

PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE LE CENTRE POUR LA DÉFENSE DE L'INTÉRÊT PUBLIC

February 22, 2017

Ms. Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4P 1E4 VIA E-Mail

Re: EB-2016-0105 – Thunder Bay COS Correspondence – SEC Correspondence

We are in receipt of correspondence from counsel for SEC suggesting that the public hearing of any of the remaining issues in this proceeding take place at Thunder Bay. We agree with this suggestion. There are issues in this application including the rate increases being sought that should be examined in the franchise area of the applicant. While such a hearing may involve some additional preparation, time, and possibly inconvenience on the part of the hearing panel, Board Staff and intervenor representatives, we believe that a local hearing would be in furtherance of the objectives of the Board's customer engagement initiatives.

Yours truly,

Michael Janigan Counsel for VECC

Cc: Applicant & List of Intervenors - via e-mail