MICHAEL R. BUONAGURO

Barrister and Solicitor

April 9, 2018

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Ms. Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 26th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli,

RE: Board File No. EB-2018-0013 Union Gas Limited Kingsville Reinforcement Project Application

We are writing on behalf of the Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers ("OGVG") in regard to the referenced Application. The Kingsville Reinforcement Project ("the Project") involves the construction of approximately 19 km of NPS 20 pipeline between the Town of Lakeshore and the Town of Kingsville.

The Ontario greenhouse vegetable sector is a major contributor to the Ontario economy, generating over \$820 million in farm gate receipts and accounting for approximately 10,000 jobs annually. OGVG, as an organization, represents over 200 greenhouse pepper, tomato and cucumber growers in the province. Over one third of greenhouse production costs are energy-related and as such rate increases and pricing adjustments serve to threaten the global competitiveness of the sector.

The Ontario greenhouse sector is growing. In fact, in evidence filed by Union Gas in its 2013 rate case, the greenhouse sector was shown to be the fastest growing sector of Union's business markets exhibiting a doubling of volume between the 2007 Board-approved and the 2013 Forecast volumes. OGVG members' natural gas consumption is important to Union Gas and greenhouse production in general is important to the Ontario economy.

As a not-for-profit organization, OGVG does not have other funding sources to ensure experienced representation to participate in and assist the Board with these regulatory proceedings. Therefore OGVG would respectfully request a determination of eligibility for cost award in this proceeding. OGVG retains professionals who have experience representing intervenor interests and, OGVG respectfully submits, have assisted the

Board in previous proceedings in an efficient and responsible manner.

ISSUES OF CONCERN

As noted by Union its it application OGVG supports the proposed Project, as it is intended, in part, to provide the additional natural gas infrastructure required to serve the existing and near term natural gas needs of OGVG's members. Accordingly OGVG is directly interested in the proper regulatory consideration of the Project.

REPRESENTATION

If the intervention requested is granted, OGVG asks that further communications with respect to this matter be sent to the following:

Nathan Warkentin Energy and Environment Analyst Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers 32 Seneca Road, Leamington, Ontario N8H 5H7

Phone 519-326-2604

Email: <u>n.warkentin@ontariogreenhouse.com</u>

AND

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Yours very truly,

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Michael R. Buonaguro

CC: Karen Hockin Charles Keizer