



# BATCHEWANA FIRST NATION OF OJIBWAYS

RANKIN RESERVE 15D  
GOULAIS BAY RESERVE 15A  
OBADJIWAN RESERVE 15E  
WHITEFISH ISLAND 15

Administration Office 236 Frontenac Street  
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Batchewana First Nation, Ontario P6A 6Z1  
Ph. (705) 759-0914 / C&C Fax (705) 759-8213  
[www.batchewana.ca](http://www.batchewana.ca)

*Via Electronic Submission*

June 26 2017

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

## **Subject: Prince Township Natural Gas Expansion Project**

The Ontario Energy Board has requested that Batchewana First Nation and Union Gas (the "Parties") report on any progress that has occurred since intervenor status was granted to Batchewana First Nation in the Prince Township Natural Gas Expansion Project (the "Project") process.

There has been limited dialogue between the Parties concerning the Project since its inception. Until recently, Batchewana First Nation has not been meaningfully engaged on the potential impact of the Project on their rights and interests.

Batchewana First Nation can now confirm that officials from Union Gas are engaging with Batchewana First Nation. The Parties are working through a number of specific tasks that will help the members of Batchewana First Nation understand the project and provide any input required to protect their rights and interests.

The agreed to list of specific tasks includes:

1. Batchewana First Nation has provided their Engagement and Accommodation Protocol to be reviewed and followed by Union Gas;
2. Submission of a Consultation/Consent Plan by Union Gas to the Batchewana Natural Resources Department for review and approval;
3. Open Houses for the Batchewana First Nation membership which are scheduled to occur on July 4-5, 2017;
4. Exchange of archaeological reports that provide contrary views on the impact of the Project on sites of interest to Batchewana First Nation;
5. Union Gas has provided Batchewana First Nation with a series of documents that are related to the construction methodology to be reviewed; and
6. Batchewana First Nation will provide Union Gas with a sample permit that is required for any major project that is undertaken within the Original Reserve of the First Nation.



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The Parties have also agreed that they will exchange additional historical information about Batchewana First Nation including a list of reports and references to Batchewana First Nation's use of the lands in its Original Reserve. Batchewana First Nation is still assembling this information and will provide it in due course.

Batchewana First Nation and Union Gas will also discuss opportunities for participation by Batchewana First Nation in the coming weeks. Batchewana First Nation will need financial assistance from Union Gas to review the technical information that has been provided. Batchewana First Nation will be discussing other expectations for future participation.

The Parties have agreed to continue their dialogue and complete all of the tasks listed above. It is important to note that Batchewana First Nation has been informed by Union Gas that they would like a decision by Chief and Council prior to the end of July, 2017. While we understand Union Gas' deadline, Batchewana First Nation will be able to advise on a precise timeline when the final list of activities has been confirmed and Chief and Council has received input from its citizens. We will advise the Ontario Energy Board by July 14, 2017 of progress and whether we can meet the July 31, 2017 date for a final decision of Chief and Council.

Should you have any questions or comments on this letter, please feel free to contact me (705) 759-0914 x 202.

Miigwech

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dean Sayers'.

Chief Dean Sayers

cc: Wayne Greer, Aboriginal Business Network  
Wendy Landry, Union Gas