

# FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

May 21, 2014

Ministry of Energy

Office of the Minister  
900 Bay Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Hearst Block  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 2E1

Dear Minister,

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) wishes to express its concern on behalf of municipalities in northeastern Ontario that have limited options when it comes to heating homes and businesses.

It is important that all residents have equal opportunity to access varied sources for heating. It has been noted that customers who have access to natural gas report significant savings over other heating alternatives. However, many northern municipalities are unable to access this utility service due to restraints in regards to distribution expansion regulatory requirements.

Greater flexibility for gas utilities needs to be implemented so that all residents have the same opportunity to access alternative heating options. FONOM would be pleased to work with your Ministry on this matter to ensure that natural gas expansion is available to all municipalities across northeastern Ontario.

Sincerely,



Alan Spacek  
President

cc: Ontario Energy Board (OEB)