

Office of the President

Sent via e-mail: <u>registrar@oeb.ca</u> FEI@oeb.ca

April 14, 2021

Registrar Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Selection Committee Members:

RE: Framework for Energy Innovation: Distributed Resources and Utility Incentives - Potential Member of the FEI Working Group - OEB No: EB-2021-0118

On behalf of AMO we are responding to the request for expressions of interest to participate on a newly constituted Framework for Energy Innovation (FEI) Working Group. AMO is encouraged to see the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) add an objective "to facilitate innovation in the electricity sector." This group can provide tremendous value and we strongly support this action.

Municipal governments are required through the Provincial Policy Statement to address energy planning. As well, local communities are seized with finding innovative technologies and approaches that can reduce GHG emissions and enhance value for consumers. AMO provides a broadly based voice for municipal interests across the province and can bring these perspectives to the FEI Working Group.

AMO is requesting a seat on the FEI Working Group. We currently hold a seat on the Regional Planning Process Advisory Group (RPPAG) as well and find it of mutual benefit. We believe having a seat at the FEI would complement the regional planning work well.

We recommend that Amber Crawford, Senior Advisor, be considered for participation on the FEI Working Group. She has extensive participation experience on province wide issues which are both technical and difficult to implement.

In our view, she meets the requirements you have indicated in that she has an excellent grounding in municipal interests, she participates in the municipal energy planning portfolio, and has extensive experience in community engagement. Her work liaising with local distribution companies and broadband providers to find ways to improve broadband deployment in rural and remote areas is just one example.

Amber has demonstrated her capability to be a positive contributor in a number of working groups, including the RPPAG, and can be counted upon to be a positive and

thoughtful advisory group member as well as being able to provide clear municipal concerns and observations.

If during your deliberation on Amber's suitability you have any questions, please contact Monika Turner, Director of Policy. We look forward to participating on this important committee and thank you for your serious consideration.

Best Regards,

Graydon Smith AMO President

Mayor of the Town of Bracebridge