

Report to Council

Report Title: Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project

Prepared By: Fiona Hamilton, Clerk

Department: Clerk's

Date: April 9, 2019

Report Number: CLK2019-05 **File Number:** C11CL

Attachments: EPCOR Correspondence March 27, 2019
Ontario Energy Board Notice
South Bruce Project Application

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2019-05 – Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project, prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Clerk for information purposes and further directs staff regarding the preferred level of participation in the Ontario Energy Board Hearing relating to EPCOR's Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project.

Report:

Background:

In 2018, Council received information that EPCOR, a natural gas company, was proposing to build a natural gas transmission line through the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, the Municipality of Kincardine and the Township of Huron Kinloss (the "Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project"). According to EPCOR, this transmission line would be required to be able to provide natural gas services to some parts of the Municipality of Brockton in the future, although the initial Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project would not directly include the Municipality of Brockton at this time.

As a step towards completing the Southern Natural Gas Project, EPCOR requested that the Municipality of Brockton approve a Franchise Agreement in the form approved by the Ontario Energy Board (the "OEB"). On September 10, 2018, Council gave the by-law authorizing the Franchise Agreement first and second reading, with the third and final reading to occur when the approval from the OEB has been obtained.

Analysis:

EPCOR has now applied to the OEB for approval of the Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project and has provided a copy of the OEB Notice to the Municipality of Brockton as a party whose lands may be directly impacted. A

copy of the OEB Notice and EPCOR’s Application have been attached to this report. The Final Engineer’s Report and the Archeological Assessments can be viewed on the [OEB website](#).

At this time, the Municipality of Brockton is not an active participant in the Application and would not receive any further notices or information about the proceeding, or be permitted to make any submissions to the OEB.

The Municipality of Brockton has the following options relating to the Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project:

- Take no action and accept any decision made by the OEB;
- File a letter with comments that may be considered by the OEB;
- Apply to be an intervenor, which would allow the Municipality of Brockton to make submissions (if needed) and be fully informed about the proceeding.

Given the importance of the Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project to residents of Brockton and across the County of Bruce Council may wish to apply for intervenor status in the proceeding which would require a supporting submission prepared by staff and comments from a member of Council. A letter of support may also be appropriate as an alternative.

Sustainability Checklist:

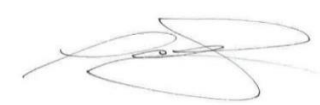
What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| • Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? | N/A |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

Reviewed By:



Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Fiona Hamilton', written in a cursive style.

Fiona Hamilton, Clerk

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Suzanne', written in a cursive style.

Chief Administrative Officer