



**Tim Hudak, MPP**  
Niagara West-Glanbrook

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ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

File 9

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Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Kirsten Walli  
Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
PO Box 2319  
2300 Yonge St., 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli;

I understand the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is currently reviewing a submission by Enbridge Gas Distribution to allow natural gas expansion within the Province of Ontario (#EB-2016-004).

As an MPP representing the riding of Niagara West – Glanbrook which has a large rural and agricultural area, I have often heard from my constituents the importance of natural gas to heat their homes, heat their greenhouses and operate their wineries and other businesses. The high cost of hydro, coupled with the fact that natural gas is one of our most affordable, reliable and efficient forms of energy make it the choice for more than 75 per cent of home owners in Ontario.

The expansion proposed by Enbridge of the infrastructure required to provide natural gas to rural communities will allow many Ontarians the opportunity to use this more economic choice to heat their homes and businesses. The expansion into areas currently not serviced by natural gas will allow for significant economic benefits in all sectors, including residential, commercial, agribusiness and industrial.

Given that Ontario's Long term Energy Plan states: "The government will work with gas distributors and municipalities to pursue options to expand natural gas infrastructure to service more communities in rural and northern Ontario" I strongly support the application by Enbridge Gas Distribution to expand the natural gas network in Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Hudak".

Tim Hudak, MPP  
Niagara West – Glanbrook

cc David Donovan, Senior Government Affairs Advisor, Enbridge Gas Distribution