

December 9, 2022

Environmental Assessment Office
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Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
525 Superior Street
Victoria, BC V8V 1T7

Attention: Chief Executive Assessment Officer – via email: elenore.arend@gov.bc.ca

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy – via email: env.minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Ms. Arend and Minister Heyman:

Re: Application for an Extension of the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Ltd. Project's Certificate #E14-05

Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Ltd. ("WCGT") is submitting the following application to request an extension to Environmental Assessment Certificate #E14-05 ("Certificate") for the WCGT Project ("Project"). Specifically, WCGT is requesting that:

- 1) Under Section 46 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018) ("2018 EAA") the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy ("Minister") issue an order to vary the 2018 EAA to allow the Chief Executive Assessment Officer ("CEAO") to grant a further Certificate extension under Section 31(4) of the 2018 EAA of 5 years from November 25, 2024 to November 25 2029;
- 2) Under Section 31(2) of the 2018 EAA, the CEAO extend the Certificate from November 25, 2024 to November 25, 2029, with any additional conditions; and
- 3) The CEAO amend the Certificate to align it with the 2018 EAA and current EAO policies, guidelines and standard definitions ("Application").

The Application has been prepared in accordance with the BC Environmental Assessment Office's ("EAO") 2020 guidance document entitled *Certificate Extension Policy*. WCGT understands the prescribed fee for the Application is likely to be \$25,000 and will be prepared to pay the fee when the fee order is issued.

WCGT has been engaging with Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and interested parties and working with potential LNG terminal proponents to progress Project development; however, two situations have caused significant delays and unpredictability making it difficult, if not impossible, for WCGT to plan for

and complete substantial construction work before the Certificate expires on November 25, 2024: (1) the COVID-19 pandemic; and (2) the pause and delay in the issuance of certain permits by the BC government since July 2021.

The Certificate was originally issued for a period of five years under the 2002 EAA and an extension was granted in 2018 for an additional five years. Granting an additional extension of five years would make the Certificate valid for a period of 15 years. The 2018 EAA allows environmental assessment certificates to now be issued for a ten-year period (subsection 31(1)) with up to a five-year extension (subsection 31(4)), for a total of 15 years. This 15-year allowance in the 2018 EAA suggests the policy direction of the BC government supports a 15-year period for the Certificate. The request for a five-year extension is not only justified given the potential for total delay of at least four to five years due to the factors noted above but is also reasonable given the new timing for environmental certificates allowed under the 2018 EAA.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 713-206-9637 or Emily Black at 403-831-0285 regarding this Application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Allen Capps', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Allen Capps
President, WCGT Ltd.

cc: Emily Black, WCGT Ltd. - emily.black@enbridge.com

Application for an Extension to Environmental Assessment Certificate
#E14-05 for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project

Dated: December 9, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Ltd. (“WCGT”), a wholly owned subsidiary of Enbridge Inc. (“Enbridge”) is seeking a five-year extension to the British Columbia (“BC”) Environmental Assessment Certificate (“Certificate”) for the WCGT Project (“Project”). The Project is a proposed natural gas transmission system with the potential to build two 48-inch pipelines within the same right-of-way along with accompanying compressor stations that is designed and intended to service Liquefied Natural Gas (“LNG”) terminal sites. WCGT has been actively developing the Project to build one express, single-purpose natural gas pipeline from a compressor station near Willow Flats in northeast BC to potential delivery points from WCGT’s approved corridor between Cranberry Junction and Ridley Island to supply natural gas to potential LNG terminals.

The Project underwent environmental assessment (“EA”) review under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act, 2002* (“2002 EAA”) from November 2012 to November 2014. The review of the Project by the Environmental Assessment Office (“EAO”) included materials filed by WCGT and input received by a Working Group, comprised of provincial, federal and local government staff and representatives of potentially affected Indigenous Nations. The EAO assessed whether the Project was likely to have significant adverse environmental, economic, social, heritage and health effects, including cumulative effects, having regard for the mitigation measures proposed in the Environmental Assessment Application (“EA Application”) or otherwise developed through the EA process. In its recommendations to Ministers for decision, the EAO indicated it was satisfied that the EA process adequately identified and assessed the potential effects of the Project, and that Project design would prevent or reduce potential negative impacts of the Project such that no significant adverse effects are expected, with the exception of the Project’s potential adverse effects on caribou and domestic greenhouse gas emissions. The Minister of Environment and the Minister of Natural Gas Development concurred with these findings and subsequently issued the Certificate subject to 43 conditions.

