

Sent by Email

June 3, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Subject: Natural Gas for Rural and Expanding Communities

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on May 27, 2024 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, reliable and affordable access to natural gas is essential for the economic viability and prosperity of residents and businesses in our community, offering a balance of affordability and energy reliability;

And Whereas, potential limitations on the expansion of natural gas infrastructure jeopardizes access to this critical energy source, which is fundamental to fostering economic growth, supporting our manufacturing sector, enhancing agricultural and farm productivity, ensuring the development of affordable housing, and maintaining energy reliability in Durham Region including the City of Pickering;

And Whereas, Ontario is growing and access to reliable and affordable energy sources such as natural gas is required to support this growth in both urban and rural communities, and is a measured approach to energy transition;

And Whereas, the absence of natural gas access would severely stifle the growth of the industrial sector, leading to escalated costs for agriculture and farm production, manufacturing, and consumer goods;

And Whereas, for our rural and farming communities, access to natural gas is vital, as a cost-effective energy source and a catalyst for sustainable agricultural practices and on-farm operations, including heating, grain drying, and storage, directly contributing to reduced operational expenses and enabling sustainable agricultural advancements;

And Whereas, achieving a net-zero emissions target in a cost-effective manner requires a collaborative approach between the electric and gas sectors, leveraging the strengths of

both to enhance the overall reliability, resilience, and consumer choice within Ontario's energy system;

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering:

1. Supports a balanced and measured approach to Ontario's energy transition, acknowledging the insufficiency of the current electricity supply to meet the growing demands from electrification and the critical role of natural gas in bridging this gap;
2. That natural gas must be recognized as a cornerstone in meeting Ontario's growing energy needs;
3. That Pickering Council supports the need for maintaining access to diverse and affordable energy sources, including natural gas, to bolster our agricultural sectors, enabling our rural communities to thrive and sustainably increase production capabilities within the City of Pickering and its surrounding areas; and,
4. That this resolution be circulated to Colin Best, President of AMO; Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Hon. Todd Smith, the Minister of Energy; Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Member of Provincial Parliament Pickering-Uxbridge; all Durham Region municipalities as significant actors to ensuring the need for natural gas in Ontario as part of a measured approach towards energy transition, and that it also be submitted to municipalaffairs@enbridge.com.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly,



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Copy: The Hon. Todd Smith, Minister of Energy
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering - Uxbridge
Jaclyn Grossi, Director of Legislative & Information Services, Town of Ajax
June Gallagher, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington
Chris Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby
Fernando Lamanna, Clerk, Township of Brock
Debbie Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa

Ralph Walton, Interim City Clerk, Township of Scugog
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Director of Legislative Services, Region of Durham
Colin Best, President, AMO
Enbridge Gas

Chief Administrative Officer