

Application by Gabriella Kalapos from Clean Air Partnership for Interest in Participating in the Regional and Bulk Planning Advisory Group to Represent NGO and Municipal Perspectives

September 9th, 2025

To: Registrar at the Ontario Energy Board

Clean Air Partnership (CAP) is a charitable environmental organization dedicated to advancing sustainable urban practices and fostering collaboration among municipalities and all levels of government to address climate change, improve air quality, and protect public health across Ontario. CAP convenes networks, leads research and knowledge transfer, and supports the advancement of transformative action. It has played an active role in facilitating engagements between municipalities—particularly in southern Ontario—and the IESO, OEB, and local utilities.

The Clean Air Council (CAC), a network of 40+ Ontario municipalities representing approximately 75% of Ontario's population, which CAP facilitates, has focused on the relationship between energy planning and climate commitments made by the Province and municipalities. A key finding from these engagements is that Ontario's energy system remains siloed. While this structure was suited to a past era reliant on centralized infrastructure and transmission, the realities of climate change and the energy transition require broader stakeholder engagement. Municipalities, in particular, have not been sufficiently involved in regional planning to date. CAP has been working with the CAC to identify where municipalities can contribute to identifying and addressing gaps in the energy system—especially in integrating climate commitments, advancing energy efficiency, and supporting distributed energy resources that can reduce demands on the centralized system.

The CAC network has significantly deepened its understanding of Ontario's energy system and has provided input into consultations led by the IESO, OEB, and via the Environmental Registry of Ontario. For example, in response to the IESO's *Pathways to Decarbonization* report, the [CAC commissioned a review to assess areas of alignment and misalignment with municipal Climate Action and Community Energy Plans](#). Notable misalignments include the Pathways to Decarbonization's heavy focus on large-scale generation and transmission, with insufficient attention to efficiency and distributed energy. Municipal climate plans, by contrast, emphasize the community as an embedded energy system where electrification of heating and mobility is pursued alongside local efficiency and distributed solutions. Both approaches recognize the transformational challenge of decarbonization but differ significantly in framing, methods, and expected outcomes.

Ontario's ability to plan effectively for the energy transition will be strengthened by incorporating these diverse perspectives. While Gabriella Kalapos would formally represent an NGO if selected for the advisory group, she would bring a critical municipal perspective, drawing on extensive engagement with the CAC network as well as additional municipal input and perspectives. In addition, CAP could convene dedicated consultations with Ontario municipalities to provide municipal perspectives in cases where CAC positions have not yet been finalized or submitted.



CAP has also facilitated constructive dialogues between Local Distribution Companies (LDCs) and municipalities, highlighting progress where LDC planning has been aligned with municipal climate and energy objectives—for example, in Toronto and Burlington.

CAP and the CAC municipal network strongly believe that integrating municipal input into regional and bulk energy planning processes will deliver significant value to Ontario's energy system—and, ultimately, to Ontarians. At this point CAP would not be seeking cost awards for participation in this advisory group.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Kalapos", is positioned above the printed name.

Gabriella Kalapos

Executive Director

Clean Air Partnership

gkalapos@cleanairpartnership.org

416-948-7125