

Animbigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek
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December 1, 2008

VIA COURIER AND EMAIL

Ms. Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Lake Nipigon First Nations' Submissions on the Proposed Amendments to
the Transmission System Code
Board File No: EB-2008-003**

Please find enclosed three hard copies and an electronic copy of Lake Nipigon First Nations' submission in connection with the above referenced proceeding. This proceeding deals with the proposed amendments to the Transmission System Code.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (807) 875-2785, extension 27.

Yours truly,
[Original signed by]

Chief Yvette Metansinine
Encl.

December 1, 2008

EB-2008-0003

IN THE MATTER OF section 70.2 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998 S.O.1998, c.15*, (Schedule B):

AND IN THE MATTER OF a notice of proposal to amend the Transmission System Code.

**Submission of
Lake Nipigon First Nations (“LNFN”)**

December 1, 2008

SUBMISSION FROM
LAKE NIPIGON FIRST NATIONS (“LNFN”)

The LNFN sit collectively as a group of First Nation leaders around Lake Nipigon developing an Economic Development Corporation to encourage investment and development. We plan on establishing partnerships with developers of renewable green energy projects as the need for energy in OUR province grows.

The LNFN appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the OEB’s proposed amendments to the Transmission System Code (Code) issued October 29, 2008. A number of the communities that make up the LNFN group have participated in the OEB’s current stakeholder consultation relating to the proposed amendments to the code. This issue is of critical importance to the LNFNs since we are considering commercial partnerships with a number of remotely located renewable generation project developers in the Lake Nipigon area which will need to be connected to the transmission system in a timely fashion.

As stated in an earlier submission by one of our member communities (Red Rock Indian Band Chief Pierre Pelletier in Feb. 2008), the LNFN feel that the Province of Ontario needs to invest in RESOURCE RICH, INFRASTRUCTURE POOR Northern Ontario – and as such, we strongly support the concept enabling lines and specifically the “Pooling” option for cost recovery associated with these lines.

We note that much of the transmission infrastructure in Southern Ontario has been developed by the ratepayer, and we feel it is critical that the Province invest in infrastructure in Northwestern Ontario using the same model in order to stimulate and diversify OUR regional economy.

There has been, increased expressions of interest to develop renewable energy projects in our traditional territory and the LNFN are concerned with the allocation of cost regarding these enabling lines. We feel that Northern Ontario has an opportunity to diversify and strengthen its economy with renewable energy projects that are potentially developed by private and foreign investment. We feel that the success of

these investment rely heavily on a PROVINCIAL INVESTMENT of these enabling lines and improved transmission systems. We feel investments of this nature will also encourage future development of mining and other resource-based industries, and facilitate the incorporation of some of our remote diesel-based power communities into the provincial grid. Incorporation of these communities will result in both economic and environmental benefits.

While the LNFN respect the OEB's decision to continue to maintain its principle that requires generators to be responsible for connection costs, we are concerned that in using the "Hybrid" option for cost recovery, there is a possibility that the LNFN could become involved in a project partnership with a single developer near a proposed enabling line, where, if no other potential line users materialize, our project could incur the complete costs of the enabling line – thereby making the project uneconomical. We feel that there will be a growing number of potential renewable energy projects in the Lake Nipigon region over the coming years but that these may take some time to evolve. We encourage the OEB to apply the enabling line concept in the Lake Nipigon area and adopt a cost recovery strategy that will stimulate the maximum number of renewable energy projects.