

February 2020

Dear *REGIONAL DIRECTOR*,

**Re: Expression of Support for Natural Gas Expansion to *MUNICIPALITY/PROJECT NAME***

In December 2019, the Government of Ontario announced plans to further increase access to natural gas by making financial support available for new service expansion projects. This Natural Gas Expansion Program will unlock financial support needed to expand natural gas service to new areas across Ontario that are not economically feasible without support. Our municipality is one such area, and we are eager to bring this affordable, reliable fuel source to our residents and businesses.

On behalf of *MUNICIPALITY*, I would like to formally express our interest to have *PROJECT NAME* included on Enbridge Gas' list of projects being proposed to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for consideration for financial support through the Natural Gas Expansion Program.

Based on the draft Guidelines issued by the OEB (EB-2019-0255), we are aware that Enbridge Gas Inc. may be required to include support for the proposed project from Band Council(s) and/or local government, as applicable, demonstrated through a written expression of support and/or a commitment to financial support in its project submissions.

Natural gas is the most common, affordable heating fuel in Ontario. We fully support the efforts of Enbridge Gas Inc., the OEB and the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines. We look forward to working together to expand natural gas access in our community to attract new opportunities, help create jobs and lower monthly costs for our residents.

Sincerely,

*Name*

*Title*

*Municipality Name*

*Contact Information*



## **Natural Gas Expansion Program – Anticipated Submission Requirements**

The province is helping expand natural gas access to more communities in Ontario through its Natural Gas Expansion Program. The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) has been directed to examine and report back to the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines on potential natural gas expansion projects to assist the provincial government in determining which future expansion projects will receive government funding.

Enbridge Gas Inc. will submit project proposals to the OEB based on the OEB's Guidelines, which are currently under development. Based on the draft Guidelines issued by the OEB (EB-209-0255), Enbridge Gas Inc. anticipates it will be required to include letters from the Band Council(s) and/or local government, as applicable, stating support for proposed projects and providing details of any commitment to financial support.

Although Enbridge Gas Inc. is not currently aware of any requirement for municipal financial contributions to qualify for grant funding under the Natural Gas Expansion Program, the Company believes that a municipality's contribution toward project costs (e.g., equivalent to the municipal portion of property taxes recovered on the new infrastructure being built for a period of 10 years) would demonstrate the community's support for the proposed project. How this contribution is made is up to the discretion of the municipality or First Nation in consultation with Enbridge Gas Inc.

Note: To support project economics, councils should understand that Enbridge Gas Inc. will apply a 23 cent/m<sup>3</sup> System Expansion Surcharge to all customers connected through the proposed project for a defined period of time of up to 40 years as a contribution toward recovery of the cost of the proposed project.

**For Enbridge Gas Inc. to complete its submission to the OEB, we will be looking to gather the following information for proposed projects and may be seeking the municipality's assistance:**

**1) Map of desired service area, including:**

- a. Residential dwellings within the potential service area
- b. Commercial dwellings within the potential service area
- c. Industrial properties (excluding farms) within the potential service area
- d. Farms and agri-businesses (grain elevators, feed manufacturing, etc.) within the potential service area
- e. Institutional buildings (municipal facilities, schools, hospitals, etc.) within the potential service area

**2) Information regarding the primary heating source in your community, including:**

- a. Number of properties currently heated using electric baseboard
- b. Number of properties currently heated using electric forced air
- c. Number of properties currently heated with propane
- d. Number of properties currently heated with oil
- e. Number of properties currently heated with wood

Project submission requirements have not yet been finalized by the OEB. We will notify municipalities if additional information is required for purposes of our submission to the OEB.

Please send your information to your municipal advisor or [savewithgas@enbridge.com](mailto:savewithgas@enbridge.com).



Enbridge Gas Inc.  
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Ottawa, ON  
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February 26, 2020

Mayor Robert Kirby  
Township of East Hawkesbury  
5151 County Rd. 14, Box 340  
St. Eugene, ON  
K0B 1P0

Dear Mayor Kirby and Members of Council,

**Re: Natural Gas Expansion Program Update**

In December 2019, the Government of Ontario announced its plans to further increase access to natural gas by making financial support available for new expansion projects. The Government's Natural Gas Expansion Program offers an opportunity to drive economic development and enhance the quality of life and prosperity of families and businesses across Ontario. As your Regional Director for Enbridge Gas Inc., I'm writing to provide an update on next steps, and how we can work together to bring natural gas to unserved communities in Ontario.

Enbridge Gas will submit project proposals to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) based on Guidelines that are currently under development. The OEB will review project submissions and provide a report to the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines later this year recommending potential natural gas expansion projects that the Ontario government could consider as candidates for financial support. The Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines will review the recommendations of the OEB along with other considerations and issue a decision on future natural gas expansion projects eligible to receive financial support.

Your municipality expressed interest in the 2017 Natural Gas Grant Program and may have a project that you would like to submit for consideration as part of the current Natural Gas Expansion Program. The Guidelines to be issued by the OEB are expected to indicate that project submissions will require certain information to be provided to be considered complete – a summary of expected submission requirements is included with this letter. We ask that you confirm your interest to bring natural gas to your municipality by providing a letter of support returned to us within 10-15 business days of receiving this letter. A sample letter of support is also included for your consideration.