On August 29, 2018, under subsection 18(2) of the 2002 EAA, WCGT applied for an extension to its Certificate that was set to expire on November 25, 2019. The EAO established an advisory working group to provide technical advice on the review of the Extension Application based on membership from the EA working group. The Extension Working Group included a significant number of representatives of federal, provincial, local governments, and Indigenous Nations. Based on its review, the EAO was satisfied that the extension of the Certificate would not constitute a material change that would have consequences to Indigenous Nations’ exercise of their interests and treaty rights that had not otherwise been considered and appropriately addressed. On April 25, 2019, an Order was issued to extend the Certificate for five years, with conditions from the original EA remaining in effect for the duration of the Project’s lifecycle.

WCGT has undertaken significant work to advance the Project since the Certificate was issued in 2014. This has included commercial negotiations with potential LNG terminal project sponsors, progressing with the permits and approvals necessary to investigate, develop, construct and operate the Project, developing plans to meet conditions in the Certificate, engaging with Indigenous Nations and stakeholders and improving Project design. WCGT is also expecting to move forward with certain design

improvements, including electrification of compression to align with the Province’s CleanBC Plan and Hydrogen Strategy and to support the BC government’s 5-year Declaration Act Action Plan (“DAAP”).

WCGT has been engaging with Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and interested parties and working with potential LNG terminal project sponsors to progress Project development; however, two situations have caused significant delays and unpredictability making it difficult, if not impossible, for WCGT to plan for and complete sufficient construction work before the Certificate expires on November 25, 2024 to receive a substantial start decision: (1) the COVID-19 pandemic; and (2) the pause and delay in the issuance of certain permits by the BC government since July 2021. While there is no definition of “substantial start” or set requirements on how much physical work must be completed to achieve a substantial start determination from the Minister by November 25, 2024, the EAO updated its policy in June 2021 and the Courts have provided guidance as to how the term should be interpreted. WCGT understands from the EAO that the amount of physical work expected to be completed to receive a positive substantial start determination has increased from the precedent set in substantial start determinations for previous pipeline projects.

The global COVID-19 pandemic, the resulting provincial and national state of emergency, and the associated health orders issued by the BC government impacted WCGT’s ability to meet in person with Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and interested parties up until as recently as spring 2022, which has affected meaningful engagement and planning of and training for Project field work. The COVID-19 pandemic has further impacted natural gas markets and the timing and productiveness of negotiations with commercial partners, as well as the timing of development of proposed LNG projects that WCGT would supply, which is needed to proceed with the Project. The COVID-19 pandemic and state of emergency has resulted in a delay of more than two years (2020, 2021 and part of 2022) in the development of the Project and LNG terminal projects.

In July 2021, the BC government announced a pause on issuing certain permits while it negotiates land management processes in Blueberry River First Nation’s (“BRFN”) territory and Treaty 8 to restore and protect the ability of the land to support Indigenous ways of life and ensure future development authorizations manage cumulative effects on land and wildlife. While these negotiations proceed, the EAO and BC Oil and Gas Commission (“OGC”) have been and continue to be unable to issue certain permits and decisions in particular, those required for the Project to proceed, which has impacted WCGT’s ability to proceed with certain non-intrusive geophysical and intrusive geotechnical investigative field work necessary to continue Project development. WCGT could not have accounted for this permitting delay in its Project plans. In WCGT’s view, it is in the public interest to allow time for the necessary negotiations between the government of BC, BRFN and the Treaty 8 First Nations before the EAO and OGC issue certain permits for the Project. This significant delay in permitting has created a situation comparable to an emergency. WCGT understands and respects that time is needed for these negotiations and that timing on long-term solutions is unknown. At this point, it is foreseeable that WCGT’s field work could be delayed upwards of four years when considering the delays to date (2021 and 2022) uncertainty around permitting timelines as well as the advanced planning required for field work (2023 – 2024).

