



March 9, 2022

Ontario Energy Board

2300 Yonge Street

Toronto ON

Attention Nancy Marconi, Registrar

Re: 2020-0293 application Technical Conference

By email

Dear Ms. Marconi:

Mr. Jay Shepherd kindly sent us a copy of his letter of March 8, in response to our letter of complaint about remarks he made March 7 during the Technical Conference for application 2020-0293.

Again, we are not a party to this application and have no standing. However, we remain concerned about the unnecessary characterization of our community group as a “climate change denier organization” as it has the potential to be very damaging to us.

It is also untrue.

From the transcript, page 7:

What he wants to do is he wants to put it on the record, something that we don't know the author of, we don't know who wrote this, from a climate change denier organization.

What happened was, we had posted an article we wrote that made reference to a report written by another organization. It was not our report but contained comments and analysis relevant to Ottawa, written by an Ottawa energy economist and former Government of Canada senior executive.

Mr. Shepherd seemed to have a mistaken impression of the source of the document. From the transcript, page 8:

MR. SHEPHERD: I want to ask Mr. Ladanyi, was the former

title of this website International Climate Science Coalition? Are you aware of that?

MR. LADANYI: Absolutely not.

Our website is not and was never titled the ICSC; we have no connection with the organization.

Mr. Ladanyi, appearing for Energy Probe, explained that it was he who made the selection of the slide he showed, and that his intent was merely to demonstrate citizen opposition to the City of Ottawa plans. From the transcript, page 9:

They're in the outskirts of Ottawa and they're concerned that the City of Ottawa is going to be building wind turbines close to their homes, and they're very, very concerned about it. It has **nothing to do with the other group at all**.

So clearly there is a case of mistaken identity here but neither that, nor the fact we simply quoted from a report written by another organization merits us the label of a "climate change denial organization."

This will be harmful to us in our ongoing relationship with the City of Ottawa.

To that point, we are an incorporated community group that has been in existence since 2008; we are registered as such with the City of Ottawa, and included in mailings from the City on Planning and Environment issues. We have appeared before committees on several occasions, and made many formal submissions to participate in public engagement opportunities.

It is disappointing that in his letter of March 8, Mr. Shepherd makes other statements that are oddly critical, for example apparently casting doubt on our standing simply because our official corporate address is my house. That, sadly, betrays a lack of understanding of life in rural communities where many businesses and organizations operate from a home office setting, and also ignores the effect of the COVID pandemic.

Contrary to the impression he casts that we are a group of unknowns, we do have a Board of Directors consisting of several residents who are active or retired professionals and executives. I myself was proud to receive the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Medal for "service to Ontario rural communities."

I might add that on our website is our slogan "*A safe environment for everyone*". That is clearly not a declaration of climate change denial but rather a goal to protect the environment.

To restate, **we have nothing whatever to do with International Climate Science Coalition**, and only referenced economist-written comments they made about the Ottawa energy plan. We have no knowledge of their stance on climate change.

We do not wish to pursue this further, but we remain distressed about this entire event, and feel quite undeserving of the attention and the negative label.

I am sorry to take your time on this matter when you must have more important issues to manage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jane Wilson, RN, B.A.

Chair

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