
From: mary@robinsons.ca [mailto:mary@robinsons.ca]

Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 12:25 PM

To: Allison MacEwen <AMacEwen@irac.pe.ca>

Subject: borden-carleton

Hello Allison

I am writing to express my concern regarding the news that a 4th petroleum retailer may be granted a permit to operate in Borden-Carleton. I had hoped, as a province with ambitious climate mitigation goals, we would instead be transitioning to not increasing our number of petroleum retailers. With 3 established stations in this small community, it is hard to imagine the demand for petroleum outstrips the existing retail capacity. My sense is that in the not-too-distant future, government will be required to financial assist petroleum retailers to shift from petrol-based products to more renewable energy sources.

My concern with an additional retailer stems from a few areas:

- Currently the Borden Carleton area is very well served by the existing three retailers. They offer groceries, hardware, fuel, food-to-go and more. These retailers have long standing roots in the community, employ people year-round and are vital to the community and surrounding community's survival.
- The provided services are very important to many local businesses, their employees and many local families. There are numerous times through the run of a week that we send someone from our business in Albany to Borden-Carleton (a 5 to 7 km drive versus at least 20 km to Summerside) for items like a hammer, lightbulb, greeting card, dairy product, gift card, or many other various supplies.
- The existing retailers also provide much better access to local products (potatoes, meat, strawberries, etc.). Many small family businesses that currently supply these retailers will feel the pinch of their closure if the 4th retailer is granted access to this already saturated market.

In my opinion, to lose Ceretti's, Howatt's or the Esso would be a major blow to this small, rural PEI community. And I'm unclear as to what the community would gain by having a 4th, larger, faceless retailer

I hope you are inundated with communication from concerned locals – and by this, I mean I hear a high level of concern in the community and my hope is that many locals will find the time to put pen to paper and send you a formal expression of concern. I take some offense that TIAPEI and the Confederation Bridge would support granting access to the potential 4th retailer. I feel this support is very short sighted with little or no concern or awareness as the value of these multi-generational, well established, very local family businesses.

My family has been established in the since 1810 farming, packing potatoes, operating a produce dealership, crop inputs business and more. We hope to be here for another 7 generations. I strongly encourage IRAC to consider not granting access to the 4th retailer who most likely has the financial capacity to undercut the existing businesses until they have no choice but to close their doors.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mary Robinson
Eric Robinson Inc.
Albany, PE

