

File: 30050-25/CGLP-18

Reference: 299052

April 29, 2016

## **SENT VIA EMAIL**

Karen Etherington Director, Environment and Regulatory TransCanada PipeLines Limited 450 – 1st Street SW Calgary AB T2P 5H1 karen etherington@transcanada.com

## Dear Ms. Etherington:

This letter is with regards to the Environmental Assessment Office's (EAO) review of the Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project's (Project) management plans. Pursuant to the conditions of Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) #E14-03 for the Project, on September 1, 2015 and October 22, 2015, Coastal GasLink (CGL) submitted tracking tables containing issues brought forward by agencies, Aboriginal groups and EAO on the draft management plans, programs, and reports. Based on comments from EAO and the members of EAO's working group, CGL made revisions to the management plans and submitted the following revised plans, programs and reports to EAO on October 20, 2016:

- Access Control Management Plan
- Acid Rock Construction Response Plan
- Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
- Forest Pest Management Plan
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Management Plan
- Grizzly Bear Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
- Human-Wildlife Conflict Management Plan
- Invasive Plant Management Plan
- Guide to the Preparation of a Nest Removal Management and Compensation Plan

...2

- Post-construction Monitoring Program
- Reclamation Program
- Red- and Blue-Listed Plants and Ecological Communities Survey and Mitigation Plan
- Timber Salvage Strategy
- Visual Quality Verification Results Report
- Visual Quality Management Plan
- Water Quality Monitoring Plan
- Wetlands Management Plan
- Whitebark Pine Field Data Summary Report
- Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan

CGL also submitted an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and its associated contingency and management plans on October 20, 2015. The EMP contained the following Contingency Plans and Management Plans:

- Spill Contingency Plan
- Adverse Weather Contingency Plan
- Flood and Excessive Flow Contingency Plan
- Wet Soils Contingency Plan
- Fire Suppression Contingency Plan
- Soil Handling Contingency Plan
- Soil Erosion Contingency Plan
- Directional Drilling Procedures and Instream Drilling Mud Release Contingency Plan
- Ecological Community and Species Of Concern Discovery Contingency Plan
- Wildlife Species Of Concern Discovery Contingency Plan
- Heritage Resource Discovery Contingency Plan
- Traditional Land Use Sites Discovery Contingency Plan
- Chemical and Waste Management Plan
- Traffic Control Management Plan
- Access Control Management Plan
- Hydrovac Cutting Handling Plan
- Contaminated Soils Management Plan

During its review, EAO sought feedback from all working group members and CGL provided responses to all comments received. All issues were resolved to the satisfaction of EAO.

The Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, Grizzly Bear Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, and EMP require approval from EAO before construction may commence on the Project.

For the purposes of EAC #E14-03, the Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan required by condition 10, the Grizzly Bear Mitigation and Monitoring Plan required by condition 7, and the EMP required by condition 26 are approved by EAO subject to the following:

Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan – CGL must continue to engage and consult with Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNR), Environment Canada (EC) and the Oil and Gas Commission (OGC) during post Construction monitoring to assess the effectiveness of mitigation for the areas identified by FLNR as the Hart and Telkwa caribou ranges to inform EAO in its determination of whether the objectives of the EAC condition 10 have been achieved. If an offset plan is required, CGL must engage and consult with FLNR, EC and OGC in the development and implementation of the offset plan. CGL is required to implement the Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan and apply adaptive management to achieve compliance with all components of the Caribou Mitigation and Monitoring Plan.

Regarding the Access Control Management Plan, the plan generally fulfils the requirements of condition 15. EAO requires that CGL submit an updated Access Control Management Plan prior to commencing construction, that includes:

- information (written and mapped), including a rationale to demonstrate that new access proposals are limited to the extent practicable, and that defines what types of access will be required, including new permanent access roads, temporary access roads and existing access road upgrades for construction;
- ii. information about the types of access control management measures that will be implemented during construction; and
- iii. information about the types of access control management measures proposed for access identified in (i) during operations.

The updated Access Control Management Plan must be developed in consultation with OGC, FLNR and MOTI. In order to allow for a 60 day review and comment period the plan must be submitted to EAO at least 90 days prior to the Holder's planned date to commence construction.

In addition to the update required above, EAO recognizes that all management plans may be updated from time to time to address changing conditions or newly identified

issues. Please ensure that EAO, relevant regulatory authorities, and Aboriginal groups are engaged when any substantive updates are being undertaken, and that all parties are provided with the updated plans resulting from substantive changes. Revisions to the plans must be to the satisfaction of EAO.

Please note that the EAC conditions require that CGL distribute the plans that are the subject of this letter to working group members, unless they indicate otherwise.

Yours truly,

Michael Shepard

Project Assessment Manager