



Enbridge Gas Inc.
50 Keil Drive North
Chatham, Ontario, Canada
N7M 5M1

November 18, 2025

Mr. Ritchie Murray
Acting Registrar
Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Mr. Murray:

**Re: Enbridge Gas Inc.
Application for Approval of Franchise Agreement
Town of Thessalon**

Attached is an Application by Enbridge Gas Inc. for Orders of the Ontario Energy Board with respect to a franchise agreement with the Town of Thessalon. An agreement has been reached between Enbridge Gas Inc. and the Town of Thessalon with regards to the terms and conditions of the proposed franchise agreement.

Should you have any questions on this application, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to the receipt of your instructions.

Yours truly,

Patrick McMahon
Technical Manager
Regulatory Research and Records
patrick.mcmahon@enbridge.com
(519) 436-5325

Encl.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Municipal Franchises Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.M.55, as amended;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Enbridge Gas Inc. for an Order approving the terms and conditions upon which, and the period for which, the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon is, by by-law, to grant to Enbridge Gas Inc. the right to construct and operate works for the distribution, transmission and storage of natural gas and the right to extend and add to the works in the Town of Thessalon;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by Enbridge Gas Inc. for an Order directing and declaring that the assent of the municipal electors of the Town of Thessalon to the by-law is not necessary.

APPLICATION

1. Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas), a regulated public utility, is a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, with its offices in the City of Toronto and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.
2. The Corporation of the Town of Thessalon (Municipality) is a municipal corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario. Attached hereto and marked as Schedule "A" is a map showing the geographical location of the Municipality and a customer density representation of Enbridge Gas' service area. Enbridge Gas currently serves approximately 563 customers in the Municipality. Enbridge Gas and its predecessors have been providing gas distribution services within the Town of Thessalon since approximately 1986.
3. The Town of Thessalon is a single-tier municipality that is surrounded by, but not part of, the Municipality of Huron Shores, and is located within Algoma District in Northeastern Ontario. Based on historical records, the Town of Thessalon was formed in the late 1800s.
4. Enbridge Gas has an existing franchise agreement with the Town of Thessalon (EB-2006-0134) and an associate By-law 1417 which are attached as Schedule "B". With the expiry date of the existing franchise agreement approaching on August 14, 2026, Enbridge Gas contacted the Town of Thessalon on August 14, 2025 regarding the need to commence the process to renew a 20-year franchise agreement (see attached Schedule "C"). Enbridge Gas believes that this notification satisfied the conditions within paragraph 4(c) of the Model Franchise Agreement to extend the current terms and conditions until a new franchise agreement is executed.

5. Section 4(c) of the existing franchise agreement states that at any time within two years prior to the expiration of a franchise agreement, either party may give notice to the other that it desires to enter into negotiations for a renewed franchise agreement. The correspondence sent to the Town of Thessalon to initiate discussions of a franchise agreement renewal was sent twelve months in advance of the August 14, 2026 expiry date of the existing franchise agreement which is within the parameters contained in the Model Franchise Agreement.
6. Enbridge Gas has a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Town of Thessalon (E.B.C. 174) dated August 20, 1986 which is attached as Schedule "D". Enbridge Gas is not aware of any changes to the municipal boundaries of the Town of Thessalon since the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity was issued.
7. Enbridge Gas applied to the Council of the Municipality for the renewal of a franchise agreement permitting Enbridge Gas to construct and operate works for the distribution, transmission and storage of natural gas and the right to extend and add to the works in the Town of Thessalon.
8. On October 20, 2025, the Council of the Municipality gave approval to the form of a Franchise Agreement in favour of Enbridge Gas and authorized Enbridge Gas to apply to the Ontario Energy Board for approval of the terms and conditions upon which and the period for which the franchise agreement is proposed to be granted.
9. Attached hereto as Schedule "E" is a copy of the Resolution of the Council of the Municipality approving the form of the draft by-law and franchise agreement, authorizing this submission to the Ontario Energy Board, and requesting an Order declaring and directing that the assent of the municipal electors to the by-law and franchise agreement is not necessary.
10. Attached hereto as Schedule "F" is a copy of By-law 2707 and the proposed franchise agreement. The Town of Thessalon has provided first and second readings of its by-law.
11. Enbridge Gas has a franchise agreement with and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Municipality of Huron Shores which is immediately adjacent to the Town of Thessalon. Enbridge Gas is not aware of any other natural gas distributor in the area.
12. The proposed franchise agreement is in the form of the 2000 Model Franchise Agreement with no amendments and is for a term of twenty (20) years.
13. The address of the Municipality is as follows:

Town of Thessalon
187 Main Street
Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0
Attention: Debbie Rydall, Clerk-Treasurer
Telephone: (705) 842-2217
Email: debbie@thessalon.ca

The address for Enbridge Gas' regional operations office is:

Enbridge Gas Inc.
2571 Lancaster Road
Ottawa, ON K1B 4L5
Attention: David Marshall, Director, Station Operations & Customer Connections
Email: david.marshall@enbridge.com

14. Should the Ontario Energy Board determine that a Notice of Hearing is required, Enbridge Gas believes that publishing the Notice of Hearing related to this application in a local newspaper, on the OEB web site, on the Enbridge Gas' web site and on the municipality's web site will provide a broad awareness of this application. The newspaper having the highest circulation in the Town of Thessalon is the *North Shore Sentinel* newspaper. This is the newspaper used by the Municipality for its notices.
15. Enbridge Gas now applies to the Ontario Energy Board for:
 - (a) an Order under s.9(3) approving the terms and conditions upon which, and the period for which, the Town of Thessalon is, by by-law, to grant Enbridge Gas the right to construct and operate works for the distribution, transmission and storage of natural gas and the right to extend and add to the works; and
 - (b) an Order pursuant to s.9(4) directing and declaring that the assent of the municipal electors of the Town of Thessalon is not necessary for the proposed franchise agreement by-law under the circumstances.

