



Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2017-0106

UNION GAS LIMITED

**Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the
Township of Poitras**

By Delegation, before: Pascale Duguay

July 19, 2018

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

This Decision and Order grants a certificate of public convenience and necessity under the *Municipal Franchises Act* to Union Gas Limited (Union Gas), for a limited area within the Township of Poitras.

THE PROCESS

Union Gas applied on February 24, 2017 under section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act* for an order of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) granting Union Gas a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct works to supply gas in the unincorporated Township of Poitras.

By letter dated May 24, 2017, the OEB put the application on hold pending the completion of the South Bruce Expansion Proceeding.¹

Union Gas filed an updated application on March 13, 2018.

The OEB held a written hearing. A Notice of Hearing was published in the local newspaper on June 22, 2018. The Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, which serve as authorities for public lands and for areas with ministerial zoning orders within unincorporated townships, such as the Township of Poitras, were served with a copy of the application and Notice of Hearing. There were no intervenors.

THE APPLICATION

Union Gas is a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, with its head office in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

The Township of Poitras is an unincorporated township in the Nipissing District of Northeastern Ontario.

¹ Decision and Order, EB-2016-0137, EB-2016-0138 and EB-2016-0139, issued April 12, 2018.

On August 19, 2016, Union Gas was directed by the OEB to file a report confirming that the utility had obtained certificates of public convenience and necessity covering the geographic areas in which its facilities are located.

During its investigation, Union Gas identified customers being served within the Township of Poitras. There is no record of a certificate being issued to Union Gas for the Township of Poitras.

Union Gas applied for a certificate for the Township of Poitras limited to the area necessary to serve the existing customers. Initially, Union Gas supplied a map identifying all of its existing gas mains in the Township of Poitras. Union Gas requested confidential treatment for the gas mains map, pursuant to the OEB's *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings*. The grounds for its confidential treatment included that the information contained therein is proprietary and subject to periodic change; and that it contains highly sensitive information from public safety, system security and customer personal information perspectives.

In accordance with the OEB's direction, Union Gas updated its application by filing a customer density map and a written metes and bounds description of the area for which it was seeking a certificate.

The metes and bounds description of the area for which Union Gas is requesting a certificate is as follows: the boundary area starting at the TransCanada Pipeline and extends 250 m west and 150 m east of Highway 63 and extends to the north to include the Ottawa River Crossing to Long Sault Island as well as Long Sault Island within the Township of Poitras.

OEB FINDINGS

I approve the application for the following reasons.

The OEB has jurisdiction under section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act* to grant certificates of public convenience and necessity to an entity proposing to construct works to supply or to supply gas in an unorganized territory, such as the Township of Poitras.²

² Decision with Reasons, E.B.C. 211 (at para. 1.3.19), issued November 29, 1994.

I find that it is in the public interest for Union Gas to continue to provide gas service to the affected customers in the Township of Poitras and therefore will approve the certificate as requested by Union Gas.

I find that the customer density map submitted by Union Gas on March 13, 2018 adequately serves the purpose of the information being sought by the OEB in this proceeding; namely, to accurately inform the OEB of the distributor's service boundaries in the Township of Poitras, as well as the general location and density of customers served. Given the sufficiency of the customer density map in meeting the OEB's purposes for deciding the application, the gas mains map will not be placed on the record of this proceeding.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The certificate of public convenience and necessity, attached as Schedule A to this Decision and Order, is granted to Union Gas Limited to construct works to supply gas in the Township of Poitras, limited to the boundaries of Union Gas Limited's existing service area, as outlined in the map attached as Schedule B hereto.
2. Union Gas Limited shall pay the OEB's costs incidental to this proceeding upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, July 19, 2018

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

Pascale Duguay
Manager, Application Policy and Climate Change

SCHEDULE A

EB-2017-0106

DATED: July 19, 2018

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

The Ontario Energy Board grants

Union Gas Limited

approval under section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55, as amended, to construct works to supply gas to the

Township of Poitras

limited to the area outlined in the map attached to this Decision and Order as Schedule B.

