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From: Webmaster <[Webmaster@oeb.ca](mailto:Webmaster@oeb.ca)>

Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2020 10:48 AM

To: registrar <[registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)>

Subject: Letter of Comment - [REDACTED]

The Ontario Energy Board

-- Comment date --

2020-04-15

-- Case Number --

EB-2019-0159

-- Name --

Amelia Rose Khan

-- Phone --

[REDACTED]

-- Company --

[REDACTED]

-- Address --

[REDACTED]

-- Comments --

Ontario Energy Board,

April 15, 2020

As consumers of natural gas regulated by Ontario Energy Board, our members object strongly to the proposed construction of the Hamilton pipeline-- and we urge you to rule in favour of a healthy renewable cost-effective alternative.

Fortunately for us and our fellow Ontarians, we see that your legislated mandate furnishes us with important protection. I paraphrase, as follows.

1. You look out for our interests.
2. You pass regulation that serves the common good.
3. You have to be thinking about the long term needs of the energy sector and developing regulatory policy to meet emerging challenges
4. You help us get value from our gas and electricity service.

So where do the best interests of consumers lie? What would best serve the common good? What would serve long term energy needs and meet emerging challenges? And which would give best value?

I think you will agree the most serious emerging challenge for us all is Climate Breakdown. It involves choice of energy-- and conservation of natural land. And what we choose now will decide our survival. This is a designated emergency, a uniquely perilous time that needs particular and courageous measures. And so climate change and the way it affects us make it within the scope and statutory authority of this hearing.

So our best interest as OEB consumers and citizens lies in you not approving the pipeline. Pipelines have a certain history of leakage and have even caused explosions as in West Coast, British Columbia and elsewhere. Pipelines move methane along under our land. And when burned in power plants, it emits several times the amount of other greenhouse gases into the air, into our lungs, our nervous systems, and into our biosphere, damaging our trees, wild-life, oceans, Arctic and everything that depends on our planet and keeps us alive. And maybe those are some of the reasons various countries and U.S. states are in the process of banning fracked gas and its pipelines.

However, we do not have to rely on the pipeline. And preferably you will choose alternative renewable sources such as energy efficiency or a contract for hydro gas with Quebec. They would not need constructing-- and natural land would be conserved. They would be better value and we would not be funding new infrastructure. Moreover, greenhouse gas emissions would be almost nil. So you would be helping restore what we depend on for life.

We know it is worth the time to get it right! We need to go forward—not staying in the same trap of greenhouse gases. And economists tell us this inevitable and productive transition is the only way to go for a future. So increasing numbers of us are committed and involved. Like you, we are protecting our loved ones-- and our communities, the Earth, people everywhere especially the vulnerable, and we want every baby born to have a viable place to live.

So we hope you will bring in specialists who will help with this gradual transition. And we look forward to OEB acting in our best interests by leading in the emerging challenge.

Regards,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.