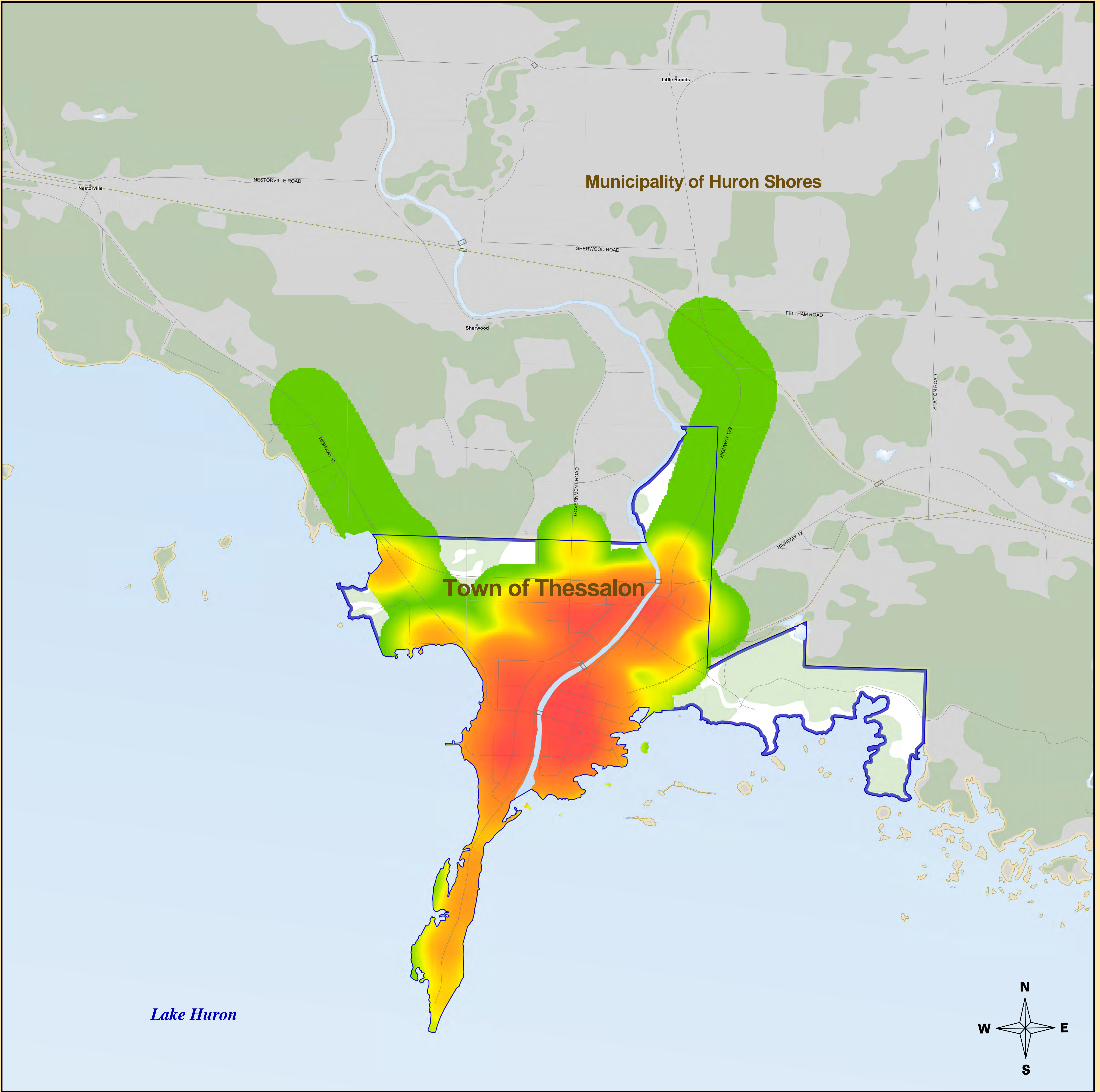
DATED at the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, in the Province of Ontario this 18th day of November 2025.

ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

Patrick McMahon
Technical Manager
Regulatory Research and Records

Comments respecting this Application should be directed to:

Mr. Patrick McMahon
Technical Manager, Regulatory Research and Records
Enbridge Gas Inc.
50 Keil Drive North
Chatham, ON N7M 5M1
patrick.mcmahon@enbridge.com
Telephone: (519) 436-5325



Town of Thessalon

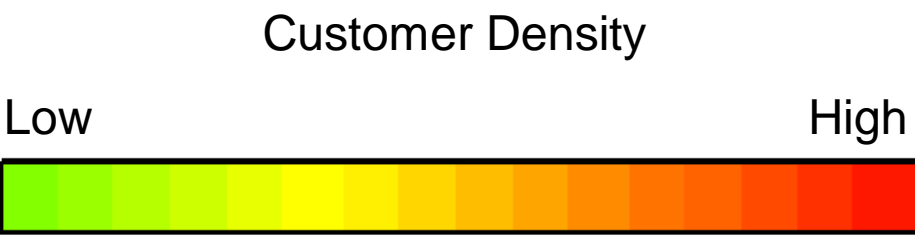


Disclaimer:
The map is provided with no warranty express or Implied and is subject to change at any time. Any Person using the Density Map shall do so at its own Risk and the Density Map is not intended in any way As a tool to locate underground infrastructure for the purposes of excavation

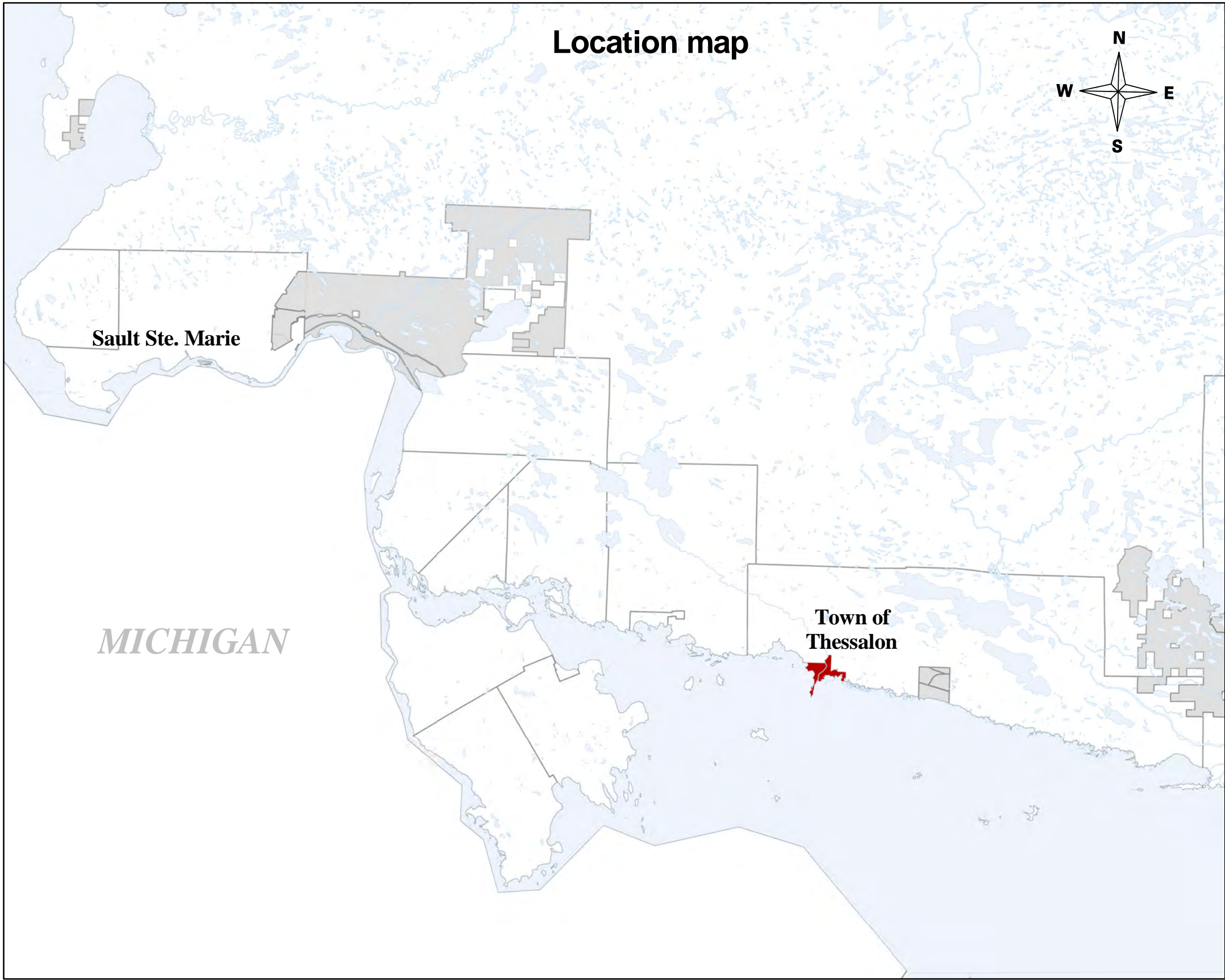


Legend

- Enbridge Gas Pipeline Coverage Area
- Town of Thessalon
- Roads
- Railways
- Municipal and Township Boundaries
- Indigenous Lands



Location map



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON

BY-LAW NUMBER 1417

**A BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON
and UNION GAS LIMITED**

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon deems it expedient to enter into the attached franchise agreement (the "Franchise Agreement") with Union Gas Limited;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Energy Board by its Order issued pursuant to The Municipal Franchises Act on the 17th day of July, 2006 has approved the terms and conditions upon which and the period for which the franchise provided in the Franchise Agreement is proposed to be granted, and has declared and directed that the assent of the municipal electors in respect of this By-Law is not necessary:

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** the Franchise Agreement between the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon and Union Gas Limited, attached hereto and forming part of this by-law, is hereby authorized and the franchise provided for therein is hereby granted.
2. **THAT** the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer be and they are hereby authorized and instructed on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon to enter into and execute under its corporate seal and deliver the Franchise Agreement, which is hereby incorporated into and forming part of this By-Law.
3. **THAT** the following by-laws be and the same are hereby repealed:

By-law #731 for the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon, passed in Council on the 20th day of October, 1986;
4. **THAT** this by-law shall come into force and take effect as of the final passing thereof.

Read a first time this 15th day of May , 2006.

Read a second time this 15th day of May, 2006.

Read a third time and finally passed this 14th day of August, 2006.

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF THESSALON**

[Original Signed By Donna Latulippe]

Donna Latulippe, Mayor

[Original Signed By Robert MacLean]

Robert P. MacLean, Clerk-Treasurer

2000 Model Franchise Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT effective this 14th day of August, 2006.

BETWEEN:

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON

hereinafter called the "Corporation"

- and -



hereinafter called the "Gas Company"

WHEREAS the Gas Company desires to distribute, store and transmit gas in the Municipality upon the terms and conditions of this Agreement;

AND WHEREAS by by-law passed by the Council of the Corporation (the "By-law"), the duly authorized officers have been authorized and directed to execute this Agreement on behalf of the Corporation;

THEREFORE the Corporation and the Gas Company agree as follows:

Part I - Definitions

1. In this Agreement

- (a) "decommissioned" and "decommissions" when used in connection with parts of the gas system, mean any parts of the gas system taken out of active use and purged in accordance with the applicable CSA standards and in no way affects the use of the term 'abandoned' pipeline for the purposes of the *Assessment Act*;
- (b) "Engineer/Road Superintendent" means the most senior individual employed by the Corporation with responsibilities for highways within the

Municipality or the person designated by such senior employee or such other person as may from time to time be designated by the Council of the Corporation;

- (c) "gas" means natural gas, manufactured gas, synthetic natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas or propane-air gas, or a mixture of any of them, but does not include a liquefied petroleum gas that is distributed by means other than a pipeline;
- (d) "gas system" means such mains, plants, pipes, conduits, services, valves, regulators, curb boxes, stations, drips or such other equipment as the Gas Company may require or deem desirable for the distribution, storage and transmission of gas in or through the Municipality;
- (e) "highway" means all common and public highways and shall include any bridge, viaduct or structure forming part of a highway, and any public square, road allowance or walkway and shall include not only the travelled portion of such highway, but also ditches, driveways, sidewalks, and sodded areas forming part of the road allowance now or at any time during the term hereof under the jurisdiction of the Corporation;
- (f) "Model Franchise Agreement" means the form of agreement which the Ontario Energy Board uses as a standard when considering applications under the *Municipal Franchises Act*. The Model Franchise Agreement may be changed from time to time by the Ontario Energy Board;
- (g) "Municipality" means the territorial limits of the Corporation on the date when this Agreement takes effect, and any territory which may thereafter be brought within the jurisdiction of the Corporation;
- (h) "Plan" means the plan described in Paragraph 5 of this Agreement required to be filed by the Gas Company with the Engineer/Road Superintendent prior to commencement of work on the gas system; and
- (i) whenever the singular, masculine or feminine is used in this Agreement, it shall be considered as if the plural, feminine or masculine has been used where the context of the Agreement so requires.

Part II - Rights Granted

2. To provide gas service

The consent of the Corporation is hereby given and granted to the Gas Company to distribute, store and transmit gas in and through the Municipality to the Corporation and to the inhabitants of the Municipality.

3. To Use Highways

Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement the consent of the Corporation is hereby given and granted to the Gas Company to enter upon all highways now or at any time hereafter under the jurisdiction of the Corporation and to lay, construct, maintain, replace, remove, operate and repair a gas system for the distribution, storage and transmission of gas in and through the Municipality.

4. Duration of Agreement and Renewal Procedures

- (a) If the Corporation has not previously received gas distribution services, the rights hereby given and granted shall be for a term of 20 years from the date of final passing of the By-law.

or

- (b) If the Corporation has previously received gas distribution services, the rights hereby given and granted shall be for a term of 20 years from the date of final passing of the By-law provided that, if during the 20 year term of this Agreement, the Model Franchise Agreement is changed, then on the 7th anniversary and on the 14th anniversary of the date of the passing of the By-law, this Agreement shall be deemed to be amended to incorporate any changes in the Model Franchise Agreement in effect on such anniversary dates. Such deemed amendments shall not apply to alter the 20 year term.
- (c) At any time within two years prior to the expiration of this Agreement, either party may give notice to the other that it desires to enter into negotiations for a renewed franchise upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon. Until such renewal has been settled, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall continue, notwithstanding the expiration of this Agreement. This shall not preclude either party from applying to the Ontario Energy Board for a renewal of the Agreement pursuant to section 10 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*.

