities that are not currently served.

The OEB has now issued its decision. The decision provides principles to guide the recovery of costs associated with expanding natural gas services. New customers will pay the cost of expansion through a rate structure that reflects that cost. Costs will not be subsidized by existing natural gas customers. Gas utilities interested in expanding their services will need to apply to the OEB and each application will be considered by the OEB, as is the current practice. Gas companies approved by the OEB to expand to new communities must provide a long-term commitment (for example, 10 years) to maintain rate stability to ensure that rates are reflective of long-term costs.

More details and the full decision can be found here (EB-2016-0004).

Thank you again for your interest.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary