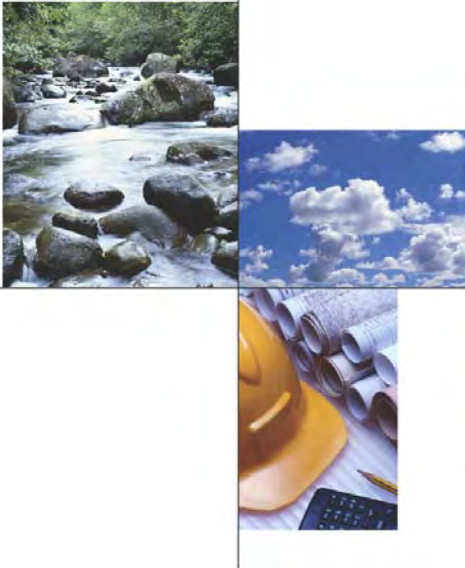




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Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Review Process for an Alaska Gas Pipeline Project



Alaska Highway Aboriginal Pipeline Coalition Introductory Workshop

**11 -12 April 2007
Whitehorse**



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Overview

- Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Process for Interprovincial Pipeline Projects
- Regulatory Process for a Potential Alaska Gas Pipeline
- Conclusion





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Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Process for Interprovincial Pipeline Projects

Main Steps:

- Submission of project description by proponent
- Determination of the type of EA
- Establishment of coordinated review process
- Public hearings
- Panel report
- Regulatory decisions and permits
- Monitoring of construction and operation



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Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Process for Interprovincial Pipeline Projects

- Submission of project description by project proponent
 - Allows government agencies to identify responsibilities
- Determination of the type of EA
 - Sometimes a public review by a Joint Review Panel for large projects
- Establishment of coordinated review process
 - multiple jurisdictions for linear projects
- Public Hearings
 - Proponent files environmental impact statement & NEB application
 - Hearings held in project area





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Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Process for Interprovincial Pipeline Projects

- Panel report
 - Advisory Environmental Report
 - Cabinet decision on environmental conditions
- Regulatory decisions and permits
 - Go – No Go decision by National Energy Board (NEB)
 - Requires Cabinet Approval
 - Issuance of project permits by various government agencies
 - Decision by proponent to Construct



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Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Process for Interprovincial Pipeline Projects

- Monitoring of construction and operation
 - NEB and various government agencies
 - NEB decision - Leave to Open
 - Ongoing Monitoring of Operation
 - Decommissioning



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Regulatory Process for a Potential Alaska Gas Pipeline

- Lack of project definition in Canada
- Who?
 - Foothills
 - Producers
 - Enbridge
 - Some combination
- Where?
 - Uncertain routing – Alberta & take-away
 - Routing through First Nation territories
- Regulatory process will be defined by answers to these questions





Regulatory Process for a Potential Alaska Gas Pipeline

- Project will be assessed and regulated under some mix of Canadian federal statutes:
 - National Energy Board Act
 - Northern Pipeline Act
 - Canadian Environmental Assessment Act
 - Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act
- Will be subject to other federal, territorial and First Nation regulatory requirements





Regulatory Process for a Potential Alaska Gas Pipeline

- Most likely a public review of the environmental and socio-economic effects of AGP by an independent panel to advise government decision-makers

- Principle of “one project, one assessment”
 - Joint environmental assessment and regulatory
 - 18 – 20 month process from application to certificate





Conclusion

- Canadian regulatory process determination needs project definition
- All parties - Industry, Federal, Provincial, Territorial and First Nation governments, need to work together to organize coordinated review should project become viable

