

Enbridge Northern Gateway Project

Joint Review Panel

File OF-Fac-Oil-N304-2010-01 01
21 February 2013

Ms. Josette Wier
4259 McCabe Road
Smithers, BC V0J 2N7

Dear Ms. Wier:

Northern Gateway Pipelines Inc. (Northern Gateway)
Application for the Enbridge Northern Gateway Project
Hearing Order OH-4-2011
Letter filed by Ms. Josette Wier on 18 February 2013
Ruling No. 145

On 18 February 2013, Josette Wier filed a letter requesting, among other things, that the Joint Review Panel (Panel) reverse the alphabetical order for questioning for Northern Gateway's witness panel on "Aboriginal Engagement and Public Consultation". This witness panel is set to appear in Prince Rupert in and around March 2013.

In support of her request Ms. Wier noted that, in the past, she had to wait for extended periods before her questioning could begin. As the final party questioning, Ms. Wier advised that she felt pressured to finish by a certain deadline.

Ms. Wier noted that this request had already been made by another party and denied, but asked the Panel to "correct this prejudice."


As noted previously, the Panel has set the Order of Appearances in alphabetical order as an objective means to establish the order for questioning, without preference to any individual party. There may be advantages and disadvantages to the various positions within that listing.

The Panel continues to be of the view that the process of ordering alphabetically is a fairly standard, equitable and objective way to manage the parties' position in a hearing. The Panel is not persuaded that there is any prejudice in the current ordering and, accordingly, will not be altering its process for any of the remaining hearing sessions.

As an aside, the Panel notes that to date parties who want to change their order have worked with other parties to do so. This seems to be a reasonably fair and efficient manner to accommodate individual requests. The Panel would encourage parties, including Ms. Wier, to continue to work with each other to have any changes made to the order for questioning to accommodate individual preferences.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Andrew Hudson, Legal Counsel at 403-299-2708 or 1-800-899-1265.

Yours truly,


for Sheri Young
Secretary to the Joint Review Panel

