Ministry of Transportation

Corridor Management Section 1355 John Counter Boulevard Postal Bag 4000 Kingston, Ontario K7L 5A3 Tel.: 613 323-1253

Fax: 613-540-5106 Alexandre.gitkow@ontario.ca Ministère des Transports

Section de gestion des couloirs routiers 1355, boulevard John Counter CP/Service de sacs 4000 Kingston (Ontario) K7L 5A3 Tél.: 613 323-1253

Téléc. 613 323-1253 Téléc. 613 540-5106

August 9, 2021

Ms. Christine Long
OEB Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319, 27th Floor
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Email: Christine.Long@oeb.ca

Via email: Christine.Long@oeb.ca

Re: EB-2020-0293

Ontario Energy Board Hearing for the Enbridge Gas Inc. St. Laurent Ottawa North Replacement Pipeline Project in the City of Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Ms. Long,

This is in response to the letter of comment filed by the Ministry of Transportation ("MTO") on April 9, 2021, expressing concerns with the Phase 4 preferred route proposed by Enbridge Gas Inc. ("Enbridge") on the St. Laurent Ottawa North Replacement Pipeline Project in the City of Ottawa, Ontario, as it pertains to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) Notice EB-2020-0293 Enbridge Gas Inc. St. Laurent Ottawa North, Ontario. The MTO has been in contact with Enbridge since then resulting in a revised proposal from Enbridge. The Ministry has reviewed the revised proposal in accordance with the *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act (PTHIA)* and offers the following comments.

Under the authority of the *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act*, the Ministry, through the issuance of permits, authorizes all encroachments within the limits of a highway and other permits within a control area of 395 meters radius around each interchange/intersection and 45 m from the highway property limit. An Encroachment Permit or other Permit or approval required by the Ministry must be obtained for each encroachment or other activities before work commences. The construction or operation of works within the limits of the Ministry of Transportation's jurisdiction by third parties or their agents, including any pre-engineering work in advance of construction also requires permits and approvals from the Ministry.

The Ministry would like to inform the OEB that Enbridge has worked with MTO to find a compromise to the Phase 4 preferred route proposed initially from Enbridge Gas Inc. at Vanier Parkway. This "preferred route" followed our property line at the westbound on ramp at Vanier Parkway. This route was not be supported or permitted by the Ministry of Transportation as it placed constraints on the Ministry's future ramp, highway and bridge maintenance, repair and construction. However, the "alternative route" shown in the "updated Notice of Project Change for the Enbridge Gas Inc. St. Laurent Ottawa North, Ontario to the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) dated November 18, 2020"



was shown to the north of the RCMP building, coming down the North River Road and then on Rideau River Eastern Pathway and connected to the existing pipeline that crosses the Rideau River. This was the Ministry of Transportation's preferred pipeline alignment, as it would have removed the constraints of the Vanier Parkway route and remove the section of existing pipeline that runs parallel to the highway. Enbridge has responded to the ministry that this alternative is not possible as the RCMP and the NCC would not allow it, as it placed constraint and would have environmental impact that they could not work with. After discussions Enbridge, the RCMP and the MTO agreed upon an alternative route that may not be ideal for anyone but is the best compromise solution to a full redesign for Enbridge. The plans have not yet been finalized, but the new Phase 4 preferred route (see figure 1 below) shows that Enbridge will place the new line on RCMP property along the Vanier Parkway and place it as far as possible from MTO's property when possible.

The Ministry of Transportation will support this new alternative shown in figure 1 at Vanier Parkway and will continue to work with Enbridge to finalize the plan, so we can subsequently issue Encroachment and Building permits in accordance to the *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act (PTHIA)*.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require more information at:

<u>Alexandre.Gitkow@ontario.ca</u>. Our goal is to work together at these stages to ensure we have a routing solution that will satisfy all parties. We are all invested in obtaining the best solution possible.

Sincerely Yours,

Alexandre Gitkow

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Corridor Management Officer

cc. Alain Nadeau, Ministry of Transportation, Corridor Management Officer Cheryl Tolles, Ministry of Transportation, Sr. Project Manager Stephen Kapusta, Ministry of Transportation, Sr. Project Manager Louis Tay, Ministry of Transportation, Manager, Highway Operations Peter Freure, Ministry of Transportation, Senior Project Engineer

attachment provided by Enbridge