The Certificate was originally issued for a period of five years under the 2002 EAA and an extension was granted in 2018 for an additional five years. Granting an additional extension of five years would make the Certificate valid for a period of 15 years. The *Environmental Assessment Act* (2018) (“2018 EAA”) allows environmental assessment certificates to now be issued for a ten-year period (subsection 31(1)) with up to a five-year extension (subsection 31(4)), for a total of 15 years. This 15-year allowance in the 2018 EAA suggests the policy direction of the BC government supports a 15-year period for the Certificate. The request for a five-year extension is not only justified given the potential for total delay of at least four to five years due to the factors noted above but is also reasonable given the new timing for environmental certificates allowed under the 2018 EAA.

Approving an extension of the Certificate will allow WCGT to continue to develop a Project that has many potential benefits for the province of BC and aligns with the province’s framework for natural gas development, including a fair return for B.C.’s natural resources, jobs and training opportunities for British Columbians, respect for and partnerships with Indigenous Nations and living up to the province’s climate commitments.

The Project will ensure a fair return for BC’s natural resources, including billions of dollars in incremental royalty revenue to the BC government. The Project could attract future investment and add billions of dollars to Gross Domestic Product (“GDP”) annually for the expected 40+ year Project life. It would also create up to 3,000 jobs over four years of construction, and long-term, the Project could create upwards of 100 permanent jobs operating at its full licensed capacity. In addition, the Project is being designed to align with the government’s CleanBC plan, Hydrogen Strategy and its 5-year DAAP to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (“UNDRIP”).

The Project will provide tangible economic opportunity for Indigenous Nations. WCGT has engaged with Indigenous Nations along the pipeline corridor on a suite of financial options, including benefits agreements, contracting and procurement opportunities, and equity ownership in the Project.

The Project is being designed to fit within the goals of the province’s climate-change plan, including its legislated GHG reduction targets. Furthermore, it can play an instrumental role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions globally. LNG produced in BC will largely utilize low carbon intensity renewable power, operate more efficiently due to the colder climate, and travel shorter distances by ship to end use markets, resulting in a lower CO₂ emission profile. LNG produced in BC is an opportunity to provide low-carbon natural gas to growing markets in Asia, displacing coal and reducing global GHG emissions.

The COVID-19 pandemic was recognized as an emergency by the Minister in November 2021, while permitting delays have created a circumstance comparable to an emergency, meaning a circumstance that WCGT could not have predicted and could not control. Section 46 of the 2018 EAA allows variances to the Act in an emergency or other comparable circumstance. This does not mean the variance application needs to be brought with urgency or needs to be considered on an urgent basis. Rather it means the circumstance giving rise to the need for the application was an emergency or other comparable circumstance. Given the emergency and emergency-like circumstances noted above, which have delayed the advancement of the Project, the significant efforts that have been expended to date on Project development, the expected benefits associated with the Project, and the ongoing obligation to meet the Certificate conditions that were the product of extensive assessment of the Project, WCGT

submits it is in the public interest to vary the 2018 EAA to allow for the extension of the Certificate for an additional 5 years.

WCGT requests that:

- 1) Under Section 46 of the 2018 EAA the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (“Minister”) issue an order to vary the 2018 EAA to allow the Chief Executive Assessment Officer (“CEAO”) to grant a further Certificate extension under Section 31(4) of the 2018 EAA;
- 2) Under Section 31(2) of the 2018 EAA, the CEAO extend the Certificate with any additional conditions; and
- 3) The CEAO amend the Certificate to align it with the 2018 EAA and current EAO policies, guidelines and standard definitions.

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GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

Terminology used in this Application is defined where it is first used. The following list will assist readers who may choose to review only portions of this document.

2002 EAA – *Environmental Assessment Act*, SBC 2002, c 43

2018 EAA – *Environmental Assessment Act*, SBC 2018, c 51

Aboriginal Interests – Aboriginal rights and title, including treaty rights

AIR – Application Information Requirements

Agreements – WCGT has been meeting with potentially impacted Indigenous Nations along the pipeline corridor to collaborate on a work plan for Indigenous Nations to engage and provide input throughout the pre-construction planning and permitting processes via a Project Participation Agreement and other agreements

Application – This application for an extension to the Certificate past 2024

BC – British Columbia

BC EAO – BC Environmental Assessment Office

BRFN – Blueberry River First Nations

CEAO - Chief Executive Assessment Officer

Certificate – British Columbia (BC) Environmental Assessment Certificate #E14-05

Certificate Extension – Order from the EAO dated April 25, 2019 extending the expiry date on the Certificate from November 25, 2019 to November 25, 2024

Condition Plans – Specific management plans developed to protect environmental resources in accordance with Certificate Conditions

CPC – Certified Pipeline Corridor described in Schedule A of the Certified Project Description

DAAP – Declaration Act Action Plan

DRFN – Doig River First Nation

DRIPA – *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*

EA – Environmental Assessment review of the Project undertaken from 2012 – 2014

EA Application – Environmental Assessment Application submitted March 21, 2014

EAO – Environmental Assessment Office

EAO Assessment Report – Report from the EAO dated November 3, 2014 following the EA for the Project

Enbridge – Enbridge Inc.

