

DECISION AND ORDER ON COST AWARDS EB-2018-0329

LAKESHORE NATURAL GAS INC.

Application for approval to construct a natural gas pipeline and associated facilities in the Town of Marathon, the Township of Manitouwadge, the Township of Schreiber, the Township of Terrace Bay and the Municipality of Wawa

BEFORE: Susan Frank

Presiding Commissioner

Emad ElsayedCommissioner

October 15, 2021

OVERVIEW

This is a decision of the Ontario Energy Board on cost claims filed with respect to a Lakeshore Natural Gas Inc. proceeding.

Lakeshore Natural Gas Inc. (Lakeshore)¹ filed an application to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on August 2, 2019 under section 90 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*², for an order granting leave to construct approximately 116.5 kilometres of natural gas pipeline and associated facilities in Town of Marathon, Township of Manitouwadge, Township of Schreiber, Township of Terrace Bay and the Municipality of Wawa (the Municipalities). Lakeshore also applied to the OEB under sections 8 and 9 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*³ for certificates of public convenience and necessity and for approval of a municipal franchise agreement for each Municipality. Lakeshore further applied for an order or orders for a gas supply plan to serve each Municipality, and for pre-approval, under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act*, of the cost consequences of a long-term liquefied natural gas supply contract with Nipigon LNG Limited Partnership. On August 15, 2019, Lakeshore updated the Application to include a request under section 97 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act* for approval of the forms of easement agreement.

The OEB granted Anwaatin Inc. (Anwaatin), Jackfish Metis Association (JMA), Long Lake #58 First Nation (Long Lake), School Energy Coalition (SEC) and the Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition (VECC) intervenor status and cost award eligibility.

The OEB issued its Decision and Order for Phase 1 of this proceeding on February 27, 2020. On August 19, 2021, the OEB issued its Procedural Order No.5 in which it set out the process for intervenors to file their cost claims for costs incurred up to February 28, 2020 (end of Phase 1), for Lakeshore to raise any objections to the claims and for intervenors to respond to any objections raised by Lakeshore.

The OEB received cost claims from Anwaatin, Long Lake, SEC and VECC. JMA did not file a cost claim. Lakeshore did not file objections to any of the cost claims.

¹ The Application was submitted by the Town of Marathon on its own behalf and as a representative of Township of Manitouwadge, Township of Schreiber, Township of Terrace Bay and the Municipality of Wawa (the Municipalities). The Municipalities have since formed a new natural gas distribution company to distribute natural gas in their respective municipalities called Lakeshore Natural Gas Inc. (Lakeshore)

² Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c. 15, (Schedule B)

³ Municipal Franchises Act R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55

Findings

The OEB has reviewed the claims filed to ensure that they are compliant with the OEB's *Practice Direction on Cost Awards*.

The OEB finds that all parties are eligible for 100% of their reasonably incurred costs of participating in this proceeding. The OEB finds that the claims of Anwaatin, Long Lake, SEC and VECC are reasonable and each of these claims shall be reimbursed by Lakeshore.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD ORDERS THAT:

1. Pursuant to section 30 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, Lakeshore Natural Gas Inc. shall immediately pay the following amounts to the intervenors for their costs:

•	Anwaatin Inc.	\$4,939.23
•	Long Lake #58 First Nation	\$4,102.50
•	School Energy Coalition	\$16,678.80
•	Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition	\$6,431.29

DATED at Toronto October 15, 2021

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Original signed by

Christine E. Long Registrar