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**Commission de l'énergie  
de l'Ontario**  
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**BY E-MAIL**

December 13, 2017

Union Gas Limited  
Patrick McMahon  
Manager, Regulatory Research and Records  
50 Keil Drive North  
P.O. Box 2001  
Chatham ON N7M 5M1  
[pmcmahon@uniongas.com](mailto:pmcmahon@uniongas.com)

Dear Mr. McMahon:

**Re: Union Gas Limited (Union Gas)  
Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity  
Ontario Energy Board File Numbers: EB-2017-0106, EB-2017-0109,  
EB-2017-0111 to EB-2017-0117, EB-2017-0126, EB-2017-0198**

On February 24, 2017 and February 27, 2017, Union Gas filed four<sup>1</sup> and seven<sup>2</sup> applications, respectively with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) seeking certificates of public convenience and necessity (certificates) to serve certain areas as described in the applications.

The OEB reviewed the applications and by way of a letter dated May 24, 2017 (hold letter), informed Union Gas that it would proceed to hear two of the applications (EB-2017-0107 and EB-2017-0108). For reasons explained in the hold letter, the OEB placed the remaining nine applications on hold pending the completion of the South Bruce Expansion Proceeding (South Bruce)<sup>3</sup>.

As noted in the hold letter, in the Decision with Reasons (Generic Decision) for the generic proceeding on community expansion<sup>4</sup> the OEB confirmed that certificates are not exclusive. In the Generic Decision, the OEB also stated:

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<sup>1</sup> EB-2017-0106 (Township of Poitras), EB-2017-0107 (City of Cambridge), EB-2017-0108 (Norfolk County, County of Elgin & County of Middlesex) and EB-2017-0109 (nine unincorporated communities).

<sup>2</sup> EB-2017-0111 (Township of Eby), EB-2017-0112 (Township of McKenzie-Portage), EB-2017-0113 (Township of Grenfell), EB-2017-0114 (Kenora District), EB-2017-0115 (Township of Schwenger), EB-2017-0116 (Township of Sapawe) and EB-2017-0117 (Lorrain Valley)

<sup>3</sup> EB-2016-0137, EB-2016-0138 and EB-2016-0139

<sup>4</sup> EB-2016-0004

“...that certain changes are required to facilitate the review of applications for providing gas expansion services in unserved communities and to enable competing proponents to present their proposals before the OEB...

...one of the issues to be determined by the OEB at the time of the approval of the new certificate will be the geographic boundaries within which a utility can operate, based on a rational future expansion of the distribution system.”<sup>5</sup>

With this in mind, the OEB is currently assessing its framework for the review of applications seeking approval of franchise agreements and the granting certificates. As part of this framework, and notwithstanding that certificates are not exclusive, where the need for a certificate arises from the construction of works outside the bounds of a utility’s existing certificates, the OEB will consider the granting of a certification only for the area required by the utility to encompass any currently non-certificated works.

Therefore, for each of the nine aforementioned applications that were put on hold, the OEB requires that Union Gas provide:

1. a written metes and bounds description outlining the boundary of the minimum area that would be required by Union Gas to encompass the currently non-certificated works; and
2. one or more density maps of the area within the boundary provided in item #1 above.

Please provide this information by January 12, 2018.

Yours truly,

*Original Signed by*

Kristi Sebalj  
Registrar  
Office of the Registrar

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<sup>5</sup> EB-2016-0004, Decision with Reasons, p. 27