Part III – Conditions

5. Approval of Construction

- (a) The Gas Company shall not undertake any excavation, opening or work which will disturb or interfere with the surface of the travelled portion of any highway unless a permit therefore has first been obtained from the Engineer/Road Superintendent and all work done by the Gas Company shall be to his satisfaction.
- (b) Prior to the commencement of work on the gas system, or any extensions or changes to it (except service laterals which do not interfere with municipal works in the highway), the Gas Company shall file with the Engineer/Road Superintendent a Plan, satisfactory to the Engineer/Road Superintendent, drawn to scale and of sufficient detail considering the complexity of the specific locations involved, showing the highways in which it proposes to lay its gas system and the particular parts thereof it proposes to occupy.
- (c) The Plan filed by the Gas Company shall include geodetic information for a particular location:
 - (i) where circumstances are complex, in order to facilitate known projects, including projects which are reasonably anticipated by the Engineer/Road Superintendent, or
 - (ii) when requested, where the Corporation has geodetic information for its own services and all others at the same location.
- (d) The Engineer/Road Superintendent may require sections of the gas system to be laid at greater depth than required by the latest CSA standard for gas pipeline systems to facilitate known projects or to correct known highway deficiencies.
- (e) Prior to the commencement of work on the gas system, the Engineer/Road Superintendent must approve the location of the work as shown on the Plan filed by the Gas Company, the timing of the work and any terms and conditions relating to the installation of the work.
- (f) In addition to the requirements of this Agreement, if the Gas Company proposes to affix any part of the gas system to a bridge, viaduct or other structure, if the Engineer/Road Superintendent approves this proposal, he may require the Gas Company to comply with special conditions or to enter into a separate agreement as a condition of the approval of this part of the construction of the gas system.

- (g) Where the gas system may affect a municipal drain, the Gas Company shall also file a copy of the Plan with the Corporation's Drainage Superintendent for purposes of the *Drainage Act*, or such other person designated by the Corporation as responsible for the drain.
- (h) The Gas Company shall not deviate from the approved location for any part of the gas system unless the prior approval of the Engineer/Road Superintendent to do so is received.
- (i) The Engineer/Road Superintendent's approval, where required throughout this Paragraph, shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- (j) The approval of the Engineer/Road Superintendent is not a representation or warranty as to the state of repair of the highway or the suitability of the highway for the gas system.

6. As Built Drawings

The Gas Company shall, within six months of completing the installation of any part of the gas system, provide two copies of "as built" drawings to the Engineer/Road Superintendent. These drawings must be sufficient to accurately establish the location, depth (measurement between the top of the gas system and the ground surface at the time of installation) and distance of the gas system. The "as built" drawings shall be of the same quality as the Plan and, if the approved pre-construction plan included elevations that were geodetically referenced, the "as built" drawings shall similarly include elevations that are geodetically referenced. Upon the request of the Engineer/Road Superintendent, the Gas Company shall provide one copy of the drawings in an electronic format and one copy as a hard copy drawing.

7. Emergencies

In the event of an emergency involving the gas system, the Gas Company shall proceed with the work required to deal with the emergency, and in any instance where prior approval of the Engineer/Road Superintendent is normally required for the work, the Gas Company shall use its best efforts to immediately notify the Engineer/Road Superintendent of the location and nature of the emergency and the work being done and, if it deems appropriate, notify the police force, fire or other emergency services having jurisdiction. The Gas Company shall provide the Engineer/Road Superintendent with at least one 24 hour emergency contact for the Gas Company and shall ensure the contacts are current.

8. **Restoration**

The Gas Company shall well and sufficiently restore, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Engineer/Road Superintendent, all highways, municipal works or improvements which it may excavate or interfere with in the course of laying, constructing, repairing or removing its gas system, and shall make good any settling or subsidence thereafter caused by such excavation or interference. If the Gas Company fails at any time to do any work required by this Paragraph within a reasonable period of time, the Corporation may do or cause such work to be done and the Gas Company shall, on demand, pay the Corporation's reasonably incurred costs, as certified by the Engineer/Road Superintendent.

9. **Indemnification**

The Gas Company shall, at all times, indemnify and save harmless the Corporation from and against all claims, including costs related thereto, for all damages or injuries including death to any person or persons and for damage to any property, arising out of the Gas Company operating, constructing, and maintaining its gas system in the Municipality, or utilizing its gas system for the carriage of gas owned by others. Provided that the Gas Company shall not be required to indemnify or save harmless the Corporation from and against claims, including costs related thereto, which it may incur by reason of damages or injuries including death to any person or persons and for damage to any property, resulting from the negligence or wrongful act of the Corporation, its servants, agents or employees.

10. **Insurance**

- (a) The Gas Company shall maintain Comprehensive General Liability Insurance in sufficient amount and description as shall protect the Gas Company and the Corporation from claims for which the Gas Company is obliged to indemnify the Corporation under Paragraph 9. The insurance policy shall identify the Corporation as an additional named insured, but only with respect to the operation of the named insured (the Gas Company). The insurance policy shall not lapse or be cancelled without sixty (60) days' prior written notice to the Corporation by the Gas Company.
- (b) The issuance of an insurance policy as provided in this Paragraph shall not be construed as relieving the Gas Company of liability not covered by such insurance or in excess of the policy limits of such insurance.
- (c) Upon request by the Corporation, the Gas Company shall confirm that premiums for such insurance have been paid and that such insurance is in full force and effect.

11. **Alternative Easement**

The Corporation agrees, in the event of the proposed sale or closing of any highway or any part of a highway where there is a gas line in existence, to give the Gas Company reasonable notice of such proposed sale or closing and, if it is feasible, to provide the Gas Company with easements over that part of the highway proposed to be sold or closed sufficient to allow the Gas Company to preserve any part of the gas system in its then existing location. In the event that such easements cannot be provided, the Corporation and the Gas Company shall share the cost of relocating or altering the gas system to facilitate continuity of gas service, as provided for in Paragraph 12 of this Agreement.