Extension Application – Application to extend the expiry date on the Certificate past November 25, 2019 to 2024

Extension Working Group – Working group established by the EAO for the Certificate Extension

FEED – Front End Engineering and Design

GDP – Gross Domestic Product

Gitanyow – Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs

Gitxaala – Gitxaala Nation

Gitxsan – Gitxsan Hereditary Chiefs

GTMA – Gitxaala Territorial Management Agency

HEM – Helicopter-borne electromagnetic

HRFN – Halfway River First Nation

IUP – Investigative Use Permits

Kitselas – Kitselas First Nation

Kitsumkalum – Kitsumkalum Band

KP – Kilometre Post

KSM Mining Project – KerrSulphurets-Mitchell Project

LBN – Lake Babine Nation

LKB – Lax Kw'alaams Band

LNG – Liquefied Natural Gas

Minister – Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

MFN – Metlakatla First Nation

MLIB – McLeod Lake Indian Band

NCLGA – North Central Local Government Association

NFA – Nisga'a Final Agreement – a modern treaty to which the governments of BC and Canada are also parties

NLG – Nisga'a Lisims Government

NWFN – Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation

OGC – BC Oil and Gas Commission

PRFN – Prophet River First Nation

PRRD – Peace River Regional District

Project – Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project

RDKS – Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

RRA or RRA's – Relevant Regulatory Authority or Relevant Regulatory Authorities

SAFETY MEASURES – Safety measures, including stay at home orders and travel restrictions, in BC resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic

SEEMP – Social and Economic Effects Management Plan

SERC – Socio-Economic Requirements of Contractors

SFN – Saulneau First Nations

SPECTRA – Spectra Energy Corp.

SUBSTANTIAL START DEADLINE – Date by which construction must be deemed by the Minister to be substantially started in order for the Certificate to remain valid.

TKDB – Tsay Keh Dene Band

TLFN – Takla Lake First Nation

TOC – Table of Conditions in the Certificate

UNDRIP – United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

VC – Valued Components

WCGT – Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Ltd.

WMFN – West Moberly First Nations

1. INTRODUCTION

Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Enbridge Inc. is seeking a five-year extension to the Certificate for the WCGT Project.

The Project

The Project is a proposed natural gas transmission system with the potential to build two 48-inch pipelines within the same right-of-way along with accompanying compressor stations that is designed and intended to service LNG terminal sites. The transmission system would run from northeastern BC to the north coast. The Project includes the flexibility to choose one of two routes to the Prince Rupert area – either through the Nass Valley (Nasoga Route) or north towards Kitsault (Kitsault Route).

On November 25, 2014, the BC Minister of Environment and the Minister of Natural Gas Development issued WCGT, which at that time was owned by Spectra Energy Transmission (“Spectra”), the Certificate for the Project. In 2017, Spectra merged with Enbridge making WCGT a wholly owned subsidiary of Enbridge. On April 25, 2019, the BC EAO granted WCGT an extension of the Certificate to November 25, 2024.

Since receiving this extension, WCGT has advanced discussions and worked closely with potential LNG terminal sponsors. WCGT has been actively developing the Project to build one express, single-purpose natural gas pipeline from a compressor station near Willow Flats in northeast BC to potential delivery points from WCGT’s approved corridor between Cranberry Junction and Ridley Island to supply natural gas to potential LNG terminals.¹ This has included progressing the work required to apply for permits and Certificate amendments to ready the Project for construction and reviewing the information gathered during the EA to determine what additional field work is required. WCGT has also been engaging with local Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and interested parties as part of Project development.

