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December 23, 2019

Sent by EMAIL, RESS e-filing, and courier

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

Dear Ms. Long:

**Re: Potential Projects to Expand Access to Natural Gas Distribution
Request to Participate – EPCOR Natural Gas Limited Partnership (“EPCOR”)
Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) File No. EB-2019-0255**

EPCOR requests to participate in the process launched by the OEB in its December 19, 2019 letter to parties with respect to Potential Projects to Expand Access to Natural Gas Distribution, in reference to the December 12, 2019 Section 35 letter from the Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines and the Associate Minister of Energy.

We look forward to providing our written comments on January 15, 2020 with respect to the draft Guidelines for Potential Projects to Expand Access to Natural Gas Distribution.

Per section 3.05 of the Board’s *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*, EPCOR is not eligible for an award of costs, and EPCOR is not requesting cost eligibility for its participation in this proceeding.

Please feel free to reach out if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vince Cooney", is placed on a light gray rectangular background.

Vince Cooney, P.Eng, MBA
Senior Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Ontario
EPCOR Utilities Inc.
(647) 730 – 0013

cc. Pascale Duguay/Laurie Klein, *OEB Staff*
Susannah K. Robinson, Vice President, Ontario, *EPCOR Utilities Inc.*
Karim Kassam, Vice-President, Business Development, *EPCOR Utilities Inc.*
Bruce Brandell, Director, Commercial Services, *EPCOR Utilities Inc.*
Daniela O'Callaghan, Counsel, *EPCOR Utilities Inc.*