12. **Pipeline Relocation**

- (a) If in the course of constructing, reconstructing, changing, altering or improving any highway or any municipal works, the Corporation deems that it is necessary to take up, remove or change the location of any part of the gas system, the Gas Company shall, upon notice to do so, remove and/or relocate within a reasonable period of time such part of the gas system to a location approved by the Engineer/Road Superintendent.
- (b) Where any part of the gas system relocated in accordance with this Paragraph is located on a bridge, viaduct or structure, the Gas Company shall alter or relocate that part of the gas system at its sole expense.
- (c) Where any part of the gas system relocated in accordance with this Paragraph is located other than on a bridge, viaduct or structure, the costs of relocation shall be shared between the Corporation and the Gas Company on the basis of the total relocation costs, excluding the value of any upgrading of the gas system, and deducting any contribution paid to the Gas Company by others in respect to such relocation; and for these purposes, the total relocation costs shall be the aggregate of the following:
 - (i) the amount paid to Gas Company employees up to and including field supervisors for the hours worked on the project plus the current cost of fringe benefits for these employees,
 - (ii) the amount paid for rental equipment while in use on the project and an amount, charged at the unit rate, for Gas Company equipment while in use on the project,
 - (iii) the amount paid by the Gas Company to contractors for work related to the project,

- (iv) the cost to the Gas Company for materials used in connection with the project, and
 - (v) a reasonable amount for project engineering and project administrative costs which shall be 22.5% of the aggregate of the amounts determined in items (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) above.
- (d) The total relocation costs as calculated above shall be paid 35% by the Corporation and 65% by the Gas Company, except where the part of the gas system required to be moved is located in an unassumed road or in an unopened road allowance and the Corporation has not approved its location, in which case the Gas Company shall pay 100% of the relocation costs.

Part IV - Procedural And Other Matters

13. Municipal By-laws of General Application

The Agreement is subject to the provisions of all regulating statutes and all municipal by-laws of general application, except by-laws which have the effect of amending this Agreement.

14. Giving Notice

Notices may be delivered to, sent by facsimile or mailed by prepaid registered post to the Gas Company at its head office or to the authorized officers of the Corporation at its municipal offices, as the case may be.

15. Disposition of Gas System

- (a) If the Gas Company decommissions part of its gas system affixed to a bridge, viaduct or structure, the Gas Company shall, at its sole expense, remove the part of its gas system affixed to the bridge, viaduct or structure.
- (b) If the Gas Company decommissions any other part of its gas system, it shall have the right, but is not required, to remove that part of its gas system. It may exercise its right to remove the decommissioned parts of its gas system by giving notice of its intention to do so by filing a Plan as required by Paragraph 5 of this Agreement for approval by the Engineer/Road Superintendent. If the Gas Company does not remove the part of the gas system it has decommissioned and the Corporation requires the removal of all or any part of the decommissioned gas system for the purpose of altering or improving a highway or in order to facilitate the construction of utility or other works in any highway, the Corporation may remove and dispose of so much of the decommissioned gas system as the Corporation may require for such purposes and neither party shall have recourse against the other for any

loss, cost, expense or damage occasioned thereby. If the Gas Company has not removed the part of the gas system it has decommissioned and the Corporation requires the removal of all or any part of the decommissioned gas system for the purpose of altering or improving a highway or in order to facilitate the construction of utility or other works in a highway, the Gas Company may elect to relocate the decommissioned gas system and in that event Paragraph 12 applies to the cost of relocation.

16. Use of Decommissioned Gas System

- (a) The Gas Company shall provide promptly to the Corporation, to the extent such information is known:
 - (i) the names and addresses of all third parties who use decommissioned parts of the gas system for purposes other than the transmission or distribution of gas; and
 - (ii) the location of all proposed and existing decommissioned parts of the gas system used for purposes other than the transmission or distribution of gas.
- (b) The Gas Company may allow a third party to use a decommissioned part of the gas system for purposes other than the transmission or distribution of gas and may charge a fee for that third party use, provided
 - (i) the third party has entered into a municipal access agreement with the Corporation; and
 - (ii) the Gas Company does not charge a fee for the third party's right of access to the highways.
- (c) Decommissioned parts of the gas system used for purposes other than the transmission or distribution of gas are not subject to the provisions of this Agreement. For decommissioned parts of the gas system used for purposes other than the transmission and distribution of gas, issues such as relocation costs will be governed by the relevant municipal access agreement.

17. Franchise Handbook

The Parties acknowledge that operating decisions sometimes require a greater level of detail than that which is appropriately included in this Agreement. The Parties agree to look for guidance on such matters to the Franchise Handbook prepared by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the gas utility companies, as may be amended from time to time.

18. Other Conditions

None.

19. Agreement Binding Parties

This Agreement shall extend to, benefit and bind the parties thereto, their successors and assigns, respectively.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Agreement effective from the date written above.

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF
THESSALON**

Per: *[Original Signed By Donna Latulippe]*

Donna Latulippe, Mayor

Per: *[Original Signed By Robert MacLean]*

Robert P. MacLean, Clerk-Treasurer

UNION GAS LIMITED

Per: *[Original Signed By Rick Birmingham]*

Vice President
Michael R. Birmingham

Per: *[Original Signed By Curt Bernardi]*

Assistant Secretary
Curt Bernardi



Attachments:

[2025 08 14 - Updated Guidelines to Municipalities.docx](#)
[Draft Resolution - Town of Thessalon.docx](#)
[Draft Bylaw - Town of Thessalon.docx](#)
[Model Franchise Agreement - Town of Thessalon \(Lower-Tier EGI North\).pdf](#)
[Bylaw and Franchise Agreement - Thessalon \(August 14, 2006\).pdf](#)
[EBC 174 - Certificate - Thessalon \(August 20, 1986\).pdf](#)
[Gas Franchise Handbook \(May 2002\).pdf](#)
[MA3800 - Town of Thessalon Customer Density.pdf](#)

From: Kristen Oliver

Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 10:49 PM

To: Debbie Rydall <debbie@thessalon.ca>

Subject: Franchise Agreement Renewal – Town of Thessalon

Good Evening Clerk Rydall,

Please be advised that on August 14, 2026, the current franchise agreement between the Town of Thessalon and the former Union Gas Limited will expire. Based on the most recent customer count report, we currently provide service to approximately 570 customers within the Town of Thessalon. Enbridge Gas and its predecessors have been providing access to gas distribution services within the Town of Thessalon since approximately 1986.

Provincial legislation requires a franchise agreement between the municipal corporation and the gas company serving that municipality. The Ontario Energy Board has directed that the current 2000 Model Franchise Agreement be used as the model for such agreements.

As a result, Enbridge Gas and the Town of Thessalon need to commence the process to renew a 20-year franchise agreement using the approved model.

To assist you in this matter, I am enclosing the following documents for discussions with the Town of Thessalon:

1. Franchise Agreement Renewal Documents:

- Guidelines to Municipalities Respecting the Renewal of Franchise Agreements
- Draft Resolution of the municipality

- Draft By-Law of the municipality
- 2000 Model Franchise Agreement with Enbridge Gas Inc.

