



NORTHUMBERLAND CENTRAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

TOWN OF COBOURG · HAMILTON TOWNSHIP · ALNWICK/HALDIMAND TOWNSHIP

February 12, 2026

To: Ontario Energy Board

Re: Ongoing and Future Natural Gas Infrastructure

On behalf of the Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce (NCCofC), I am writing to express our strong support for natural gas in Northumberland County. We believe natural gas aligns with the long-term needs of our province and will deliver meaningful benefits to both businesses and residents.

As a voluntary membership organization representing nearly 300 businesses in the Town of Cobourg, the Township of Hamilton and the Township of Alnwick Haldimand, we see clear benefits natural gas provides communities. In particular it:

- Contributes to local economic growth by creating jobs and supporting local suppliers
- Improves reliability, affordability and availability of products for local businesses and residents
- Strengthens our community's ability to attract and retain investment by ensuring modern and reliable infrastructure

In multiple municipalities across the province where housing targets are ambitious and affordability is a growing concern; natural gas offers unmatched reliability and affordability - especially during peak demand.

As Ontario's energy needs evolve, our members require infrastructure that is scalable, predictable, and integrated with broader planning. The province's Integrated Energy Plan reinforces the need for long-term certainty in our energy system to support housing delivery, economic growth, and community resilience.

Natural gas is essential to the success of many of our members. It powers manufacturing facilities, commercial operations, housing developments, and community infrastructure. In a region where affordability, economic competitiveness, and reliable energy sources are top priorities, natural gas remains a critical energy source that supports business continuity and growth.

We believe that maintaining a diversified energy mix, including natural gas, strengthens our province's competitiveness while ensuring energy security and affordability for families and employers alike.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kevin Ward
President & CEO
Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce