



File 19
Corporation of the Town of LaSalle

5950 Malden Road, LaSalle, Ontario, N9H 1S4
Phone: 519-969-7770 Fax: 519-969-4469 www.town.lasalle.on.ca

Agatha Armstrong, Deputy Clerk

April 29, 2016

Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Honourable Premier Wynne:

RE: Municipal Resolution regarding Ontario Energy Board Proceeding EB-2016-004

At its regular meeting of Council held April 26, 2016, Council of the Town of LaSalle gave consideration to correspondence from The Corporation of the Township of North Stormont regarding the Ontario Energy Board Proceeding EB-2016-004 as per the following resolution:

142/16

Moved by Deputy Mayor Bondy

Seconded by Councillor Desjarlais

That the following resolution of the Township of North Stormont regarding the Ontario Energy Board Generic Proceeding BE SUPPORTED:

WHEREAS the OEB file EB-2015-0179 (dated July 23, 2015) application and pre-filed evidence from Union Gas Limited is seeking approval of its proposed Community Expansion Program with intent to support the expansion of infrastructure necessary to provide natural gas to communities that would otherwise not receive natural gas service (Rural areas);

WHEREAS the Ontario Energy Board issued a Notice for Public Hearing EB-2016-004 (dated January 2016) regarding OEB's intent to review the following issues in May 2016:

1. Should the OEB implement new ratemaking mechanisms including changes to current economic tests to encourage utilities to expand natural gas distribution service to new communities? If so, what should these new mechanisms be?
2. Should the OEB consider imposing conditions or making other changes to Municipal Franchise Agreements and Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity to reduce barriers to natural gas expansion?
3. Does the OEB have the authority to require the ratepayers of one utility to subsidize the costs of another utility to expand into new communities? If so, under what circumstances (if any) would this be appropriate?

WHEREAS the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus's letter of comment (dated April 6, 2016) regarding Ontario Energy Board's Generic Proceeding EB-2016-04 with intent for the Warden Caucus to support the initial application from Union Gas (EB-2015-0179) and also similar entities that wish to expand natural gas service to rural and remote communities;



WHEREAS the Township of North Stormont has signed a 20 year Franchise Agreement with Enbridge and has attempted many communications with them to have natural gas service in the East part of the Township and responses or actions being taken by Enbridge;

WHEREAS the West part of the Township of North Stormont is being served by Union Gas and that the separation is even made on the West side of the road (served by Union Gas) versus the East side of the same road (unserved by Enbridge)

WHEREAS the Township of North Stormont made representation with Union Gas to endeavor possible development of the natural gas services on the East side of the Township;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of North Stormont that the OEB examine the proposal to expand natural gas services and make it available to all of Eastern Ontario rural areas such as the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry and the United Counties of Prescott-Russell as it is vital to our Economic Development and to Business expansion and retention as well as the increase of employment in our sector.

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT this resolution supports the letter of comment sent to the Ontario Energy Board by the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be circulated to all municipal and regional councils in Ontario requesting that they endorse and support this resolution and communicate their support to the Premier, the OEB and the Ministers of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure, Energy, and Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

Carried.

Sincerely,



Agatha Armstrong
Deputy Clerk

cc: The Township of North Stormont
The Ontario Energy Board
The Honourable Brad Duguid, Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure
The Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy
The Honourable Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs