

May 14, 2026

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)  
Municipal Services Office – Central Ontario  
16<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay Street  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3  
Localgov@ontario.ca

Attention: Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)

**Re: ERO No. 026-0301: Proposed amendments to the Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025 and consequential amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002**

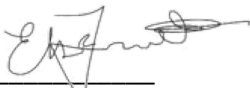
On behalf of Cortel Group, we are writing to address ERO Submission No. 026-0301 which *proposes* to introduce legislative amendments to Water and Wastewater Public Corporations Act, 2025. *We understand that a key change is to guarantee* that any new water and wastewater public corporation maintain 100% public sector ownership.

While we do not have any concerns with the proposed legislative changes per se, we wanted to share that based on our experience, a separation organization to address water and wastewater only delays delivery of new housing and jobs and increases cost to existing and future residents. These organizations primary objective should be to borrow money to finance the delivery of the water and wastewater enabling infrastructure. If they are unable to do this, what is their role – why create another municipal group to review civil development applications and outline servicing strategies? This is duplicative and adds unnecessary time and cost to any project.

We strongly encourage that the Province add specific criteria that water and wastewater public corporations must demonstrate strong financial performance and if they cannot perform their main function of financing water and wastewater infrastructure they must dissolve and return primary water and wastewater function to the municipality or upper-tier municipality, where applicable, with the opportunity of the private sector to frontend any required infrastructure to reduce costs.

We appreciate your consideration and we are available to provide any additional information or respond to any questions at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Elsa Fancello  
Cortel Group