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Subject:	Municipality of West-Grey NG - Support of Existing By-Law and MFA
Date:	August 18, 2021 3:25:00 PM
Attachments:	ENGLP APPL Brockton 20200804 Redacted.pdf
	West Grey BLFA.pdf

Hello Genevieve,

I am a project developer with EPCOR Utilities Inc., working on natural gas expansion in Ontario. Back in 2018, I had an opportunity to work with some folks from the Municipality of West Grey administration, while EPCOR was working to its local Southern Bruce Natural Gas Expansion Project. I am now working to further expand some of EPCORs natural gas lines into West Grey.

Recently EPCOR was awarded a natural gas expansion project as part of the <u>Phase 2 Natural Gas</u> <u>Expansion Program</u>. The project EPCOR is now currently working to further develop includes potentially bringing natural gas service to some customers in the Municipality of West Grey along the high pressure steel mainline recently installed between Chatsworth and West-Grey as well the community of Elmwood. EPCOR will also, use this opportunity to attempt connecting certain customers along the high-pressure steel mainline which previously could not be connected due to CPCN constraints.

EPCOR is preparing to submit an Application to the OEB for an amendment to EPCOR's Limited Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) in preparation for serving future customers in the Township of Chatsworth, and Municipalities of West Grey and Brockton. Currently EPCOR has only a Limited CPCN which means it can only transmit natural gas through a CPCN area, and not distribute directly to customers in that area. EPCORs request to the OEB will be for a Full CPCN for a specific service area aligned with bringing natural gas and distribute to the areas identified in our application. It is important to receive conditional approval of the amended CPCN ahead of EPCOR submitting its Leave to Construct Application, which we are targeting to submit to the OEB for Q1 2022.

As part of this CPCN application EPCOR will also be requesting the OEB to confirm and approve the Municipal Franchise Agreements (MFA) EPCOR currently has with the three municipalities. Previously EPCOR had worked with West Grey to authorize By-Law 90-2018, ahead of any natural gas construction works being initiated in West Grey. This by-law was provided to the OEB as part of the Southern Bruce NG Expansion Leave to Construct. At the time the OEB did recognize the MFA was included but did not comment on the MFA because EPCOR was not going to be directly serving any customers in West Grey at the time. EPCOR would now like to resubmit the MFA documents and By-Laws for confirmation and approval by the OEB. We do not see a need for a new by-law to be developed, the existing by-law is sufficient for the OEB, but it is important to clarify that EPCOR is now working to develop natural gas distribution infrastructure to bring to service customers, which is different than installing and maintaining infrastructure to transmit gas through the Municipality of West Grey.

It would be especially helpful as part of our application that the Municipality of West Grey provide

EPCOR a letter to be included in our application, confirming that the Municipality is aware that EPCOR is now working to develop distribution infrastructure in the Municipality of West Grey in order to provide customers with natural gas service, and that the Municipality of West Grey feels the existing by-law will serve with respect to the continued development and operations effort going forward. If at all possible to receive this letter by early next week to include in our submission.

I have attached as part of this email the referenced By-Law as well EPCOR's application for NG Expansion, which is also available on the OEB Web Portal.

If this is in anyway unclear or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me so I may be further clarify.

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