



July 16, 2024

Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Young St. 27<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
PO Box 2319  
Toronto, ON  
M4P 1E4  
Sent via email: Registrar@oeb.ca

**Re: Securing access to natural gas for Ontario's future**

On behalf of the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge, I am submitting a letter of comment on Enbridge Gas Inc.'s Rate Rebasing Application Phase 2 (EB-2024-0111).

Oliver Paipoonge applauds the work the Government of Ontario has done to continue to advance access to affordable energy and propel economic growth, including the Natural Gas Expansion Program and the Keeping Energy Costs Down Act.

Oliver Paipoonge supports a measured approach to Ontario's energy transition; one that leverages existing natural gas infrastructure and invests in lower-carbon alternatives such as renewable natural gas and hydrogen – in addition to building incremental electricity supply.

An integrated approach to Ontario's energy transition, where pipes and wires work together, will ensure Ontario maintains an energy system that is resilient and cost-effective while supporting the province's decarbonization efforts.

Oliver Paipoonge recognizes that growing communities and new developments have growing energy needs, to support housing developments, new businesses, community centres, hospitals, schools, greenhouses, grain dryers and industrial parks – and all Ontarians benefit from this growth.

Municipalities are planning for immense future growth and need assurance that affordable, resilient natural gas will be available to support economic and community development – this energy certainty is crucial, as is preserving customer choice.

Natural gas meets 40 percent of Ontario's energy needs, plays a critical role in Ontario's energy evolution, and supports the reliability of Ontario's electricity system. We would like to ensure that hearings like this represent municipal voices and priorities like our own on the need for natural gas and natural gas infrastructure to support the province's diversified energy mix.

Yours truly,



Lucy Kloosterhuis  
Mayor

CC: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Hon. Todd Smith, the Minister of Energy  
President of AMO, Colin Best  
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