DATED at Toronto, July 19, 2018

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original Signed By

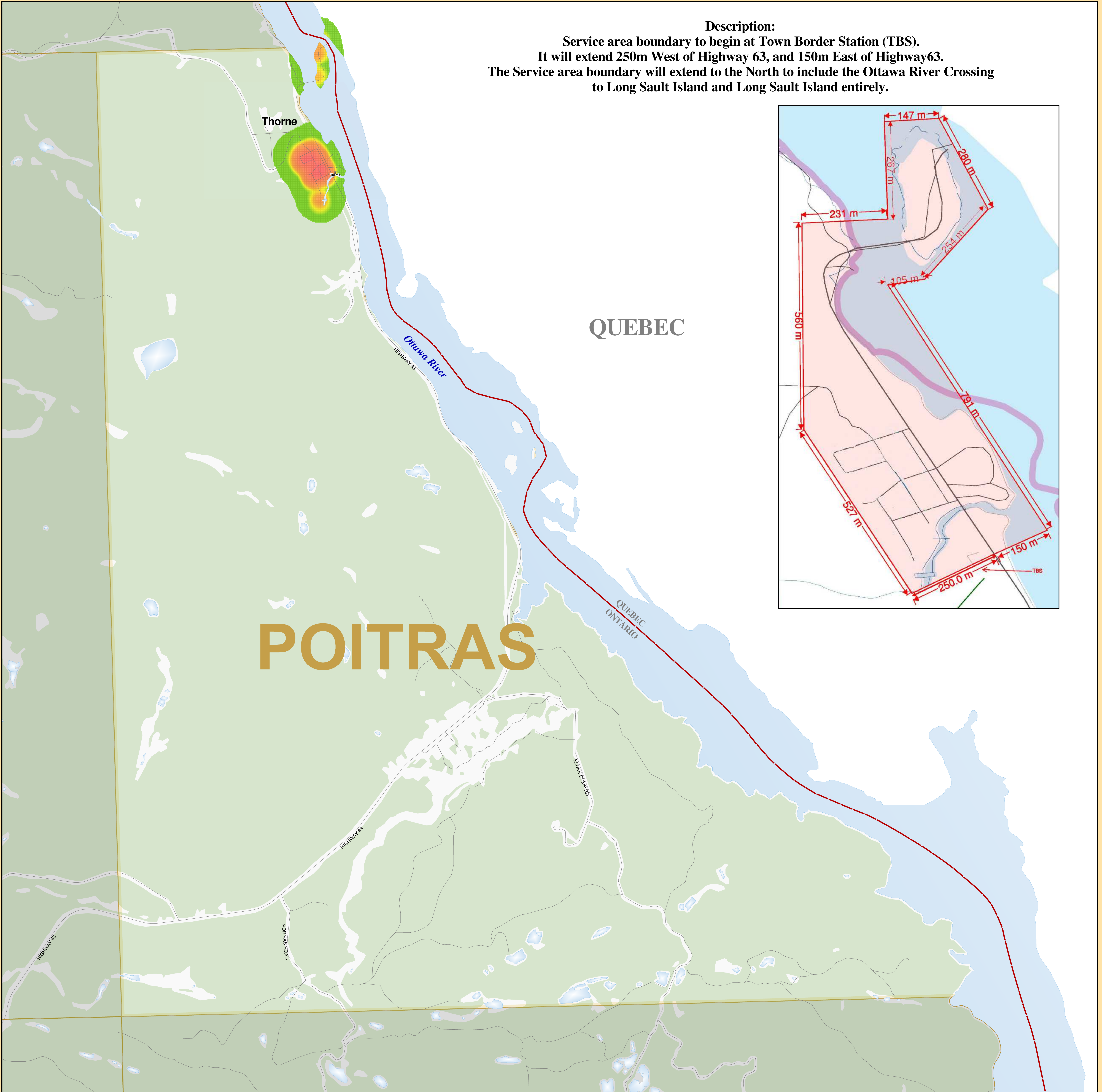
Pascale Duguay
Manager, Application Policy and Climate Change

SCHEDULE B

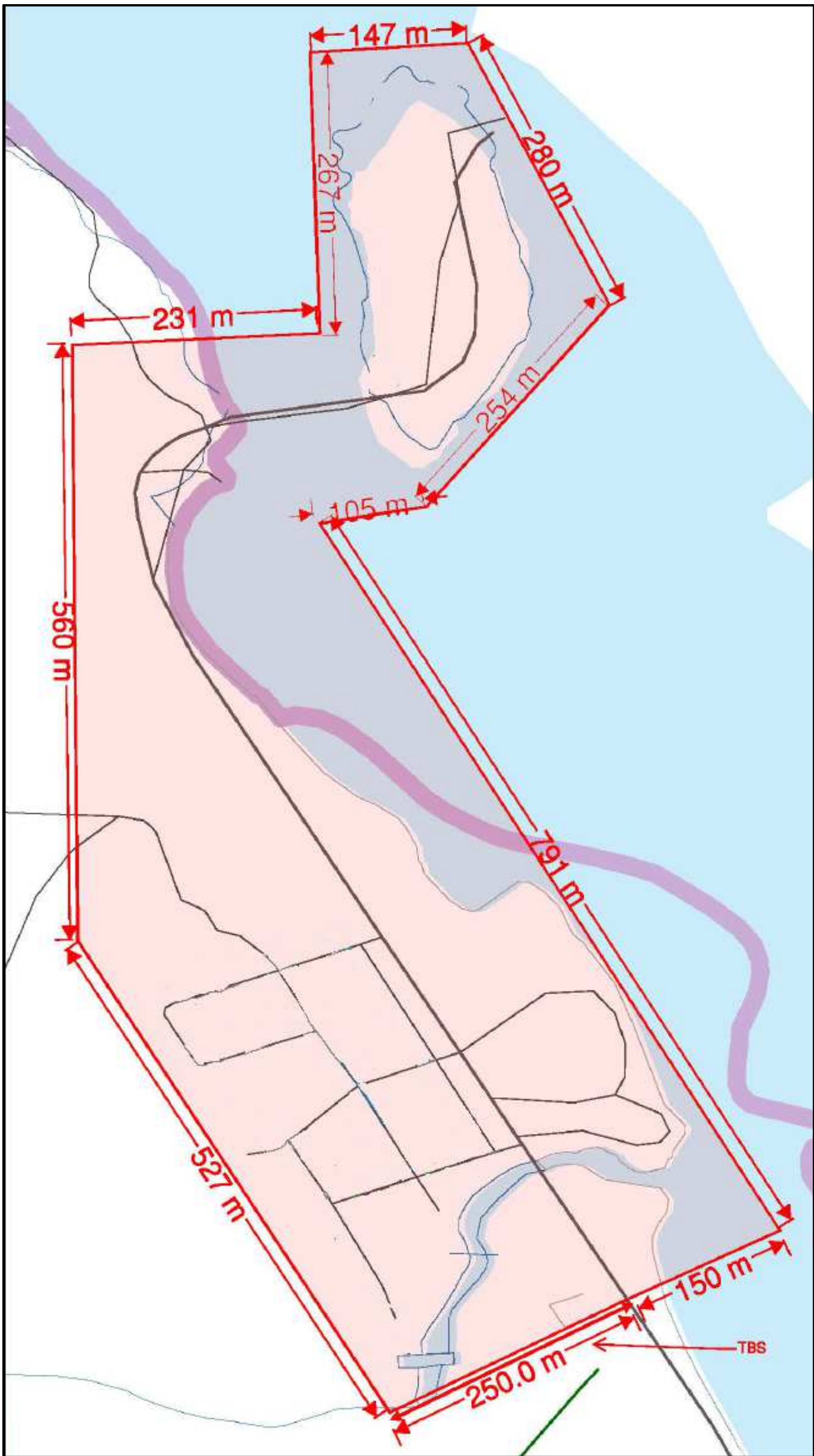
EB-2017-0106

DATED: July 19, 2018

Map of Union Gas Limited's Authorized Service Area in the Township of Poitras



Description:
Service area boundary to begin at Town Border Station (TBS).
It will extend 250m West of Highway 63, and 150m East of Highway 63.
The Service area boundary will extend to the North to include the Ottawa River Crossing
to Long Sault Island and Long Sault Island entirely.

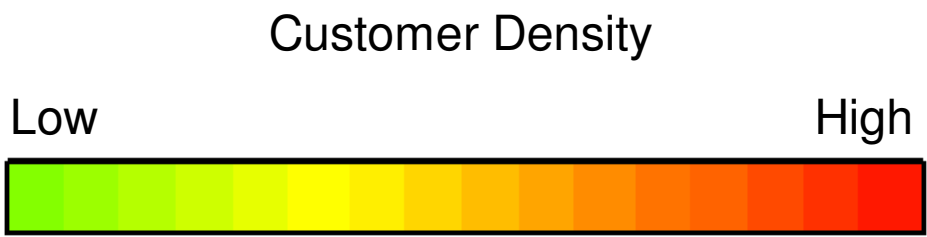


POITRAS TOWNSHIP



Legend

- Union Gas Pipeline Coverage Area
- Poitras Township
- Roads
- Railway
- Municipal and Township Boundaries
- First Nation Boundaries



Disclaimer:
The map is provided with no warranty express or Implied and is subject to change at any time. Any Person using the Density Map shall do so at its own Risk and the Density Map is not intended in any way As a tool to locate underground infrastructure for the purposes of excavation

