



Staff Report

Report Title: Epcor- South Bruce Natural Gas Project – Locate Agreement and Pipeline Agreements

Prepared By: John Yungblut, Director of Public Works & Emily Dance, Clerk

Department: Public Works / Clerks

Date: Mar. 7, 2022

Report Number: PW-2022-03-23

File Number: E06-EPC20

Attachments: Draft Easement Agreement (3)(Maps included on last page of agreements)

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approved Report No. PW-2022-03-23 prepared by John Yungblut, Director of Public Works AND Emily Dance, Clerk AND authorizes entering into an agreement with Aecon Group to provide locate services for the South Bruce Natural Gas Project AND FURTHER approves the appropriate By-Law come forward.

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approves entering into a pipeline agreement with Epcor Natural Gas Limited for a right of way and easement across the following properties

1. PIN 33334-0522: (off Wheler Street, Lucknow)
2. PIN 33325-0286: (off Jessie Street, Ripley)
3. PIN 33334-0339: (off Ross Street and off Willoughby Street, Lucknow)

AND FURTHER approves the appropriate By-Laws coming forward SUBJECT to legal review.

Background:

The South Bruce Natural gas project is a partnership of the Municipality of Kincardine, the Township of Huron Kinloss and the Township of Arran Elderslie to deliver natural gas to our communities.

Construction is expected to begin in the Point Clark and Lurgan Beach communities in April, weather depending. Aecon is also looking into the possibility of

constructing mainlines in Ripley or Lucknow while mainline construction resumes on Con. 4 near Bruce Road 7.

Township staff discussed the possibility of Aecon taking over utility locating duties for Township infrastructure in 2021, but we were unable to reach an agreement that was satisfactory to all parties.

Discussion:

Locate Services Agreement

The task of locating water and wastewater infrastructure is the responsibility of our Operating Authority, Veolia Canada, which had significant challenges completing the substantial amounts of locates requested in a timely manner while fulfilling their other obligations in the operation and maintenance of our water and wastewater systems. By entering in a utility locating services agreement with Aecon, Veolia staff will be able to focus on providing exceptional service to our ratepayers, while undertaking other projects that are a priority this year.

There is some risk that the maps we provide in areas without construction drawings could be inaccurate, but staff have been working to update these areas over the past two years, so we believe the risk of damage to our assets is minimal. Aecon will also typically hydro excavate our infrastructure to confirm location and depth, so this further mitigates our risk.

Right-of-Way / Easement Agreements

As part of the South Bruce Natural Gas project, Epcor has requested the Township enter into a pipeline agreement for three properties

1. PIN 33334-0522 PT LT E, F PL 20 AS IN LW5238, LW5239 & LW5240; HURON-KINLOSS (off Wheler Street, Lucknow)
2. PIN 33325-0286 PT LT 142 PL 142 S/T R393988, R400428 & R347329; HURON-KINLOSS (off Jessie Street, Ripley)
3. PIN 33334-0339 PT LT J, 233-235 PL 31 AS IN R65510, R65511, R406728 & R163549 EXCEPT THE T/W THEREIN; T/W R406728 EXCEPT THE EASEMENT THEREIN RE PT 3, 3R2973; S/T R163549; HURON-KINLOSS (off Ross Street and off Willoughby Street, Lucknow)

This easement gives EPCOR permission to place natural gas infrastructure underneath Township property to provide natural gas service and outlines the right of access, the owners use of the right-of-way, environmental and other obligations as described in the agreement.

Staff have sent the agreements to our Municipal Solicitor for review and are awaiting comment.

Financial Impacts:

There will be no direct cost to the Township for Aecon to provide utility locating services for the natural gas project in 2022.

There is no compensation for the easement, legal fees will be the responsibility of the Township.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are a prosperous community that continues to grow in a sustainable manner - P5.1 Continue to work with neighbouring municipalities to obtain natural gas supply to the area.

Respectfully Submitted By:

John Yungblut, Director of Public Works, Emily Dance, Clerk

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer