

Monica Hawkins

From: Kristen Oliver <kristen.oliver@enbridge.com>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2023 1:29 PM
To: Monica Hawkins
Subject: Franchise Agreement Renewal – Municipality of East Ferris
Attachments: Model Franchise Agreement - Municipality of East Ferris (Lower-Tier EGI North).pdf; 2022 12 05 - Updated Guidelines to Municipalities.docx; Draft Resolution - Municipality of East Ferris.docx; Draft Bylaw - Municipality of East Ferris.docx; Bylaw and Franchise Agreement - East Ferris (December 23, 2003).pdf; EBC 132 - Certificate - East Ferris (September 14, 1984).pdf; Gas Franchise Handbook (May 2002).pdf; MA3642 CD - Township of East Ferris.pdf

Good Afternoon Monica,

I am Kristen Oliver, Municipal Advisor for the Northern Region at Enbridge. The Municipal Franchise Agreement that East Ferris has with Union Gas is set to expire in December. Often the renewal process can take several months to approve through the Ontario Energy Board so we are reaching out now in an effort to meet the expiration date.

Below are the details outlining the process for the franchise renewal. We would be more than happy to schedule a virtual meeting should you feel you need to discuss the process.

Once the motion has been approved by Council and the bylaw has been read, please send 4 originally signed copies to:

Patrick McMahon
Technical Manager, Regulatory Research and Records
ENBRIDGE GAS INC.
50 Keil Drive North,
Chatham, ON
N7M 5M1
Tel: 519-436-5325

On December 23, 2023, the current franchise agreement between the Municipality of East Ferris and the former Union Gas Limited will expire. Based on the most recent customer count report, we currently provide service to approximately 118 customers within the Municipality of East Ferris. Enbridge Gas and its predecessors have been providing access to gas distribution services within the Municipality of East Ferris since approximately 1984.

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 Municipality of East Ferris 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 Municipality of East Ferris:

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 2018 (passed on December 23, 2003) and the current Franchise Agreement effective December 23, 2003
- a copy of the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity that Enbridge Gas holds for the Municipality of East Ferris (EBC 132)

Note: On September 28, 2010, Council passed a By-law to formally change the name of the Township of East Ferris to the Municipality of East Ferris effective January 1, 2011.

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 Municipality of East Ferris

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 Municipality of East Ferris 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.

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

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this material or need additional background information related to the Municipality of East Ferris.

Thanks!
Kristen

Kristen Oliver, She/Her

Senior Advisor, Municipal & Stakeholder Engagement, Northern Ontario

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