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March 31, 2026

Mr. Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
P.O. Box 2319
Suite 2700 Toronto, ON
M4P 1E4

Re: Elexicon Energy Inc. 2027-2031 Investment Plan
OEB File No. EB-2025-0312

Dear Mr. Murray,

On behalf of the Belleville Chamber of Commerce, I am providing this letter in support of the 2027-2031 Investment Plan and associated rate application submitted by Elexicon Energy to the Ontario Energy Board ("OEB"). Our support is based on the need for a safe, reliable, and resilient distribution grid. Approval of the proposed funding will enable electricity infrastructure investments urgently needed to continue to deliver safe and reliable electricity service to homes and businesses in the City of Belleville as well as ensure there is sufficient capacity to support housing growth and economic development.

The City of Belleville is expecting substantial growth, with a 34% increase over the next 25 years. It is imperative that the City's distributor is equipped to connect and serve the communities they operate within. As a growing City, the Belleville Chamber of Commerce recognizes the critical role electricity infrastructure has in the City's ability to meet community, business and broader economic growth. Investments in infrastructure, like the electrical grid, are fundamental to enabling the growth, productivity, and prosperity of our homes, businesses, and communities. The businesses across the City of Belleville rely on electricity for their day-to-day operations and recognize the need for sustainable investment in the grid to ensure safety, reliability, and resiliency of service.

Elexicon's Investment Plan addresses the capacity and reliability needs of the residents and businesses of the City of Belleville while recognizing that affordability remains an important concern. The Investment Plan supports key priorities of the region and the province to enable more housing, job creation and greater economic competitiveness at a time when we face so many challenges abroad. Deferring the upgrades proposed by Elexicon would unnecessarily risk these objectives, shifting the burden of cost and reduced performance onto businesses.

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When reliability risk increases, some businesses face additional pressure to invest in contingency measures such as backup generation or uninterrupted power systems, along with ongoing costs for equipment, fuel, testing, and maintenance—costs that can materially affect the bottom line.

The Belleville Chamber of Commerce appreciates the role the OEB has in ensuring utilities spending is prudently deployed and is confident that the OEB's review will confirm the positive outcomes that will be achieved through the approval and execution of Elexicon Energy's 2027-2031 Investment Plan. Should you require any additional information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,



Jill Raycroft, MBA
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