



THE MUNICIPALITY OF
LAMBTON SHORES

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23 March 2017

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

**RE: OEB File EB-2015-0179
Municipality of Lambton Shores and Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation Service
Expansion Project**

The Municipality of Lambton Shores has been working with Union Gas for a number of years to bring service to the Ipperwash Beach area of our community. On March 7, 2017 Union Gas representatives advised Council of their plans to re-file an application to expand service into this small pocket of our Municipality. It was hoped that construction could be undertaken within 2017. Accordingly, Council was quick to adopt the following motion of support:

17-0307-04 THAT staff provide a letter of support to the Ontario Energy Board regarding an expansion by Union Gas into the Ipperwash Beach Area.

Since the time of this meeting, I have now read correspondence from Board Secretary Kirsten Wali to Karen Hockin at Union Gas, and more recently from Union Gas' legal firm Torys LLB to Ms. Wali at the Board. My understanding of the documents is that the proposed 2017 construction period may be in jeopardy, pending a review of other potential service providers.

It is my understanding that Union Gas is, and has been, the only local provider of natural gas services through a Franchise Agreement and Certificate of Public Convenience granted by the Board dating back to 1971. Furthermore, I ask you to please understand that the Ipperwash "expansion" project will simply provide service to a small unserved pocket of our Community in an area otherwise surrounded by Union Gas services. Of additional benefit, this project will provide natural gas services to our neighbours in the Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation.

Given the potential community and environmental benefits of gas expansion, the fiscal savings that could be realized by residents that choose to take advantage of gas servicing, and the length of time that has passed in each attempt to bring this project into service, it is my hope that the Ontario Energy Board can review its requirements and grant Union Gas speedy approval of their application so that construction can proceed in 2017.

Sincerely,

Bill Weber
Mayor, Lambton Shores