



Date: October 26, 2015

To: Mayor and Councillors – Township of Muskoka Lakes

Cc: David Pink, Director of Planning
Steve McDonald, Chief Administrative Officer

Re: **Lease between Swift River Energy Limited ("SREL") and
Township of Muskoka Lakes ("TML")**

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

SREL is writing to request that Council make a final decision to enter into the Lease with SREL on November 13.

TML and SREL staff and others have worked diligently and in good faith to save Margaret Burgess Park and its trees by leasing the TML lands instead.

This benefit of saving Margaret Burgess Park is at risk because of the time it is taking Council to ratify the Lease.

TML and SREL have had exhaustive negotiations and discussions on the Lease since February of this year and SREL must now finalize the power plant design and construction plans. It seems some Councillors will never agree.

SREL can no longer wait indefinitely for Council to make a decision on the Lease and park plan.

SREL has provided Council and staff with ample time to consider this matter and hereby requests that the Lease be executed and the Park Plan be adopted at the next Council meeting of November 13.

Not doing so will force SREL to proceed with its construction plans using Margaret Burgess Park for construction staging. This is not a matter of “if the power plant will be constructed” but “how it will be constructed”.

A small core group of project opponents, bolstered by a couple of TML Councillors seem prepared to sacrifice Margaret Burgess Park and the benefits the Lease brings to the community, in an effort to frustrate SREL and the process. Despite these tactics, SREL remains committed to saving the park because it is the right thing to do. Nothing will change these Councillors minds, their minds were made up a long time ago and they have their own agenda which does not include the best interest of the community. If they are successful, they will negate a lot of hard

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work on both sides and rob the community of not just Margaret Burgess Park but also a new additional public space with amazing views down the Moon River for all to enjoy, not just the privileged few.

TML must understand that SREL has been patient while deliberations over the Lease take its course but, now after months of discussions and three meetings of Council and or COW it is time to make a decision so that SREL can get on with its planning and construction on the leased land, or alternatively in Margaret Burgess park.

Some Facts:

- SREL has land tenure to construct the power plant using Crown Land including Margaret Burgess Park
- SREL has LRIA approval from MNRF for all temporary works necessary to construct the power plant including coffer dams and use of Margaret Burgess Park and other Crown lands for construction
- SREL is proceeding with construction of the power plant project
- There is no restriction on SREL's use of Margaret Burgess Park including restricting public access for the entire duration of construction (approximately 2 years) and tree removal
- SREL has heard from the community that the Township owned lands are preferred for construction staging instead of Margaret Burgess Park
- Lease has a finite Term
- SREL will indemnify and hold harmless TML
- Sufficient Insurance, including environmental protection insurance will be provided
- Park Plans have been developed with input from TML's planner and Heritage Consultant
- Creation of a park on the TML land is consistent with the Cultural and Heritage strengths of the site
- Construction cost of Park is fully funded by SREL and security (construction bond) is provided to guarantee completion
- Use of TML lands for construction will result in a nicer looking power plant building

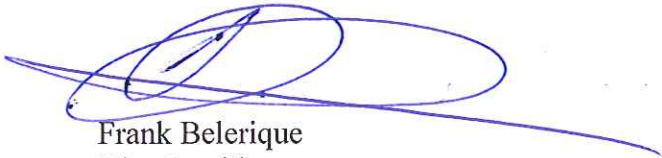
Benefits of the Lease to the Community:

- Protect the trees and maintain public access to Margaret Burgess Park
- Creation of a new accessible park at no cost to the community
- Heritage attributes of Portage Landing will be protected and enhanced
- Portage route will be improved

- Construction traffic travelling on the bridge between Margaret Burgess Park and the project land will be mitigated with a construction staging area adjacent (TML land) to the project site
- Rent paid for use of the TML lands

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and I am looking forward to working with the Township of Muskoka Lakes.

**SWIFT RIVER ENERGY LIMITED. as a general partner
and on behalf of SWIFT RIVER LP**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Frank Belerique', is written over a horizontal line.

Frank Belerique
Vice President

Attached:
Plan of proposed park
Plans and elevations of the Power Plant Building