

**From:** [registrar](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** HPE CM: Letter of Comment, EB-2019-0159 FW: Enbridge Pipeline through Beverly Swamp  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:14:02 PM  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** basil.cottage basil.cottage [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 10, 2020 3:22 PM  
**To:** BoardSec <BoardSec@oeb.ca>  
**Cc:** jeff.yurek <jeff.yurek@pc.ola.org>  
**Subject:** Enbridge Pipeline through Beverly Swamp  
**Importance:** High

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a resident of Dundas in west Hamilton and an Enbridge consumer. A while ago, I read with incredulity that Enbridge Gas is proposing building a 10.2 kilometres route of 48-inch diameter natural gas pipeline, part of which would go through rural Hamilton (Flamborough) and through the Beverly Swamp -- and that Enbridge Gas has applied to the Ontario Energy Board for the 'green' light to proceed with construction!

This proposed pipeline -- which would transport fracked gas from Pennsylvania -- shows that Enbridge is indifferent to the effects of climate change and the internationally-recognized requirement to cut the use of fossil fuel as expediently as possible -- and flies against the climate emergency declared by the City of Hamilton in March of last year. We do not need to expand and facilitate the transportation and burning of even more fossil fuels in Canada. Enbridge has also indicated that it will even increase the price of natural gas in Ontario in order to pay for the pipeline, which would provide no benefits to the City of Hamilton (except for some short-term employment), so even from a purely economic standpoint, why should the City of Hamilton and its residents support this proposal?

The fact that this pipeline would cut through the Beverly Swamp and farmland makes it plainly obvious from a strictly environmental point-of-view that this pipeline proposal is a regressive endeavour and should NOT be given the nod from the OEB to proceed!

The Beverly Swamp covers about 5,600 acres (2,300 hectares) and is one of largest, if not the largest, natural swamps in Southwestern Ontario. Waters from the swamp flow southerly into the Spencer Creek as well as the Fairchild and Grindstone creeks. The swamp performs a vital natural conservation function, acting as a great sponge for the watershed. It contains a rich diversity of plant and animal life, some of which are rare for this part of Ontario. All this diverse life influences the quality of our water and the air we breathe!

The construction of this pipeline will cause significant, even irreparable, damage to the swamp. The right of way for this new pipeline proposed by Enbridge will vary from 28 to 30 metres in width -- or the equivalent of an eight- or nine-lane roadway. The 28-metre right of way is only the start, as Enbridge requires additional temporary easements, each being several acres of land, which means the area of destruction in the swamp will be far more extensive.

Nick Klip, operations manager for Enbridge Gas Inc., who made the announcement on November 6th at the Stone Church Road fire station, defended the pipeline. "All of our projects are vetted from an environmental perspective," he said. Mr. Klip also said the company supports the idea that climate change is a reality and backs government efforts worldwide to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Really!? I checked my calendar; nope, it wasn't April 1st, so he must be serious! but, supporting idea that climate change is a reality and proving it with action are two very different things. Actions speak louder than words -- and these actions would mean that Enbridge is lying to us!

I realize that this process has a ways to go before a final decision is made, so I sincerely request that the OEB hold public and fully transport and open meetings and hearings, so that we, the public, are kept well-informed.

You know the facts about climate change:

- The world's climate scientists warned in October 2018 that we must cut greenhouse gas emissions by at 50% by 2030, and since then the warnings have become more desperate;
- There is a grave connection between our climate change emergency and the practises of the fossil fuel industry, so it makes no sense at all for companies like Enbridge to profoundly affect our fragile eco-systems and environmentally-sensitive green areas;
- The City of Hamilton has declared a climate emergency and is already publicly opposed the Enbridge application, as has the Hamilton Conservation Authority (who are accountable for 2,300 acres {920 hectares} of the Beverly Swamp).

Enbridge may tell us that this project is in response to consumer demand and would be safe -- eventually -- for the environment. BP probably thought the same in the Caribbean; the Exxon Valdez wasn't supposed to spill all that oil off the coast of Alaska. Nothing is fool-proof and the risks and costs are just not worth it!

Yes, the struggle against the effects of climate change will be a long and arduous one, but the OEB can provide some true leadership and foresight and demonstrate social responsibility by denying this Enbridge pipeline construction application!

If not, then that announcement made by Nick Klip of Enbridge last November 6th might as well have been made on April Fools' Day!

Hoping and trusting that the right decision will be reached, I remain

Sincerely and Respectfully Yours,

**Stan Nowak** [REDACTED]