



DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2024-0260

ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

**Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and
Necessity for the Township of Southwold**

By Delegation, before:

Theodore Antonopoulos
Vice President
Major Applications

November 28, 2024

1 OVERVIEW

This Decision and Order of the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) approves an application filed by Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (certificate) for the Township of Southwold.

2 CONTEXT AND PROCESS

Enbridge Gas filed an application with the OEB on August 20, 2024, under section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*. The application is for an order approving a new certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct works to supply natural gas in the Township of Southwold.

The OEB held a written hearing. A notice of hearing was published in the local newspaper on September 19, 2024. The notice of hearing was also posted on Enbridge Gas's website. No persons sought to become intervenors or otherwise participate in the proceeding.

In this Decision and Order, a reference to the Township of Southwold is a reference to the municipal corporation or its geographic area, as the context requires.

3 APPLICATION

Enbridge Gas is a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, with its head office in the City of Toronto.

The Township of Southwold is a municipal corporation incorporated in 1852 under the laws of the Province of Ontario. It is a lower-tier municipality located in the County of Elgin.

The size of the Township of Southwold was reduced when a portion of the Township was annexed to the Village of Port Stanley in 1989 and another portion was annexed to the City of St. Thomas in 1995. The boundaries of the Township of Southwold were later expanded in 1998 when it was merged with the former Village of Fingal and the former Village of Shedden.

Enbridge Gas is authorized to serve the entire geographic area of the Township of Southwold, as it is currently constituted, through a 1959 certificate (F.B.C. 259) that pertains to operations within numerous municipalities including the Township of Southwold.¹ Through the application, Enbridge Gas requests a new certificate to construct works to supply natural gas in the Township of Southwold as it is currently constituted, and which would cancel the parts of the F.B.C. 259 certificate that pertain to the former Township of Southwold, the former Village of Fingal and the former Village of Shedden that merged to form the current Township of Southwold.

Enbridge Gas notes that, if the application is granted, there will be no change to its overall certificate rights in the Township of Southwold. Enbridge Gas further states that it is not aware of any other natural gas distributor holding a certificate for any part of the current Township of Southwold.

Enbridge Gas has a franchise agreement with the Township of Southwold effective March 9, 2009.² Enbridge Gas also has municipal franchise agreements with, and certificates for, the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich, the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc, the Municipality of Central Elgin, the Municipality of Middlesex Centre, the City of St. Thomas and the City of London, each of which is immediately adjacent to the Township of Southwold.

¹ F.B.C. 259.

² EB-2009-0009.

4 FINDINGS

I find that it is in the public interest to approve Enbridge Gas's application for a certificate for the Township of Southwold. Enbridge Gas currently serves the Township of Southwold through a certificate issued in the name of its various legacy municipalities. The issuance of a new certificate in the name of the Township of Southwold, and that is geographically aligned with its municipal borders, is consistent with the intent of the OEB that certificate holders update service areas if boundaries of their existing certificate(s) are affected by municipal amalgamations, annexations, or name changes. Enbridge Gas filed a complete application and provided notice of the hearing in the manner instructed by the OEB. I note that no party intervened or otherwise objected the application.

A new certificate, attached as Schedule A to this Decision and Order, is granted to Enbridge Gas for the Township of Southwold. The new certificate supersedes Enbridge Gas's prior certificate rights for the former Township of Southwold, the former Village of Fingal and the former Village of Shedden. I also note that there is no other natural gas distributor within the certificate area.

5 ORDER

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. A certificate of public convenience and necessity, attached as Schedule A, is granted to Enbridge Gas Inc. to construct works or supply natural gas in the Township of Southwold. A current map of the Township of Southwold is attached as Schedule B.
2. This certificate of public convenience and necessity cancels and supersedes:
 - Those parts of F.B.C. 259 related to the former Township of Southwold, the former Village of Fingal and the former Village of Shedden that merged to form the Township of Southwold
3. Enbridge Gas Inc. shall pay the OEB's costs incidental to this proceeding upon receipt of the OEB's invoice.

DATED at Toronto, November 28, 2024

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Theodore Antonopoulos

Vice President

Major Applications

SCHEDULE A
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
ENBRIDGE GAS INC.
EB-2024-0260
NOVEMBER 28, 2024

EB-2024-0260

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

The Ontario Energy Board grants

Enbridge Gas Inc.

approval under section 8 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55, as amended, to construct works to supply natural gas in the

Township of Southwold

as it is constituted on the date of this Decision and Order.

This certificate of public convenience and necessity cancels and supersedes those parts of F.B.C. 259 related to the former Township of Southwold, the former Village of Fingal and the former Village of Shedden that merged to form the Township of Southwold

DATED at Toronto, November 28, 2024

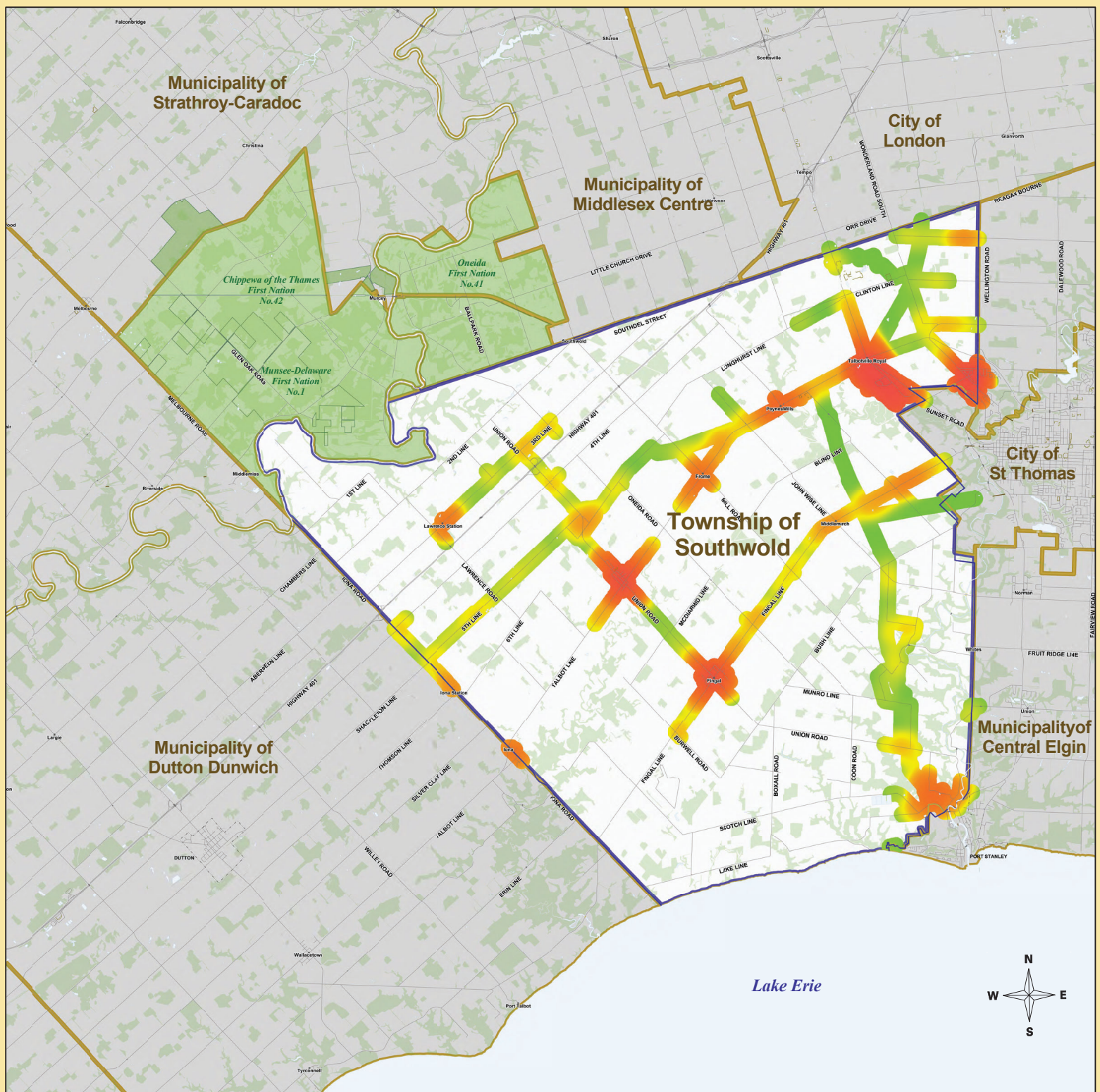
ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Theodore Antonopoulos

Vice President

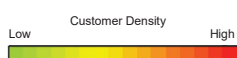
Major Applications

SCHEDULE B
MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHWOLD
ENBRIDGE GAS INC.
EB-2024-0260
NOVEMBER 28, 2024



Legend

- Enbridge Gas Pipeline Coverage Area
- Township of Southwold
- Roads
- Railways
- Municipal and Township Boundaries
- First Nation Boundaries



Township of Southwold



Disclaimer:
The map is provided with no warranty express or implied and is subject to change at any time. Any Person using the Density Map shall do so at its own Risk and the Density Map is not intended in any way As a tool to locate underground infrastructure for the purposes of excavation



Location map