# DR QUINN & ASSOCIATES LTD.

#### **VIA RESS**

October 16, 2024

Ontario Energy Board

<u>Attn</u>: Ms. N. Marconi, OEB Registrar
P.O. Box 2319

27<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2300 Yonge Street
Toronto ON M4P 1E4

## RE: EB-2024-0200 St. Laurent Replacement – FRPO Technical Conference Estimates and Concerns over Confidentiality

In response to Procedural Order #2, we are providing our areas of inquiry and time estimate for the ordered Technical Conference. In addition, we express our concerns over the information for which confidentiality has been requested by the company and accepted by the Board.

### AREAS OF INQUIRY

Project Need – An understanding of diagnostics, risk assessment and mitigation including costs to maintain & repair – 45 minutes

Alternatives – An understanding of simulation results supporting proposed pipe sizing and options for deliveries to Gazifere including split of contracting across on two supply lines – 90 minutes

Project Cost – An understanding of alternative pipe size cost estimates – 15 minutes

### CONFIDENTIALITY

Due to other client commitments including on-going settlement discussions with EGI, we were unable to review the interrogatory responses until this past Saturday. We were surprised to learn that EGI had requested confidential treatment of mapping and pipeline pressures. This type of information had been openly provided in the first review of this project and so the categorization of confidentiality seemed unwarranted. We submitted our declaration and undertaking the same day and received the information deemed confidential around noon yesterday. Our review of the information prompts two concerns:

1) Need for Confidentiality: Having just received the Board's approval of EGI's request, we were surprised that the Board deemed the information confidential. This information was provided in the first application¹ without any indication of concern over sensitivity cited in these interrogatory responses. Further the location of infrastructure is publicly available information. From pipeline markers to act as a warning to protect the pipeline to the Canadian Energy Regulators Interactive pipeline

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EB-2020-0293 Exhibit I.FRP0.2, FRPO.18, ED. 16 and Exhibit B, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachments 9-12 as examples

map<sup>2</sup> (which, for example, shows the precise location of TCPL's feed to the Ottawa North Gate Station which is arguably significantly more important to pipeline security than the downstream conveying pipelines), this information has and is available through multiple public sources.

2) If EGI's position in the confidentiality of the pipeline maps and pressures continues to be upheld as confidential, we inform the Board that a significant amount of our inquiry will need to be held in camera in a virtual technical conference. While we understand this can be accomplished, we note this concern and by copy of this letter advise interested parties of this potential eventuality

We understand that our concerns are being raised after the 5 business days from which we received EGI's IRR's containing their request and after the Board had accepted this request as uncontested. We accept responsibility that this communication is not within the Board's practices. At the same time, we provide these concerns for the Board and applicant's knowledge in the event the applicant would like to narrow its scope of request for confidentiality given our submissions.

Respectfully Submitted on Behalf of FRPO,

Dwayne R. Quinn

Dwarpe L

Principal

DR QUINN & ASSOCIATES LTD.

c. EGIRegulatoryProceedings – EGI Interested Parties, EB-2024-0200

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://neb-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2d11fd4e6a7a4f4ba7fe6bdf51ae52de