Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Pacific Northern Gas Looping Project

Open Houses and Invitation to Comment

Pacific Northern Gas, PNG, (Proponent) is proposing the Pacific Northern Gas Looping Project. The proposed project consists of the construction and operation of approximately 525km of new 610mm (24") diameter natural gas pipeline from Summit Lake to Kitimat to loop the Proponent's existing natural gas pipeline. The proposed Project would serve new small scale Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) export facilities at Kitimat, as well as the Proponent's existing customers.

In addition to the pipeline, the proposed project also requires the upgrading of three existing PNG compressor stations, as well as the construction of one new compressor station. Ancillary facilities such as the upgrading of metering facilities and odorant injection facilities are also required at different points along the pipeline route.

The proposed Project is subject to review under British Columbia's *Environmental Assessment Act SBC 2002, C43.*

The Proponent must obtain an Environmental Assessment Certificate before any work can be undertaken on the proposed Project. However, prior to submission of an application (Application) for the EA certificate by the Proponent, Environmental Assessment Office of British Columbia (EAO) must first approve the Application Information Requirements.

The Application Information Requirements document specifies the studies to be conducted and the detailed information to be provided by PNG in its Application. EAO has now received the draft Application Information Requirements from PNG and invites comments on this draft during a 38-day **Public Comment Period, between November 25, 2013 and January 2, 2014**. In order to be considered, your comments must be submitted during the specified time frame.

The EAO invites the public to attend 4 EAO hosted Open Houses related to this comment period. Open Houses to be held as follows:

Monday, December 2, 2013 Terrace Best Western Inn Tuesday, December 3, 2013 Smithers Hudson Bay Lodge Wednesday, December 4, 2013 Burns Lake Chamber of Commerce Thursday, December 5, 2013 Summit Lake Community Hall

The Proponent also invites the public to attend 3 Proponent hosted Open Houses as follows. Please note that EAO will not be in attendance at these Open Houses:

Tuesday, November 26, 2013 Kitimat Tamitik Arena

 Wednesday, November 27, 2013

 Telkwa
 Round Lake Community Hall

 Thursday, November 28, 2013

 Vanderhoof
 Friendship Centre Hall

All Open Houses will run from 5:00pm to 8:00pm

At this stage of the process, the primary intent of seeking public comments is to receive feedback about the information required and the scope of the studies to be undertaken in the Application. This information included in the Application Information Requirements will direct the Proponent's efforts for a comprehensive assessment of the potential effects that may result from constructing and operating the proposed Project on the environmental, economic, social, heritage and health valued components identified within the proposed Project footprint.

All comments received from the public will be forwarded to the Proponent for consideration and response. When satisfied with the Proponent's responses (that may require changes to the draft Application Information Requirements) the EAO will finalize the draft Application Information Requirements and issue it to PNG.

EAO accepts written public comments online, by mail or by fax as follows:

By Online Form at

http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca <u>By Mail:</u> Brian Westgate Environmental Assessment Office PO Box 9426 Stn Prov. Govt Victoria BC V8W 9V1 <u>By Fax:</u> 250-387-0230

An electronic copy of the draft Application Information Requirements and information regarding the environmental assessment process are available at **www.eao.gov.bc.ca**. Copies of the draft Application Information Requirements are also available for viewing at libraries in:

•Terrace •Kitimat •Smithers •Houston •Vanderhoof •Prince George •Fort St. James •Granisle

•Burns Lake •Fraser Lake •Telkwa •Hazelton

A subsequent formal public comment period will be held during the Application review stage. The public will have the opportunity to assess how the information required in the Application Information Requirements was addressed by the Proponent in their Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate.

Note: All submissions received by EAO during the comment period in relation to the proposed Project are considered public and will be posted to the EAO website

