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SENT BY E-MAIL

Friday, October 10, 2008

Ms. Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board 2300 Yonge Street, Suite 2700 PO Box 2319 Toronto, ON, M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

RE: Natural Resource Gas Limited ("NRG")

**Union Application to Discontinue Service (EB-2008-0273)** 

We are counsel to NRG. Yesterday, Union filed an amended application with pre-filed evidence in the above-noted matter. This morning, Union filed a draft revised Issues List for consideration.

The Board has scheduled an Issues Day on October 15, 2008, the purpose of which is "to clarify the issues and determine procedural matters, such as the need for the filing of evidence" and to "hear arguments as to whether the Application properly falls under section 42(1) or section 36 of the Ontario Energy Board Act." The Notice of Application and Hearing further state that should the Board determine that it is necessary to proceed pursuant to section 42(1) of the OEB Act then an oral hearing will be held on October 20 and 21, 2008.

The filing of the amended application, pre-filed evidence and proposed Issues List on October 9 leaves only two business days before the scheduled Issues Day, after which there will be only two further business days before the scheduled hearing days. By way of this letter, we are requesting the Board to amend the Notice of Application and Hearing to allow time for my client to file reply evidence, as the rules of natural justice and due process require. We would also request that the Board establish a procedure that will allow all parties to the proceeding to review any evidence filed, and make queries/interrogatories on any filed evidence. Now that my client

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has been made aware of Union's case, my initial read of the pre-filed evidence suggests that NRG's reply evidence will involve input from an accountant as well as a rate expert.

There is no imminent harm to any party that would warrant adhering to a schedule that abrogates my client's right to file responding evidence. Given the circumstances, the most that could be accomplished on October 15<sup>th</sup> (the scheduled Issues Day) is a discussion about timelines, although my personal view is that this issue could quickly be dealt with by counsel outside the hearing room.

Richard King

RJK/dl

c.c. Michael Penny, Torys
Heather Adams, Town of Aylmer
Philip Tunley, Stockwoods (Aylmer counsel)
Scott Stoll, Aird & Berlis (IGPC counsel)