

November 6, 2025

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL AND RESS

Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E2
registrar@oeb.ca

Attention: Ritchie Murray, Acting Registrar

**RE: Renewal of Municipal Franchise Agreement
OEB File No.: EB-2025-0058**

We are counsel representing The Corporation of the City of Guelph (the “City”) in the above-noted matter (this “Application”). This correspondence is in response to the correspondence received from the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”) dated October 16, 2025, advising that the OEB intends to commence a generic proceeding to review the OEB’s Model Franchise Agreement (“MFA”) in 2026, and requesting submissions on what the next steps in this Application should be.

The City intends to participate in this proposed generic hearing and below are the City’s submission regarding how the next steps in this Application should proceed.

Responses to Correspondence from the OEB Dated October 16, 2025

The OEB’s decision to hold a generic proceeding to review the MFA in 2026, raises the likelihood that a number of issues to be decided in this Application before the OEB could be addressed more fully through a generic hearing.

Given this, it is the City’s position that this Application should be held in abeyance until the generic hearing is completed as it will:

- a. Ensure Greater Regulatory Efficiency;
- b. Avoid Inconsistent Decisions; and
- c. Result in No Prejudice to the Applicant or Customers.

Improve Regulatory Efficiency and Avoid Inconsistent Decisions

The City submits that this Application has raised a number of issues with the OEB regarding the proper scope of the proceedings and whether certain evidence of the Respondents ought to be properly considered as relating to local factors or excluded as it would only be appropriate to consider in the context of a generic hearing.

The City anticipates that there will be overlapping evidence, issues and/or witnesses in this Application and the proposed generic hearing. Given the anticipated

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overlapping nature of these proceedings, the City submits it would be a more efficient use of the OEB resources to have the broader generic hearing proceed first and then have this Application decided afterwards, once the issues are further narrowed or potentially resolved by the generic proceeding.

Further, given the overlapping nature of these two proceedings, permitting this Application to proceed before or parallel to the generic hearing could potentially result in inconsistent or conflicting decisions from the OEB.

No Prejudice to the Applicant or Customers

The City submits that, pursuant to subsection 4(c) of the MFA, the terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in place while the renewal is being negotiated or until an Order is made under section 10 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*, as amended. In this proceeding, the Applicant is not seeking changes to the existing terms of the Agreement. Given this, the City submits that there would be no prejudice to the Applicant or gas customers in the City as the existing Agreement would continue to be in effect.

Given the above, the City respectfully requests that the OEB place this proceeding in abeyance until the proposed generic hearing of the MFA has been completed.

Yours truly,



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