



**Ontario Energy Board**  
P.O. Box 2319  
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor  
Toronto ON M4P 1E4  
Attn: Ms. Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

**Re: Gas Distribution Inc. regulatory application EB-2017-0319**

Dear Ms. Walli,

I'm writing to express the Town of Lincoln's support for the Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. application related to the geothermal service program.

The Town of Lincoln has been working with Enbridge on a large scale multi-purpose development and evaluating options to meet its energy needs. Our key priorities for this development's energy system are that it is low cost, low carbon, reliable and comfortable for occupants, and that we are working with a trusted partner.

We believe Enbridge's geothermal application, if approved, will make it more cost effective and practical to pursue geothermal for this development by allowing Enbridge to finance the upfront cost of the system and recover their investment over a long period of time.

Geothermal systems are a key technology which can reduce emissions from homes and buildings; however, the prospect of undertaking a project at such a large scale in the absence of a trusted partner like Enbridge and without the protection of the Ontario Energy Board is daunting, especially in a small community. We would not have the same level of confidence that rates will be fair and transparent, that the system will work as designed and that it will be serviced as necessary.

Enbridge's model will be attractive for new developments across the province, making it more likely for geothermal technology to be deployed in them, which will help Ontario achieve its emission reduction targets where the geothermal systems are displacing natural gas.

In addition to cost and emission reductions, the developer and community will benefit because geothermal will eliminate the need for cooling towers, saving space and mechanical room for the developer, which will open up penthouse expansions

It is also our understanding that utility treatment will allow lower rates for customers, allowing them to share in the benefit of growing economies of scale as the technology becomes more prevalent and prices drop.



Finally, giving the Ontario Energy Board a role in regulating Enbridge's geothermal program will also ensure customers are paying for a fair and transparent fee for service.

We support Enbridge's application and look forward to working with them.

Sincerely,

Paul Di Ianni

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CC Chris Wray, Manager, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations, Enbridge Gas Distribution

CC Andrew Mandyam, Director of Regulatory Affairs, Enbridge Gas Distribution