

June 14, 2024

Nancy Marconi
Registrar
Ontario Energy Board

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Dear Nancy Marconi:
Subject: EB-2023-0343 Letter of Comment

I am an Ontario resident that lives just over the border between East Gwillimbury and The Township of Uxbridge and this is my second letter of comment.

Yesterday there was a new report from the Canadian Climate Institute that has been covered in the news. You can read a copy from their website <https://climateinstitute.ca/publication/> titled Heat Exchange, if you have not already seen it. This report explains that the least expensive way to meet our climate objectives involves a quick transition to electric space heating and much less use of natural gas. The report is clear that there is no reason to increase the transition cost that we have ahead of us by continuing to invest in new gas infrastructure.

In my previous letter I mentioned that interest in heat pumps is growing and this report will add more to the news cycle and change opinions that may have previously considered gas when surveyed. I have also recently attended the East Gwillimbury Eco Fair, The Environmental Defence Heat Pump event in Newmarket and the Climate Action Newmarket Aurora conscious consumerism event. These events change the minds of attendees and are also covered in the news.

The new project delay will give even more time for knowledge of cold climate heat pumps to grow and to reduce the number of homes that remain to connect to the project at completion.

Thank-you for considering the risk to the financial forecast.

Elizabeth Carswell

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