

From: Ruth Pickering [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 4:17 PM
To: BoardSec <BoardSec@oeb.ca>
Subject: Christine Long, Board Secretary,

Christine Long, Board Secretary,
Ontario Energy Board
@BoardSec@oeb.ca

Re: 2021 Dawn Parkway Expansion Project

Dear Ms Long,

I was pleased to note that the **Vision** of the Ontario Energy Board states:

- “The OEB supports and guides the continuing evolution of the Ontario energy sector by promoting outcomes and innovation that deliver value for all Ontario energy consumers and that the **Mission** which follows from this Vision articulates that
- Strengthening the focus on demonstrable consumer value during a period of sector evolution
- Incenting and enabling innovation in a way that enhances consumer choice, control and value
- Strengthening and sustaining the confidence of consumers during a period of accelerating change
- Equipping our own organization to meet the challenges presented by sector evolution”

Given the Climate Emergency we are living in, the increasing emissions of CO2 produced and burned in Canada (and every prediction that Canada, to our collective shame, will not succeed in reaching our 2030 Paris commitment) there is an urgent need to transition from a fully Fossil Fuel-based economy into a post-Carbon energy future ASAP.

Given the urgency, at the very least, we must NOT ADD new fossil fuel projects (Eg the "Dawn Parkway Expansion Project") to be approved.

Because of the cost in time and money for new Fossil Fuel Infrastructure to be built, it is expected to produce the fossil fuel product over a 40-60:year time-line in order to deliver adequate profits to investors and owners of these companies.

There is increasing awareness in the global Financial community, as well as many fossil fuel companies that the risk is increasing for these companies from Climate Liability suits. Global Divestment from fossil fuel portfolios is increasing in momentum. The top

Fossil Fuel Corporations (even ExxonMobil) have recently fallen out of the top ten of the S and P '500 index'

All of these factors indicate that the Industry is in decline and that, therefore we must transition to renewable energy for a safe and viable economy and a livable future for our children and grandchildren.

There are also compelling local reasons for this Pipeline Expansion to NOT be approved.

They are:

- this pipeline expansion would be completely located in the Greenbelt and would traverse three Conservation Authorities and the wetlands and diversity of species of flora and fauna that the HCA has responsibility to "protect and enhance".
- This would significantly interfere with the Beverly Swamp, headwaters of Spencer, Fairchild and Grindstone creeks, all of which support the downstream health of Hamilton's water supplies.
- "Natural Gas" is not suitable as a transition fuel, as it is Methane, and is a powerful GHG.
- Methane leaks, explodes and would contribute to Canada's already overwhelming carbon emissions.
- And southern Ontario does not need any additional Natural Gas as demand is currently declining.
- When the nuclear plants are shut down (in the near future), there will be no need for NG as Ontario will be able to import hydro-electricity from Quebec, more cheaply, safely and without INCREASING our GHG emissions.
- Enbridge is proposing that citizens pay for a significant portion of the cost of construction! Not only do we not need the natural gas that would be flowing, we certainly do not need to pay more for than we now pay!
- This is 'fracked gas' from Pennsylvania, being piped through Canada to the North-East US (because the regulatory bodies in these states do not allow fracked gas pipelines in their states).
- Instead of building this pipe through eco-sensitive wetlands, blasting bedrock, and bulldozing a swath of trees, bushes, rocks and water-courses through the Beverly Swamp, they could instead continue and increase their power-saving/conservation strategies for the community, its customers. Enbridge could become a 'good community member' assisting with mitigation measures to address the Climate Emergency we are now facing. (just think of what the Australians are dealing with!)

Because of this shift from a "business-as-usual" condition in the world, to this dangerous moment in time, we must shift to a new way of doing things.

Fortunately, the OEB was enlightened enough to create its Vision and Mission to anticipate future unknown conditions, and are situated to act based on the science and the state of Emergency we all face.

Because of these changed and changing conditions, I recommend that the Hearings be public and open to oral presentations so that we all may contribute to the discussion.

Sincerely,

Dr Ruth Pickering, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad