

O'CHIESE FIRST NATION

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February 6, 2020

Louise George Secretary of the Commission Canadian Energy Regulator Suite 201, 517 10th Avenue SW Calgary AB, T2R 0A8

Dear Ms. George,

RE: O'Chiese First Nation Scheduling Conflicts and Submission of Form A: Edson Mainline Expansion Project

This letter is sent on behalf of O'Chiese First Nation Chief and Council. The Chief and Council of O'Chiese First Nation have the elected authority and responsibility to protect the Inherent and Treaty Rights of O'Chiese First Nation. The Inherent and Treaty Rights of O'Chiese First Nation are recognized by Treaty No. 6 and section 91(24) of the *British North America Act (1867)*.

O'Chiese First Nation is a registered intervenor in the Canadian Energy Regulator ("CER") hearing process for the NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. ("NGTL") Edson Mainline Expansion Project ("Edson" or the "Project").

O'Chiese First Nation submits this letter to the CER in response to filing C03396-1 Procedural Update No. 1 Appendix III – Timetable of Events, and filing C04050-2 Appendix III- Witness Panel Form A.

In determining the appropriate witness panel to identify in Form A, O'Chiese First Nation notes a scheduling conflict for two dates listed within the Timetable of Events:

- 1) Oral Cross Examination: set for the weeks of 25 May 2020 and 1 June 2020, and
- 2) Final Argument: set to follow immediately after the close of the hearing.

As O'Chiese First Nation has stated in previous filings¹ the hearing schedule as outlined in the Timetable of Events is problematic. O'Chiese First Nation notes that the month of June is an important ceremonial month for the Nation. As such, the witness panel identified in Form A (see attached) will not be available in the month of June. O'Chiese First Nation therefore requests that cross examination of the Panel take place the week of May 25, 2020 or in July 2020. In addition, O'Chiese First Nation further requests the Final Argument be moved to July 2020.

It is critical that the CER allow for a process that provides for real, and meaningful opportunities for participation. As such, O'Chiese First Nation requests the CER reconsider the timeline

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¹ See filings C01875 and C01275-1

presented within the Timetable of Events and adjust the timeline for cross examination and final argument to ensure that O'Chiese First Nation can meaningfully participate.

Sincerely,

Andrew Scott

Consultation Director

O'Chiese Consultation Office

Appendix III – Part A Hearing Order GH-001-2019 Form – Witness Panels and Responsibilities

Submit by Thursday, 13 February 2020

Name of Party:

Subject

Area(s)/Evidence that

will be addressed by

the witness panel

O'Chiese First Nation Name of Panel or single witness: O'Chiese First Nation Panel		

1) The Report- "We are the Land"

2) The confidential Video submission

O'Chiese First Nation's submission of evidence on January 9, 2020:

Name of Panel or single witness:		
Witnesses' names and titles		
Subject Area(s)/Evidence that will be addressed by the witness panel		

Please add additional sheets if necessary.