

Riley

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
1800 Main Street, P.O. Box 70
GERALDTON, ON P0T 1M0



P: 807-854-1100 F: 807-854-1947
E: administration@greenstone.ca
www.greenstone.ca

March 30, 2016

NOMA
P.O. Box 10308
Thunder Bay, ON
P7B 6T8

**Re: Ontario Energy Board Consultation on Cost Recovery for Expansion of
Natural Gas Services – EB-2016-0004**

Dear Sir / Madam;

Council of the Municipality of Greenstone passed the following motion at the Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday March 29, 2016 relevant to the Ontario Energy Board Consultation on Cost Recovery for Expansion of Natural Gas Services – EB-2016-0004.

Resolution # 16-67

Moved by Councillor: Lemieux
Seconded by Councillor: McPherson

WHEREAS there are 14 rural and remote municipalities in Northwestern Ontario and a number of First Nation communities who do not have direct access to piped natural gas, and

WHEREAS the residents and businesses in those communities without natural gas service must pay significantly more to heat their buildings and homes than communities with natural gas service, and

WHEREAS we believe there is a public interest and benefit in extending natural gas services to rural and remote communities; and

WHEREAS we often hear from the residents and businesses expressing their interest in having access to natural gas and the limitations and barriers they face in not having access to natural gas causes; and

WHEREAS current economic tests and ratemaking mechanisms associated with new connections to the existing natural gas distribution system do not encourage utilities to expand in Northwestern Ontario, and

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
1800 Main Street, P.O. Box 70
GERALDTON, ON P0T 1M0



P: 807-854-1100 F: 807-854-1947
E: administration@greenstone.ca
www.greenstone.ca

WHEREAS currently natural gas expansion in Northwest Ontario requires the new customers to pay. In contrast the vast majority of the existing system was paid for by the rate payers as a whole, and

WHEREAS the Ontario Energy Board has initiated a hearing on its own motion to consider what mechanisms may be used to recover the costs of expanding natural gas service to Ontario communities that do not currently have access to natural gas, and


WHEREAS NOMA, NOACC and CVNW (the Coalition) have requested intervenor status on behalf of their member ratepayers (current and future) in Northwestern Ontario, and

WHEREAS the position of the Coalition is that the cost of expanding natural gas service to communities without it should be shared by all gas rate payers in the Province of Ontario and the OEB implement new ratemaking mechanisms including changes to current economic tests to expand natural gas distribution on such basis.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council of The Municipality of Greenstone advises the Ontario Energy Board that it supports the position adopted by NOMA, NOACC and CVNW that the expansion of the natural gas distribution system should be paid for by all current and future gas rate payers and the OEB implement new ratemaking mechanisms including changes to current economic tests to expand natural gas distribution on such basis.

CARRIED

Sincerely,


Gabrielle Lecuyer
Clerk

Cc: Council