2. Historical Background:

- a copy of the current By-Law 1417 (passed on August 14, 2006) and the current Franchise Agreement effective August 14, 2006
- a copy of the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity that Enbridge Gas holds for the Town of Thessalon (EBC 174)

3. Reference Documents:

- a copy of the Gas Franchise Handbook (an explanatory supplement to the 2000 Model Franchise Agreement)
- customer density map for areas served within the Town of Thessalon

This entire process to get a franchise agreement approved by the Ontario Energy Board can be quite lengthy and may take up to eight months.

Please review the *Guidelines to Municipalities Respecting the Renewal of Franchise Agreements* with the Town of Thessalon and arrange to have a Resolution passed by Council in a timely manner so that the regulatory approval process can commence.

It will be important to ensure that the municipality has 4 original copies of the franchise agreement and by-law signed off at the end of this process.

Note:

- In 2022, the Town of Thessalon issued its [Climate Change Mitigation Strategies](#). One of those strategies is for the Town to encourage the residential sector to convert light oil heating systems to natural gas.

I would appreciate being notified when the Town of Thessalon is expected to review the proposed franchise agreement renewal at a council meeting.

I would be happy to schedule a virtual meeting to walk you through the process if you wish. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this material or need additional background information related to the Town of Thessalon.

Thanks,

Kristen Oliver

Kristen Oliver

Senior Advisor, Municipal & Stakeholder Engagement,

Northern Region

—

ENBRIDGE

CELL: [807-252-8417](tel:807-252-8417) | Kristen.Oliver@enbridge.com

1211 Amber Dr. Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6M4

enbridge.com

Safety. Integrity. Respect. Inclusion. High Performance.

My working day may not be the same as yours. Please note, you are not obligated to read or respond to this email outside of your work hours.



IN THE MATTER OF the Ontario Energy Board, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 332;

IN THE MATTER OF the Municipal Franchises Act, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 309, Section 8 and amendments thereto;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an Application by ICG Utilities (Ontario) Ltd for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct works to supply and to supply gas to the Town of Thessalon and its inhabitants.

BEFORE: D. A. Dean)
Presiding Member)
R. R. Perdue) August 13, 1986
Member)

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

UPON ICG Utilities (Ontario) Ltd ("ICG") having filed an application dated June 11, 1986 with the Ontario Energy Board (the "Board") for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct works to supply and to supply gas to the inhabitants of the Town of Thessalon;

AND UPON a notice of application and hearing having been published in The Sault Star and served upon the Clerk of the Town of Thessalon, and no answer having been filed;

- 2 -

AND UPON the application having been heard in Toronto on August 12 and 13, 1986, in the presence of counsel for ICG and Board Counsel, no one else appearing;

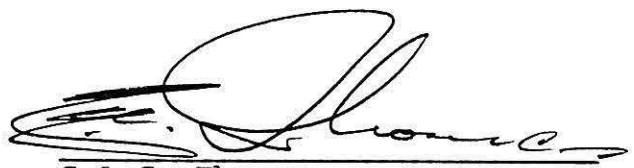
AND UPON the Board having rendered an oral decision at the conclusion of the hearing, and having held that public convenience and necessity requires that approval be given;

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. A Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is hereby granted to ICG to construct works to supply and to supply gas in the Town of Thessalon.
2. The Board's costs shall be paid by ICG as soon as they have been fixed.

ISSUED AT Toronto this 20th day of August, 1986.

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD



S.A.C. Thomas
Board Secretary

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON

RESOLUTION

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

1. This Council approves the form of draft by-law and franchise agreement attached hereto and authorizes the submission thereof to the Ontario Energy Board for approval pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*.
2. This Council requests that the Ontario Energy Board make an Order declaring and directing that the assent of the municipal electors to the attached draft by-law and franchise agreement pertaining to the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon is not necessary pursuant to the provisions of Section 9(4) of the *Municipal Franchises Act*.

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution passed by the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon on the 20th day of October, 2025.

[Original Signed By Debbie Rydall]

Debbie Rydall, Clerk-Treasurer

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON

BY-LAW NUMBER 2707

A BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON AND ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon deems it expedient to enter into the attached franchise agreement (the "Franchise Agreement") with Enbridge Gas Inc.;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Energy Board by its Order issued pursuant to the *Municipal Franchises Act* on the day of , 2025 has approved the terms and conditions upon which and the period for which the franchise provided in the Franchise Agreement is proposed to be granted, and has declared and directed that the assent of the municipal electors in respect of this By-Law is not necessary:

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** the Franchise Agreement between the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon and Enbridge Gas Inc. attached hereto and forming part of this by-law, is hereby authorized and the franchise provided for therein is hereby granted.
2. **THAT** the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer be and they are hereby authorized and instructed on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon to enter into and execute under its corporate seal and deliver the Franchise Agreement, which is hereby incorporated into and forming part of this By-Law.
3. **THAT** the following by-law be hereby repealed:
 - By-law Number 1417 for the Corporation of the Town of Thessalon, passed in Council on the 14th day of August, 2006.
4. **THAT** this by-law shall come into force and take effect as of the final passing thereof.

Read a first time this 20th day of October, 2025.

Read a second time this 20th day of October, 2025.

Read a third time and finally passed this day of , 2025.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON

Jordan Bird, Mayor

Debbie Rydall, Clerk-Treasurer

2000 Model Franchise Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT effective this day of , 2026

BETWEEN:

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON

hereinafter called the "Corporation"

- and -

ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

hereinafter called the "Gas Company"

WHEREAS the Gas Company desires to distribute, store and transmit gas in the Municipality upon the terms and conditions of this Agreement;

AND WHEREAS by by-law passed by the Council of the Corporation (the "By-law"), the duly authorized officers have been authorized and directed to execute this Agreement on behalf of the Corporation;

THEREFORE the Corporation and the Gas Company agree as follows:

Part I - Definitions

1. In this Agreement

- (a) "decommissioned" and "decommissions" when used in connection with parts of the gas system, mean any parts of the gas system taken out of active use and purged in accordance with the applicable CSA standards and in no way affects the use of the term 'abandoned' pipeline for the purposes of the *Assessment Act*;
- (b) "Engineer/Road Superintendent" means the most senior individual employed by the Corporation with responsibilities for highways within the Municipality or the person designated by such senior employee or such other person as may from time to time be designated by the Council of the Corporation;

- (c) "gas" means natural gas, manufactured gas, synthetic natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas or propane-air gas, or a mixture of any of them, but does not include a liquefied petroleum gas that is distributed by means other than a pipeline;
- (d) "gas system" means such mains, plants, pipes, conduits, services, valves, regulators, curb boxes, stations, drips or such other equipment as the Gas Company may require or deem desirable for the distribution, storage and transmission of gas in or through the Municipality;
- (e) "highway" means all common and public highways and shall include any bridge, viaduct or structure forming part of a highway, and any public square, road allowance or walkway and shall include not only the travelled portion of such highway, but also ditches, driveways, sidewalks, and sodded areas forming part of the road allowance now or at any time during the term hereof under the jurisdiction of the Corporation;
- (f) "Model Franchise Agreement" means the form of agreement which the Ontario Energy Board uses as a standard when considering applications under the *Municipal Franchises Act*. The Model Franchise Agreement may be changed from time to time by the Ontario Energy Board;
- (g) "Municipality" means the territorial limits of the Corporation on the date when this Agreement takes effect, and any territory which may thereafter be brought within the jurisdiction of the Corporation;
- (h) "Plan" means the plan described in Paragraph 5 of this Agreement required to be filed by the Gas Company with the Engineer/Road Superintendent prior to commencement of work on the gas system; and
- (i) whenever the singular, masculine or feminine is used in this Agreement, it shall be considered as if the plural, feminine or masculine has been used where the context of the Agreement so requires.

