

Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission  
National Bank Tower  
501-134 Kent Street  
Charlottetown, PE C1A 7L1  
**Attention: Allison MacEwen, Director**

Dear Mr. MacEwen

I write this letter to formally oppose of the application by D.P Murphy Inc to build a new Irving Petroleum Station in Borden-Carleton.

The Town of Borden-Carleton has a population of 788. Stated in the application from D.P Murphy Inc there is a Annual Average Daily Traffic of 4724 because of the Confederation Bridge, which serves as the main point of entry/exit for the Island. We currently have three petroleum stations in the Town, all within a small radius of one another, adding a fourth would have detrimental effects on Ceretti's Grocery and Hardware as well as Howatt's Tourist Mart, especially considering the Town only has a small population of people to begin with. The three current petroleum stations are more than capable of dealing with this current traffic flow.

D.P Murphy states that if it were to operate an Irving Station that it would be able to reintroduce Irving Loyalty programs to the area market. However, Irving uses Airmiles as a rewards program, something that Shell also uses. Given that Howatts Tourist Mart will continue to operate its petroleum station the area market will not lose the Airmiles loyalty program. D.P Murphy Inc also states that Tourism is a major factor for the Commission to consider. However, tourism is only increasing our traffic flow during the tourism season of June-September. Outside of this period it is mainly only the locals who are around the town, and there wouldn't be enough consumers or demand to support four petroleum stations in the same area.

I would worry about the everlasting effects that this could place on Howatt's Tourist Mart, as well as Ceretti's Grocery. If this new gas station were to be approved that would mean that three stations are operating in an immediate vicinity of one another off the Confederation Bridge. However, Howatt's Shell is further down the road. People may stop at one of the stations right off the bridge not knowing that the Shell is just right down the road and could leave to a decrease in traffic going to the Shell on a daily basis which would have detrimental effects to the essential service they are providing to our community.

The community relies on both Ceretti's Grocery and Howatt's for essential services such as petroleum, hardware products, groceries, meat, and more. Many in the community will go to Ceretti's to get weekly groceries especially seniors living in our community who may not be able to drive all the way to Summerside to the big grocery stores. Howatt's also has a larger selection of grocery items and operates a tourist giftshop in the back of their store as well for tourists who stop by. These two stores have saved locals from having to go to Summerside on many occasions, without the services they provide we will be forced to travel to either Summerside of Charlottetown.

The residents in the Town of Borden-Carleton, and surrounding communities such as Albany, North-Carleton, Searletown, Bedeque, Central Bedeque, Tryon, North Tryon, Crapaud, and Victoria have made it clear they do not support this proposal. We have had these two-family owned small businesses in our Town for decades now, these are stores that our grandparents have supported during their days. They each provide so much to our community donating to many different community events, fundraisers, and sports teams through the year. Neither Ceretti's nor Howatt's does this to get recognition, but rather because they want to support and give back to the community that have in turn supported them for years.

I highly encourage IRAC to hold a public hearing regarding this matter. I think it can be clearly demonstrated by the volume of people opposing and that are against this matter, shows that it is of grave public interest. By having a public hearing, it will allow those in our community as well as our local petroleum station owners to voice their displeasure regarding this proposed project. I reiterate the services they both provide to us, and we cannot afford to lose either of them within our community without having devastating effects.

Regards,

Matthew Murphy