

**BY EMAIL** 

July 23, 2019

Terry Young Vice-President, Policy, Engagement and Innovation 120 Adelaide Street West Suite 1600 Toronto ON M5H 1T1 Terry.Young@ieso.ca

Dear Mr. Young:

## Re: Funding of Expansion of Natural Gas Distribution Systems: Southern Bruce Project being developed by EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership

I am writing in relation to section 36.2 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* and Ontario Regulation 24/19 (Expansion of Natural Gas Distribution Systems) (Expansion Funding Regulation), both of which came into force on July 1, 2019.

Section 7 of the Expansion Funding Regulation contemplates that the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) will provide the Independent Electricity System Operator with confirmation once the necessary OEB approvals referred to in section 2(b) of the Expansion Funding Regulation have been obtained in relation to a gas expansion project covered by the Expansion Funding Regulation. Section 2(b) refers to "all necessary approvals from the [OEB] to authorize the expansion of a natural gas distribution system", which means any one or more of the following approvals as may be applicable to a given project:

- A Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity under section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*
- A Municipal Franchise Agreement under section 9 of the *Municipal Franchises* Act
- Leave to construct under section 96 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* further to an application under section 90

By this letter, the OEB is confirming that as of July 11, 2019, to the extent that they were required, all such approvals have been obtained in respect of the Southern Bruce Project being developed by EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership<sup>1</sup> (item 1 in Schedule 1 of the Expansion Funding Regulation).

Any questions relating to this letter should be directed to Nancy Marconi, Manager, Supply & Infrastructure Applications, at <u>Nancy.Marconi@oeb.ca</u> or at 416-440-7680. The Board's toll-free number is 1-888-632-6273.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Mary Anne Aldred Chief Operating Officer & General Counsel

c: Jeannette Briggs, Director, Settlements, IESO Bruce Brandell, Director, Commercial Services, EPCOR Utilities Inc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Expansion Funding Regulation identifies this project as being developed by EPCOR Southern Bruce Gas Inc. Since the date of filing of that Regulation, various regulatory approvals have been given such that the necessary Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and leave to construct approval stand in the name of EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership.