

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

**EB-2017-0108**

**ENBRIDGE GAS INC.**

**Application for certificates of public convenience and necessity  
for Norfolk County, the County of Elgin, and the County of  
Middlesex**

**By Delegation, before: Pascale Duguay**

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**September 13, 2019**

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## INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

This Decision and Order approves the request filed by EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership (ENGLP) to serve two residences on Cromarty Drive, in the Municipality of Thames Centre, as identified in the limited certificate of public convenience and necessity (certificate) attached hereto as Schedule A.

## THE PROCESS

ENGLP and Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) each hold certificates issued by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB), under the *Municipal Franchises Act*, within Norfolk County, the County of Elgin and the County of Middlesex (the Counties).

The Municipality of Thames Centre is a lower tier municipality in the County of Middlesex.

On October 11, 2018, the OEB issued a Decision and Order in this proceeding (the October 11, 2018 Decision) indicating it would amend each of ENGLP's and Enbridge Gas' certificates in the Counties such that the service territories of the two utilities will be exclusive of each other. Although progress has been made towards resolving a number of inconsistencies and overlap issues, the OEB has not yet issued a final order in this proceeding granting the amended certificates.

In Procedural Order No. 11, the OEB recognized that pending the final resolution of this proceeding, there may also be other requests for natural gas service in areas in which Enbridge Gas and ENGLP may currently have overlapping certificate authorization in the Counties. The OEB went on to say that in such instances, the utilities should bring the matter to the OEB's attention in this proceeding, together with the utility's proposed resolution.

On August 29, 2019, ENGLP filed a letter with the OEB to advise that ENGLP had received natural gas service connection requests from two residences on Cromarty Drive in the Municipality of Thames Centre, and to seek the OEB's approval to serve the residences.

On August 30, 2019, the OEB issued Procedural Order No. 12, providing Enbridge Gas with an opportunity to file similar evidence regarding its ability to, and interest in, serving the two residences on Cromarty Drive.

On September 9, 2019, Enbridge Gas filed a letter stating that, while it would like to connect the two residences on Cromarty Drive, after having reviewed the costs to provide service, Enbridge Gas determined that it would be more economic for ENGLP to attach these customers.

On September 10, 2019, ENGLP filed a letter stating that it viewed Enbridge Gas' September 9, 2019 letter as not opposing ENGLP's desire to connect the two residences, and confirmed that it would not be filing any further reply as provided for by the OEB in Procedural Order No. 12.

## **THE APPLICATION**

ENGLP proposed to construct an approximately 40 m long service line, and a first cut regulator (also called a farm tap) to serve Residence A, and an approximately 50 m long service line and a farm tap to serve Residence B. ENGLP indicated that its infrastructure is essentially "at the doorstep" of the two residences, and requires only a service lateral to make the connection and no directional drill under Cromarty Drive as the residences are on the same side of the road as ENGLP's existing pipeline. ENGLP stated that there is a minimal capital contribution required (\$200 for Residence A and \$300 for Residence B) for it to connect each customer, as per its Conditions of Service. ENGLP indicated that it could connect the two residences on or before November 15, 2019, if an OEB decision were issued granting the utility the authorization to serve these customers on or before September 22, 2019.

## **FINDINGS**

I find that it is in the public interest to approve ENGLP's request to serve the two residences on Cromarty Drive. While Enbridge Gas also expressed a desire to serve the two residences on Cromarty Drive, Enbridge Gas advised the OEB that it would be more economic for ENGLP to serve these two customers.

The OEB hereby issues a certificate to ENGLP for the Municipality of Thames Centre limited to the purpose of supplying natural gas to the two residences on Cromarty Drive as detailed in Schedule A attached hereto. This certificate will be accounted for in the final decision and order in this proceeding whereby, among other things, amended service boundaries for ENGLP and Enbridge Gas in the Municipality of Thames Centre will be set.

**IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. A certificate of public convenience and necessity, attached as Schedule A to this Decision and Order, is granted to EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership to construct works to supply gas to 824 Cromarty Drive, Dorchester, Ontario and 842 Cromarty Drive, Dorchester, Ontario.

**DATED** at Toronto September 13, 2019

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

*Original signed by*

Pascale Duguay  
Manager, Application Policy and Climate Change

**SCHEDULE A**

**EB-2017-0108**

**DATED: September 13, 2019**

**Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity**

**EB-2017-0108**

## **Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity**

The Ontario Energy Board grants

### **EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership**

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

### **Municipality of Thames Centre**

as it is constituted on the date of this Decision and Order and limited to serving the following addresses:

824 Cromarty Drive, Dorchester, Ontario

842 Cromarty Drive, Dorchester, Ontario

**DATED** at Toronto, September 13, 2019

**ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD**

Pascale Duguay  
Manager, Application Policy and Climate Change