Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 27th. Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Telephone: 416- 481-1967 Facsimile: 416- 440-7656 Toll free: 1-888-632-6273 Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario C.P. 2319 27e étage 2300, rue Yonge Toronto ON M4P 1E4 Téléphone; 416- 481-1967 Télécopieur: 416- 440-7656 Numéro sans frais: 1-888-632-6273



**BY E-MAIL** 

July 31, 2018

Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

Re: Energy+ Inc. (Energy+) Application for Rates OEB File Number EB-2018-0028 OEB Staff Submission on Energy+'s Request for Confidentiality

Ontario Energy Board (OEB) staff has reviewed the material for which Energy+ requested confidential treatment in its letter of April 30, 2018. OEB staff agrees that some of the redacted information should be treated as confidential. OEB staff notes that the OEB's *Practice Direction on Confidential Filings* Appendix A (Practice Direction) sets out some of the factors that the OEB may consider in addressing the confidentiality of filings, such as:

- the potential harm that could result from the disclosure of the information, including prejudice to any person's competitive position (Category 1); and
- whether the information is personal information and generally exempt from public disclosure (Category 2).

With respect to the Category 1 documents, OEB staff agrees that information within

those documents that is specific to Energy+ commercial or large use customers is technical, commercial and / or financial information within the meaning of section 17(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act,* R.S.O. 1990, c.F.31 (FIPPA). Disclosure of such information could prejudice the competitive position of those customers and has generally been treated as confidential pursuant to the Practice Direction.

Similarly, information contained in the redacted documents that pertains to CBRE appear to contain technical or proprietary analysis that has commercial value such that public disclosure of such information could prejudice certain party's competitive position.

OEB staff suggests that Energy+, in its reply submission, should clarify its reasons for confidential treatment of the Category 1 information relating to its customer information and CBRE's analysis.

With respect to the Category 2 information, OEB staff agrees that it should remain confidential insofar as that information relates to individual, identifiable employees and disclosure of such information is restricted by FIPPA. OEB staff suggests that, in its reply submission, Energy+ clarify whether the redacted information relates to personal information of employees and if so, the basis on which it should not be disclosed.

OEB staff submits that the PILS Tax Returns for 2016 should be treated as confidential and redacted to the extent that they contain personal information about identifiable employees. Energy+ should clarify in its reply submission the specific reason for redactions to the tax return document.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Shuo Zhang Advisor, Major Applications