



File OF-Fac-Gas-N081-2016-08 01
11 December 2018

Ms. Nicole Prince
Regulatory Analyst
Regulatory, Canadian Gas Pipelines
NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd.
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Dear Ms Prince:

**NOVA Gas Transmission Limited (NGTL)
Peace River Mainline Abandonment Project (Project)
Condition 14: Chinchaga Caribou Range Vegetation Restoration Plan (Plan)**

The National Energy Board (NEB or Board) has received and considered the Plan filed by NGTL on 17 May 2018 pursuant to Condition 14 of Order ZO-N081-003-2018.

On 3 August 2018, the Board indicated that additional time was required to assess the Plan and directed NGTL to provide an updated Physical Abandonment Activity schedule within 60 days with detailed information about the commencement of final restoration activities. NGTL provided that information in a submission dated 28 September 2018.

The Board has assessed NGTL's 17 May 2018 submission and finds that the Plan does not meet the requirements of Condition 14. The Board notes that the Plan, as filed, does not include a summary of the consultation that occurred with the Provincial land manager during the creation of the Plan as indicated in the first paragraph of the condition. In addition, the Plan does not include a detailed methodology, or the associated criteria and rationale for how the restoration locations will be chosen as required in part a) of Condition 14. Lastly, the Plan excludes the criteria that will be used during monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of site restoration measures as per part 14 (d) of the condition. The Board requires this information in order to assess the proposed Plan. The Board is of the view that the Plan is non-compliant with Condition 14 and therefore directs NGTL to file a revised Chinchaga Caribou Range Vegetation Restoration Plan (Plan) that includes:

- i) a summary of the consultation that occurred with the Provincial land manager during the creation of the Plan;

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- ii) a detailed methodology, including the associated criteria and rationale for how the restoration locations chosen as required in part 14 (a) of the condition; and
- iii) the criteria that will be used during monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of site restoration measures as per part 14 (d) of the condition.

The revised Plan must clearly indicate the changes that have been made, by providing a black-lined version as well.

In addition, the Board notes that Condition 14 is applicable to the Chinchaga caribou range along the Peace River Mainline right of way (Mainline RoW) and does not include the access roads leading to the Mainline RoW. The Board notes that, in NGTL's submission dated 28 September 2018, the final restoration at the access controls will commence on 15 November 2018. The Board directs NGTL to include, in its Condition 14 re-filing, an explanation of how NGTL will access and monitor the Chinchaga caribou range sections of the Mainline RoW without the use of these access roads.

Please e-file written responses and any associated correspondence through the NEB's Regulatory Documents link on the NEB website on or before **17 January 2019**. If NGTL cannot provide the information by the requested date, please contact the Board in writing with a revised date and explanation for extension as soon as possible.

If you have questions or comments about this process, please contact Wayne Marshall via email at wayne.marshall@neb-one.gc.ca or by phone at 403-299-3901, toll free number at 1-800-899-1265.

Yours truly,

Original signed by L. George

for
Sheri Young
Secretary of the Board