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December 22, 2019

Christine E. Long
Registrar and Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto ON
M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Long

**RE: EB-2019-0255 Potential Projects to Expand Access to Natural Gas Distribution
Energy Probe Consultation Participant Request Letter**

Energy Probe Research Foundation (Energy Probe) applies to participate in the consultation for EB-2019-0255 Potential Projects to Expand Access to Natural Gas Distribution and requests that it be eligible for the recovery of the costs for its participation.

Statement of Interest

Energy Probe is a non-profit environmental and consumer organization which promotes economic efficiency in the use of resources. Energy Probe will be representing its natural gas residential customer supporters in Ontario, which we have some number of thousands, and will also be representing a broader concern with respect to the overall financial health and operational integrity of Ontario utilities. Energy Probe has been a responsible participant in OEB proceedings for over thirty years. In this consultation process, Energy Probe will focus on the cost-effectiveness, reliability and security of natural gas service for residential customers.

Costs

Energy Probe is a non-profit organization which relies on individual donations to help protect the public interest. Without the prospect of an award of costs, Energy Probe's ability to participate in the consultation process would be very limited. Energy Probe intends to seek a cost award in this

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consultation process, and expects to participate responsibly, cognizant of the Board's guidelines regarding cost awards.

Consultants

Energy Probe will be represented by its consultants, Tom Ladanyi and Roger Higgin. Mr. Ladanyi is a professional engineer and accountant with 45 years of experience in the energy utility sector of the economy. Dr. Higgin is a former OEB board member with a doctorate in engineering. He has more than thirty years of experience in the energy utility sector including a number of years as President of the Canadian Gas Research Institute. Both consultants participated in previous OEB generic proceedings dealing with natural gas system expansion: EBO 188, and EB-2016-0004. In the EBO 188 proceeding Mr. Ladanyi participated in the Settlement Conference as an employee of a gas distributor and Dr. Higgin was on the OEB panel that issued the EBO 188 decision approving the Settlement Agreement. In EB-2016-0004 proceeding Mr. Ladanyi was an expert witness on behalf of VECC and Dr. Higgin was a consultant representing Energy Probe. Their CVs are on file with the OEB and their contact information is provided below.

Tom Ladanyi TL Energy Regulatory Consultants Inc. 41 Divadale Drive Toronto ON M4G 2N7 Tel: 416 423-3685 tom.ladanyi@rogers.com	Roger Higgin SPA Inc. 15 Malabar Place Don Mills, Toronto Ontario M3B 1A4 416-391-0738 spainc@rogers.com
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Energy Probe expects that its participation will consist of submission of written comments.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Energy Probe.

Original signed by

Tom Ladanyi
Consultant to Energy Probe

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