

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD  
Attention: Ms. Kristen Walli  
P.O. Box 2319  
2300 Yonge Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

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MAY 03 2016  
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ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

May 2<sup>nd</sup> 201

Subject: Observations – File Number EB-2016-0004

Dear Ms. Walli:

I represent my own Geothermal company called, Dascan Groundheat. I have been a leading participant in the global Geothermal (Ground Source Heat Pump Industry) since 1979, and personally have completed design-installations in several countries including Canada, the USA, Italy, and China to name a few.

The reason for this letter is to voice my sincere concerns about the Canadian Geoexchange Coalition (CGC) that purports to speak for ALL of the Canadian Geothermal industry. The CGC was created as a renegade organization that split from the support of the Canadian Electricity Association back in 2001-2002, and focuses only on Residential single family home installs, and training/accrediting these installers. My business model is to design and install Geothermal systems into buildings of all types, including commercial, multi-residential e.g.. condominiums, and hotels, schools etc.

I am of the view that the move to extend natural gas systems to rural communities—while preferable to dirty diesel—does impinge on the ability to lower our national carbon footprint, and ALL ratepayers for natural gas serviced by UNION GAS or EGD will pay for that privilege. In Geothermal installations, there are no Provincial subsidies to our firms, no ratebase to have the energy rates placed into, no carbon tax on diesel and gas as yet, and therefore, GSHP installs cannot compete on a short payback with natural gas.

However, CGC seems to assert that GSHPs can never compete with mainstream energy. This is not correct. As we move to Net Zero communities, Geothermal has a key role to play contributing to superior energy efficiency performance in our building stock.

Hence, the OEB should be supportive of this technology to the extent that comparable incentives can be introduced (e.g. ITCs, PTCs etc.) to support the broader adoption of this important renewable technology, and place it on a level playing field with Solar, Wind, and EVs. It important to emphasize that Ontarians, and other Canadians were instrumental in early and continued developments of this now mature technology.

Important to mention that this technology ,according to NRCan conservately reduces components of the CO2, Cooling energy and Heating energy by more than 50% when compared to alternative systems.

Sincerely,

  
U. Gino Di Rezze P.Eng.

