



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada
Alberta Region
630 Canada Place
9700 Jasper Avenue
EDMONTON AB T5J 4G2

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

MAIL ROOM
SALLE DE COURIER

2011 APR -7 P 2:15

NEB/ONE

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence
5000-7RF

April 7, 2011

Secretary of the Board
National Energy Board
444 Seventh Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0X8

RE: NOVA Gas Transmisslon Ltd. – Bear River Lateral Loop No. 2

INAC INVOLVEMENT IN THE EA

With regard to environmental review of this project, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) Alberta Region has decided that there is not a need for INAC to participate at this time. This decision is based on the preliminary information/map provided, where it appears that the project will not cross any reserve lands or have direct impact on reserve lands, and that INAC will not be performing any regulatory or permitting function.

CONSULTATION RELATED INFORMATION

Please be advised that Aboriginal groups in the area may have interests in the project and its proposed environmental and socio-economic impacts. The specifics of the project may require an assessment of those interests. We encourage proponents and federal departments and agencies issuing authorizations, permits, etc. to make reasonable efforts to ensure First Nations and Métis groups that may have an interest in the project are given the opportunity to become involved in the project review process.

Please note that INAC does not act as a representative for any Aboriginal group for the purpose of any claim or consultation. It is up to proponents and those that may have a legal duty to consult to decide which groups to engage, and how to engage them. To assist you in identifying these interests and groups, we have attached a list of information sources and contacts.

Based on preliminary review by regional lands and claims staff, and the Litigation Management and Resolution Branch of INAC, INAC:

- Is not aware of any land claims affecting the project area;

Canada

CIDM #958505

2

And

- Is aware that the project area may be the subject of litigation filed by Individuals acting on their own behalf and on behalf of the Kelly Lake Cree Nation.

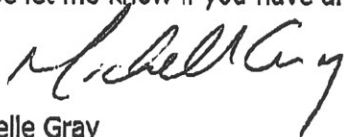
Additionally, the Office of the Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians (OFI) is aware that the Métis Nation of Alberta and its president, Audrey Poltras, have asserted a Métis right to harvest across the province. Should the proponent decide to pursue its investigation further, this would be the organization to contact in order to obtain further assistance when deciding if there is a rights-asserting Métis community in the project area. The link to this organization's web-site is: <http://www.albertametis.com>.

LIMITATIONS OF THE INAC REGIONAL REVIEW

If the project has Interprovincial or International scope, the proponent is advised to consider potential interprovincial or national interests and to submit project information to other INAC regional offices, as appropriate (see INAC website link for regional offices at: www.alnc-inac.gc.ca/al/scr/rmcdt-eng.asp).

To the best of our knowledge, the information we have provided you is current and up to date. However, this information may not be exhaustive with regard to your needs and you may wish to consider seeking information from other government and private sources (including Aboriginal groups).

Please let me know if you have any questions/comments.



Michelle Gray
INAC
Environmental Policy Officer
Edmonton
Ph 780-495-4895 fax 780-495-2201
E-mail: Michelle.Gray@inac-alnc.gc.ca

cc. Kevin Armbruster
John Wilson
Brenda Becker
Jeffrey Betker

Appendix

List of Sources of Information about Consultation and Aboriginal Groups in Alberta Region

To assist you, the INAC brochure entitled "First Nations of Alberta" provides locations and contacts of bands in the province. This information can be found at the following link:

<http://www.aic-inac.gc.ca/ai/scr/ab/fn/pubs/fna/fna-eng.asp>

1. Find the Reserves in your area of interest by consulting a map of the region such as the Province of Alberta Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs online map at:

http://www.aboriginal.alberta.ca/documents/Indian_reserves_large1.pdf; then

2. Search for the First Nations located on those Reserves by using the INAC Search by Reserve site at:

<http://pse5-esd5.aic-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/SearchRV.aspx?lang=eng>.

In addition we would ask that you also consider seeking input from the Métis Nation of Alberta for information on Métis communities in that specific area, further information can be found at: <http://www.albertametis.com/MNAHome/Home.aspx>

The document titled "Aboriginal Consultation and Accommodation - Interim Guidelines for Federal Officials to Fulfill the Legal Duty to Consult (February 2008)" found at:

<http://www.aic-inac.gc.ca/ai/arp/cnl/intgui-eng.asp>

You may also wish to visit <http://www.aic-inac.gc.ca/ai/arp/cnl/intgui-eng.asp> on the INAC website for information regarding the Federal Action Plan on Aboriginal Consultation and Accommodation.

Further, you may wish to consult/contact the following Government of Alberta ministries for more information:

1. Aboriginal Relations

Listing of GOA Consultation Contacts: <http://www.aboriginal.alberta.ca/575.cfm>

Consultation Guidelines: <http://www.aboriginal.alberta.ca/571.cfm>

GOA Consultation Policy History: <http://www.aboriginal.alberta.ca/574.cfm>

First Nation Consultation Contacts: <http://www.aboriginal.alberta.ca/576.cfm>

2. Sustainable Resource Development

<http://www.srd.alberta.ca/Default.aspx>

National Energy
BoardOffice national
de l'énergie

18 March 2011

NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd.
Bear River Lateral Loop No. 2 Pipeline Project
Application dated 28 February 2011

File OF-Fac-Gas-N081-2011-04 01

Pursuant to the *Regulations Respecting the Coordination by Federal Authorities of Environmental Assessment Procedures and Requirements* (Regulations), please indicate to the National Energy Board (the Board) by 11 April 2011 whether your Department/Agency (please check off the appropriate box):

- a) is likely to require an environmental assessment of the project(s) under Section 5 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEA Act);

NO ☒YES ☐

If YES, please indicate the CEA Act trigger(s):

Trigger:

(Specify legislation and Section No.)

- b) is in possession of specialist or expert information or knowledge that is necessary to conduct the environmental assessment of the project(s).

NO ☒YES ☐

- c) requires additional information to make a determination referred to in a) or b) above.

NO ☒YES ☐

If YES to (c), please forward the request within 10 business days after receiving this notification as per subsection 6(2) of the Regulations.

RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
Please provide the information requested in the enclosed form by the deadline indicated on the form.

Name: Michelle Gray
Title/Department: Environmental Policy Officer, INAC
Address: 630 Canada Place, 9700 Jasper Ave. Edm. AB T5T 4G2
Telephone: 780 495-4895 Facsimile: 780 495-2201
E-mail: Michelle.Gray@inac-ainc.gc.ca

April 7, 2011

Date Authorized

Signature for Responding Department or Agency



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires Indiennes
et du Nord Canada

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Name - Nom

Sheila Auger

Position Title - Titre du poste

Environment Clerk

Room - Pièce

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INAC

Branch - Direction générale

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INAC Response - NGTL - Bear River Lateral Loop No. 2