Annette Gilchrist

From:	Anik Benoit <anik.benoit@enbridge.com></anik.benoit@enbridge.com>
Sent:	Thursday, March 21, 2024 2:13 PM
То:	Jennifer Murphy; Annette Gilchrist
Cc:	Kendra Black
Subject:	Eganville Community Expansion Project Notice re: Environmental Defence Motion
Attachments:	EGI_Ltr_Response_ED_20240319.pdf

Greetings Mayor Murphy and Members of Council,

On September 21, 2023, Enbridge Gas filed a Leave to Construct application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for the Eganville Community Expansion project. As you know, your municipality provided a letter of support for the project, which was included in the application.

Throughout regulatory proceedings, Environmental Defence (ED), has relentlessly implemented tactics to delay natural gas expansion projects, resulting in additional steps and time in the OEB regulatory process. Despite the OEB having denied previous motions submitted by ED, they have recently filed yet another motion as part of a pattern of repeated attempts to introduce evidence related to non-natural gas alternatives within Natural Gas Expansion Program (NGEP) funded project proceedings. This motion not only adds to the duration and complexity of the regulatory process but continues to delay service to customers and communities that have expressed interest in natural gas service.

We believe that consumers should have the ability to choose the type of energy they use for their homes and businesses rather than special interest groups.

Enbridge Gas is at a critical stage in moving this project forward for the 2024 construction season and the ongoing tactics from special interest groups such as ED put projects at risk as they cannot move forward until motions are reviewed and appeals are resolved.

In an effort to bring natural gas service to Eganville in 2024, we ask that you reach out to the OEB and/or Ministry of Energy to deny ED's motion and issue timely approval for your project. We will share our construction schedule pending LTC approval and will continue to engage with customers to help inform them of their decisions to convert to natural gas.

For your reference, I have attached a letter that Enbridge sent to the OEB regarding the motions filed by ED. You are welcome to align your message with the one submitted by Enbridge.

Enbridge Gas remains committed to working with our partners to help reduce red tape and ensure that more homes, businesses, local and Indigenous communities can access reliable, cost-effective energy options they need and want.

We wish to thank you for your ongoing support with the project and hope no major delays from Environment Defence will occur. I look forward to collaborating with you and learning more about your community in the weeks and months ahead.

Best regards,

Anik Benoit Advisor, Municipal & Stakeholder Affairs Conseillère, Affaires municipales

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