Part II - Rights Granted

2. To provide gas service

The consent of the Corporation is hereby given and granted to the Gas Company to distribute, store and transmit gas in and through the Municipality to the Corporation and to the inhabitants of the Municipality.

3. To Use Highways

Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement the consent of the Corporation is hereby given and granted to the Gas Company to enter upon all highways now or at any time hereafter under the jurisdiction of the Corporation and to lay, construct, maintain, replace, remove, operate and repair a gas system for the distribution, storage and transmission of gas in and through the Municipality.

4. Duration of Agreement and Renewal Procedures

(a) If the Corporation has not previously received gas distribution services, the rights hereby given and granted shall be for a term of 20 years from the date of final passing of the By-law.

or

(b) If the Corporation has previously received gas distribution services, the rights hereby given and granted shall be for a term of 20 years from the date of final passing of the By-law provided that, if during the 20 year term of this Agreement, the Model Franchise Agreement is changed, then on the 7th anniversary and on the 14th anniversary of the date of the passing of the By-law, this Agreement shall be deemed to be amended to incorporate any changes in the Model Franchise Agreement in effect on such anniversary dates. Such deemed amendments shall not apply to alter the 20 year term.

(c) At any time within two years prior to the expiration of this Agreement, either party may give notice to the other that it desires to enter into negotiations for a renewed franchise upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon. Until such renewal has been settled, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall continue, notwithstanding the expiration of this Agreement. This shall not preclude either party from applying to the Ontario Energy Board for a renewal of the Agreement pursuant to section 10 of the *Municipal Franchises Act*.

Part III – Conditions

5. Approval of Construction

- (a) The Gas Company shall not undertake any excavation, opening or work which will disturb or interfere with the surface of the travelled portion of any highway unless a permit therefor has first been obtained from the Engineer/Road Superintendent and all work done by the Gas Company shall be to his satisfaction.
- (b) Prior to the commencement of work on the gas system, or any extensions or changes to it (except service laterals which do not interfere with municipal works in the highway), the Gas Company shall file with the Engineer/Road Superintendent a Plan, satisfactory to the Engineer/Road Superintendent, drawn to scale and of sufficient detail considering the complexity of the specific locations involved, showing the highways in which it proposes to lay its gas system and the particular parts thereof it proposes to occupy.
- (c) The Plan filed by the Gas Company shall include geodetic information for a particular location:
 - (i) where circumstances are complex, in order to facilitate known projects, including projects which are reasonably anticipated by the Engineer/Road Superintendent, or
 - (ii) when requested, where the Corporation has geodetic information for its own services and all others at the same location.
- (d) The Engineer/Road Superintendent may require sections of the gas system to be laid at greater depth than required by the latest CSA standard for gas pipeline systems to facilitate known projects or to correct known highway deficiencies.
- (e) Prior to the commencement of work on the gas system, the Engineer/Road Superintendent must approve the location of the work as shown on the Plan filed by the Gas Company, the timing of the work and any terms and conditions relating to the installation of the work.
- (f) In addition to the requirements of this Agreement, if the Gas Company proposes to affix any part of the gas system to a bridge, viaduct or other structure, if the Engineer/Road Superintendent approves this proposal, he may require the Gas Company to comply with special conditions or to enter into a separate agreement as a condition of the approval of this part of the construction of the gas system.

- (g) Where the gas system may affect a municipal drain, the Gas Company shall also file a copy of the Plan with the Corporation's Drainage Superintendent for purposes of the *Drainage Act*, or such other person designated by the Corporation as responsible for the drain.
- (h) The Gas Company shall not deviate from the approved location for any part of the gas system unless the prior approval of the Engineer/Road Superintendent to do so is received.
- (i) The Engineer/Road Superintendent's approval, where required throughout this Paragraph, shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- (j) The approval of the Engineer/Road Superintendent is not a representation or warranty as to the state of repair of the highway or the suitability of the highway for the gas system.

6. As Built Drawings

The Gas Company shall, within six months of completing the installation of any part of the gas system, provide two copies of "as built" drawings to the Engineer/Road Superintendent. These drawings must be sufficient to accurately establish the location, depth (measurement between the top of the gas system and the ground surface at the time of installation) and distance of the gas system. The "as built" drawings shall be of the same quality as the Plan and, if the approved pre-construction plan included elevations that were geodetically referenced, the "as built" drawings shall similarly include elevations that are geodetically referenced. Upon the request of the Engineer/Road Superintendent, the Gas Company shall provide one copy of the drawings in an electronic format and one copy as a hard copy drawing.

7. Emergencies

In the event of an emergency involving the gas system, the Gas Company shall proceed with the work required to deal with the emergency, and in any instance where prior approval of the Engineer/Road Superintendent is normally required for the work, the Gas Company shall use its best efforts to immediately notify the Engineer/Road Superintendent of the location and nature of the emergency and the work being done and, if it deems appropriate, notify the police force, fire or other emergency services having jurisdiction. The Gas Company shall provide the Engineer/Road Superintendent with at least one 24 hour emergency contact for the Gas Company and shall ensure the contacts are current.

8. **Restoration**

The Gas Company shall well and sufficiently restore, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Engineer/Road Superintendent, all highways, municipal works or improvements which it may excavate or interfere with in the course of laying, constructing, repairing or removing its gas system, and shall make good any settling or subsidence thereafter caused by such excavation or interference. If the Gas Company fails at any time to do any work required by this Paragraph within a reasonable period of time, the Corporation may do or cause such work to be done and the Gas Company shall, on demand, pay the Corporation's reasonably incurred costs, as certified by the Engineer/Road Superintendent.

