



July 5, 2023

MORAINI INITIATIVES LIMITED  
4000, 421 – 7 Avenue SW  
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Attn: Ankur Mathur, Vice President  
Zoe Rezac, Stantec  
Roy Belden, Moraine Initiatives Limited  
Bridget Dougherty, Moraine Initiatives Limited

## Re: Moraine Power Generation Project near Whitecourt, AB

Thank you for this opportunity to review the proposed natural gas-fired power generation facility with integrated carbon dioxide capture. The Town fully supports this project. It is in an ideal location. Its proximity to natural gas, carbon capture facilities, skilled workforce and highways is excellent; while still being far enough removed from the Town of Whitecourt to minimize safety and nuisance concerns.

A power generation facility is a beneficial use for a brownfield site. As there is significant heavy industrial at this location already, we expect the impacts on the surrounding area to be minimal. As for the new transmission lines and pipelines, the utilization of existing easements and infrastructure wherever possible is encouraging to reduce impacts on the environment.

The location is easily accessible via both Highway 43 and Highway 32, as well as by rail. Workers residing in Whitecourt will have ready access, and materials transport can be contained within the highway and rail corridors designed for these type of haul routes rather than through developed areas of the Town. We anticipate that this project will bring numerous economic benefits to our community.

Whitecourt has a number of hotels and restaurants along the highway which would benefit and assist the construction of this facility. We are also pleased to see 32 highly skilled, long term jobs associated with the running of the plant. The Town is well positioned to support this development with the existing infrastructure and workforce in place. The construction of this facility will be a positive economic driver in the Whitecourt region.

This project is consistent with the Woodlands County and Town of Whitecourt Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP). The proposed land use of a power generation facility bolsters the IDP vision of a business corridor along Highway 43. The IDP also contains objectives and policies encouraging and supporting industrial areas, especially those that require large tracts of land as detailed in Section 3.3.4 of the IDP.

A reliable and resilient electrical grid requires power generation throughout the system and locating this plant here will aid in this pursuit. The CO<sub>2</sub> capture component of this project opens up an immense opportunity for our region and would not be feasible without the power generation facility proposed. Oil and gas are key industries in the Whitecourt area and we welcome this development and diversification.

Sincerely,

Tom Pickard  
Mayor  
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Office of the Mayor

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