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Calgary Assessment Review Board DECISION WITH REASONS

In the matter of the complaint against the property assessment as provided by the *Municipal Government Act*, Chapter M-26, Section 460, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 (the Act).

between:

Enerflex Ltd., (as represented by Altus Group),

COMPLAINANT

and

The City Of Calgary, RESPONDENT

before:

T. B. Hudson, PRESIDING OFFICER Y. Nesry, BOARD MEMBER J. Lam, BOARD MEMBER

This is a complaint to the Calgary Assessment Review Board in respect of a property assessment prepared by the Assessor of The City of Calgary and entered in the 2013 Assessment Roll as follows:

ROLL NUMBER: 031014293

LOCATION ADDRESS: 3615 34 ST NE

FILE NUMBER: 72444

ASSESSMENT: \$9,540,000

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This complaint was heard on the 30th day of July, 2013 at the office of the Assessment Review Board located at Floor Number 4, 1212 – 31 Avenue NE, Calgary, Alberta, Boardroom 4.

Appeared on behalf of the Complainant:

M. Robinson

Appeared on behalf of the Respondent:

• M. Hartmann

Board's Decision in Respect of Procedural or Jurisdictional Matters:

The Complainant advised that a preliminary issue of municipal non compliance with the Act Section 299 and/or 300 has been resolved. There were no other procedural or jurisdictional matters raised by the parties.

Property Description:

[1] The subject is an IWS type industrial property zoned I-G, and located at 3615 34 ST NE in Calgary. The site area is 5.48 acres, and the improvement is a building constructed in 1994. The building has a net rentable area of 73,163 square feet(sf.), with 28% office finish. There is also a small(i.e.1,500sf.), outbuilding on the site. Site coverage is 26.44%. The assessment was calculated based on the direct sales comparison approach to a total value of \$9,540,000(rounded), or \$127.87 per square foot (psf.).

Issue:

Is the current assessment in excess of market value?

Complainant's Requested Value: \$4,700,000(rounded), or \$64psf.

Board Decision on the Assessment: The assessment is confirmed at \$9,540,000(rounded).

Legislative Authority, Requirements and Considerations:

[2] The Composite Assessment Review Board(CARB), derives its authority from Part 11 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) RSA 2000:

Section 460.1(2): Subject to section 460(11), a composite assessment review board has jurisdiction to hear complaints about any matter referred to in section 460(5) that is shown on an assessment notice for property other than property described in subsection (1)(a).

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[3] For purposes of the hearing, the CARB will consider MGA Section 293(1):

In preparing the assessment, the assessor must, in a fair and equitable manner, apply the valuation and other standards set out in the regulations, and follow the procedures set out in the regulations.

[4] The Matters Relating to Assessment and Taxation Regulation(MRAT) is the regulation referred to in MGA section 293(1)(b). The CARB consideration will be guided by MRAT Part 1 Standards of Assessment, Mass appraisal section 2:

An assessment of property based on market value:

must be prepared using mass appraisal,

must be an estimate of the value of the fee simple estate in the property, and

must reflect typical market conditions for properties similar to that property.

Position of the Parties on the Market Value Issue:

Complainant's Position

[5] In support of their request for a reduced assessment based on \$64psf., the Complainant submitted the sale of three industrial properties, (Exhibit C1 page 14). Net rentable area ranged from 51,200 to 88,608sf., office finish from 14 to 20%, parcel sizes from 2.6 to 8.7 acres, and site coverage from 22 to 45%. Year of construction ranged from 1973 to 1983 and sale prices at the time of sale from \$64 to \$81psf.

[6] The Complainant submitted a rebuttal document(Exhibit C2), providing industry reports on the four comparable sales provided by the Respondent.

[7] The report on the sale of 700 33 ST NE(Exhibit C2 page 4-7), confirms the information of the Respondent that the property is IWM and has I-C zoning. It also reports a \$101psf. price versus the Respondent evidence of \$107.89psf.

[8] The report on the sale of 3905 29 ST NE (Exhibit C2 page 8), indicates the sale is part of a larger acquisition.

[9] The report on the sale at 5049 74 AV NE (Exhibit C2 page 12), indicates that the property is atypical with cranes and drive thru doors etc.

[10] The report on the sale at 4410 46 AV NE Exhibit C2 page 9-10), indicates that the sale involved a lease-back agreement between the purchaser and vendor.

Respondent's Position

[11] The Respondent submitted a sale comparables chart (Exhibit R1 page 29), listing three industrial properties zoned I-G, and one zoned I-C. Net rentable areas ranged from 59,573 to 96,804sf., parcel sizes from 2.63 to 5.00 acres and site coverage from 30.43 to 49.24%. Year of construction ranged from 1976 to 1999, and time adjusted sale prices from \$97.30 to \$112.55.

[12] The Respondent submitted evidence that the Complainant's sales at 1616 Meridian RD NE, and 1939 Centre AV SE are manufacturing facilities, and that both are assessed based on the value of vacant land and the cost of the improvements(Exhibit R1 Pages 16-27). Neither are comparable to the subject property

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[13] In addition, the Respondent pointed out that the remaining property sale submitted as a comparable by the Complainant at 3650 12 ST NE, is smaller in net rentable area (i.e.51,200sf.), older (i.e.1974), located on a smaller site (i.e. 2.6 acres), and has greater site coverage (i.e. 45%) than the subject.

Board Reasons for Decision:

[16] The sales evidence of the Complainant did not prove that the assessment of the subject property exceeds market value. None of the three property sales submitted were similar to the subject property.

DATED AT THE CITY OF CALGARY THIS 23 DAY OF AUGUS 2013.

T. B. Hudson

Presiding Officer

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APPENDIX "A"

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED AT THE HEARING AND CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:

<u>NO.</u>	ITEM	
x		
1. C1	Complainant Disclosure	
2. C2	Complainant Rebuttal	
3. R1	Respondent Disclosure	

An appeal may be made to the Court of Queen's Bench on a question of law or jurisdiction with respect to a decision of an assessment review board.

Any of the following may appeal the decision of an assessment review board:

- (a) the complainant;
- (b) an assessed person, other than the complainant, who is affected by the decision;
- (c) the municipality, if the decision being appealed relates to property that is within the boundaries of that municipality;
- (d) the assessor for a municipality referred to in clause (c).

An application for leave to appeal must be filed with the Court of Queen's Bench within 30 days after the persons notified of the hearing receive the decision, and notice of the application for leave to appeal must be given to

- (a) the assessment review board, and
- (b) any other persons as the judge directs.

For MGB Administrative Use Only

Decision No. 72444P-2013		Roll No.031014293		
<u>Subject</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Sub-Type</u>	<u>Issue</u>	Sub-Issue
CARB	Warehouse I-G	IWS	Market Value	Sale Comparables