9. **Indemnification**

The Gas Company shall, at all times, indemnify and save harmless the Corporation from and against all claims, including costs related thereto, for all damages or injuries including death to any person or persons and for damage to any property, arising out of the Gas Company operating, constructing, and maintaining its gas system in the Municipality, or utilizing its gas system for the carriage of gas owned by others. Provided that the Gas Company shall not be required to indemnify or save harmless the Corporation from and against claims, including costs related thereto, which it may incur by reason of damages or injuries including death to any person or persons and for damage to any property, resulting from the negligence or wrongful act of the Corporation, its servants, agents or employees.

10. **Insurance**

- (a) The Gas Company shall maintain Comprehensive General Liability Insurance in sufficient amount and description as shall protect the Gas Company and the Corporation from claims for which the Gas Company is obliged to indemnify the Corporation under Paragraph 9. The insurance policy shall identify the Corporation as an additional named insured, but only with respect to the operation of the named insured (the Gas Company). The insurance policy shall not lapse or be cancelled without sixty (60) days' prior written notice to the Corporation by the Gas Company.
- (b) The issuance of an insurance policy as provided in this Paragraph shall not be construed as relieving the Gas Company of liability not covered by such insurance or in excess of the policy limits of such insurance.
- (c) Upon request by the Corporation, the Gas Company shall confirm that premiums for such insurance have been paid and that such insurance is in full force and effect.

11. **Alternative Easement**

The Corporation agrees, in the event of the proposed sale or closing of any highway or any part of a highway where there is a gas line in existence, to give the Gas Company reasonable notice of such proposed sale or closing and, if it is feasible, to provide the Gas Company with easements over that part of the highway proposed to be sold or closed sufficient to allow the Gas Company to preserve any part of the gas system in its then existing location. In the event that such easements cannot be provided, the Corporation and the Gas Company shall share the cost of relocating or altering the gas system to facilitate continuity of gas service, as provided for in Paragraph 12 of this Agreement.

12. **Pipeline Relocation**

- (a) If in the course of constructing, reconstructing, changing, altering or improving any highway or any municipal works, the Corporation deems that it is necessary to take up, remove or change the location of any part of the gas system, the Gas Company shall, upon notice to do so, remove and/or relocate within a reasonable period of time such part of the gas system to a location approved by the Engineer/Road Superintendent.
- (b) Where any part of the gas system relocated in accordance with this Paragraph is located on a bridge, viaduct or structure, the Gas Company shall alter or relocate that part of the gas system at its sole expense.
- (c) Where any part of the gas system relocated in accordance with this Paragraph is located other than on a bridge, viaduct or structure, the costs of relocation shall be shared between the Corporation and the Gas Company on the basis of the total relocation costs, excluding the value of any upgrading of the gas system, and deducting any contribution paid to the Gas Company by others in respect to such relocation; and for these purposes, the total relocation costs shall be the aggregate of the following:
 - (i) the amount paid to Gas Company employees up to and including field supervisors for the hours worked on the project plus the current cost of fringe benefits for these employees,
 - (ii) the amount paid for rental equipment while in use on the project and an amount, charged at the unit rate, for Gas Company equipment while in use on the project,
 - (iii) the amount paid by the Gas Company to contractors for work related to the project,

- (iv) the cost to the Gas Company for materials used in connection with the project, and
 - (v) a reasonable amount for project engineering and project administrative costs which shall be 22.5% of the aggregate of the amounts determined in items (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) above.
- (d) The total relocation costs as calculated above shall be paid 35% by the Corporation and 65% by the Gas Company, except where the part of the gas system required to be moved is located in an unassumed road or in an unopened road allowance and the Corporation has not approved its location, in which case the Gas Company shall pay 100% of the relocation costs.

Part IV - Procedural And Other Matters

13. Municipal By-laws of General Application

The Agreement is subject to the provisions of all regulating statutes and all municipal by-laws of general application, except by-laws which have the effect of amending this Agreement.

14. Giving Notice

Notices may be delivered to, sent by facsimile or mailed by prepaid registered post to the Gas Company at its head office or to the authorized officers of the Corporation at its municipal offices, as the case may be.

15. Disposition of Gas System

- (a) If the Gas Company decommissions part of its gas system affixed to a bridge, viaduct or structure, the Gas Company shall, at its sole expense, remove the part of its gas system affixed to the bridge, viaduct or structure.
- (b) If the Gas Company decommissions any other part of its gas system, it shall have the right, but is not required, to remove that part of its gas system. It may exercise its right to remove the decommissioned parts of its gas system by giving notice of its intention to do so by filing a Plan as required by Paragraph 5 of this Agreement for approval by the Engineer/Road Superintendent. If the Gas Company does not remove the part of the gas system it has decommissioned and the Corporation requires the removal of all or any part of the decommissioned gas system for the purpose of altering or improving a highway or in order to facilitate the construction of utility or other works in any highway, the Corporation may remove and dispose of so much of the decommissioned gas system

as the Corporation may require for such purposes and neither party shall have recourse against the other for any loss, cost, expense or damage occasioned thereby. If the Gas Company has not removed the part of the gas system it has decommissioned and the Corporation requires the removal of all or any part of the decommissioned gas system for the purpose of altering or improving a highway or in order to facilitate the construction of utility or other works in a highway, the Gas Company may elect to relocate the decommissioned gas system and in that event Paragraph 12 applies to the cost of relocation.

16. Use of Decommissioned Gas System

- (a) The Gas Company shall provide promptly to the Corporation, to the extent such information is known:
 - (i) the names and addresses of all third parties who use decommissioned parts of the gas system for purposes other than the transmission or distribution of gas; and
 - (ii) the location of all proposed and existing decommissioned parts of the gas system used for purposes other than the transmission or distribution of gas.
- (b) The Gas Company may allow a third party to use a decommissioned part of the gas system for purposes other than the transmission or distribution of gas and may charge a fee for that third party use, provided
 - (i) the third party has entered into a municipal access agreement with the Corporation; and
 - (ii) the Gas Company does not charge a fee for the third party's right of access to the highways.
- (c) Decommissioned parts of the gas system used for purposes other than the transmission or distribution of gas are not subject to the provisions of this Agreement. For decommissioned parts of the gas system used for purposes other than the transmission and distribution of gas, issues such as relocation costs will be governed by the relevant municipal access agreement.

17. Franchise Handbook

The Parties acknowledge that operating decisions sometimes require a greater level of detail than that which is appropriately included in this Agreement. The Parties agree to look for guidance on such matters to the Franchise Handbook prepared by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the gas utility companies, as may be amended from time to time.

18. **Other Conditions**

None.

19. **Agreement Binding Parties**

This Agreement shall extend to, benefit and bind the parties thereto, their successors and assigns, respectively.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Agreement effective from the date written above.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THESSALON

Per:

Jordan Bird, Mayor

Per:

Debbie Rydall, Clerk-Treasurer

ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

Per:

Mark Kitchen, Director, Regulatory Affairs

Per:

David Marshall, Director, Station Operations & Customer Connections