The Application

WCGT is requesting:

- 1) Under Section 46 of the 2018 EAA the Minister issue an order to vary the 2018 EAA to allow the CEAO to grant a further Certificate extension under Section 31(4) of the 2018 EAA;
- 2) Under Section 31(2) of the 2018 EAA, the CEAO extend the Certificate with any additional conditions; and
- 3) The CEAO amend the Certificate to align it with the 2018 EAA and current EAO policies, guidelines and standard definitions.

The 2018 EAA allows the CEAO to extend the deadline specified in an environmental assessment certificate on one occasion only. To grant an extension, a variance is required from the Minister. Section 46 allows the Minister to issue an order to vary the 2018 EAA in response to an emergency or other comparable circumstance where the variance is in the public interest. The Minister has already

¹ The Certificate allows WCGT to extend the pipeline to Ridley Island and build a second pipeline at a later time.

deemed the global COVID-19 pandemic as such an emergency.² Further, in WCGT's view, the BC government's pause and delay in the issuance of certain permits since July 2021, in particular, those required for the Project to proceed, has created a circumstance similar to an emergency such that, a variance would be in the public interest.

The Need for the Certificate Extension

While WCGT has been working extensively to engage with Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and interested parties and has been progressing with Project development, two situations have caused significant delays and unpredictability making it difficult, if not impossible, for WCGT to plan for and complete substantial construction work before the Certificate expires on November 25, 2024: (1) the COVID-19 pandemic; and (2) the pause and delay in the issuance of certain permits by the BC government since July 2021.

The global COVID-19 pandemic, the resulting provincial and national state of emergency, and the associated health orders issued by the BC government impacted WCGT's ability to meet in person with Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and interested parties up until as recently as spring 2022 and has made planning the required field work difficult. While WCGT employed technological solutions such as video meetings, conference calls and virtual open houses, the inability to meet in person or define timing for field work hindered WCGT's ability to advance the Project as it would have, but for the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has further impacted natural gas markets and the timing and productiveness of negotiations with commercial partners, including LNG Projects.

In addition, the pandemic safety measures, including stay at home orders and travel restrictions ("Safety Measures"), prevented WCGT from executing field work with Indigenous Nations. Limitations on crew sizes, physical distancing and overall consideration for the safety and health of the crew would have impacted the ability to ensure meaningful participation of Indigenous Nations in the planned field work. To ensure the safety and productivity of field work, training is also necessary. WCGT was not able to meet with Indigenous Nations in person to plan and train for field work, which impacted planning and scheduling. The COVID-19 emergency impacted engagement with communities and Indigenous Nations, commercial negotiations and market conditions, and the planning and execution of investigative field work.

Secondly, in July 2021, the BC government announced a pause and on the issuance of certain permits, including those required for the Project to proceed, while it negotiates land management processes in BRFN territory and Treaty 8. On October 7, 2021, the BC government and BRFN reached an initial agreement to work together to develop land management processes in BRFN's territory that will restore and protect the ability of the land to support Indigenous ways of life and ensure future development authorizations manage cumulative effects on land and wildlife and their impact on BRFN's treaty rights. An interim approach and long-term solutions still need to be negotiated. WCGT understands the BC government has been negotiating a similar framework with other Treaty 8 First Nations.

² See the November 16, 2021 order of the Minister of Environment under section 46 of the Act in relation to the KSM Mining ULC application for an extension of the Environmental Assessment Certificate for the KSM Project.

While these negotiations proceed, the EAO and OGC have been and continue to be unable to issue certain approvals. To proceed with Project development, WCGT must undertake certain non-intrusive geophysical and intrusive geotechnical investigative field work that requires Investigative Use Permits (“IUP”) from the OGC. The intrusive geotechnical investigative field work also requires EAO approval of an amendment to the definition of construction in the Certificate, which WCGT applied for in October 2021. Since July 2021, WCGT has applied for, but been unable to obtain the IUPs and Certificate amendment while the BC government negotiates a new cumulative effects framework in Treaty 8. WCGT could not have accounted for this permitting delay in its Project planning. The permitting delays are comparable to an emergency since WCGT could not have predicted these delays and has little to no control over the cause of the delay. This impacted WCGT’s ability to further Project development within the prescribed timeline and warrants an extension. In WCGT’s view, it is in the public interest to allow an extension of the Certificate given the ongoing negotiations and expected new framework.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project, as approved in the Certificate, is a proposed natural gas transmission system with the potential to build two 48-inch pipelines within the same right-of-way along with accompanying compressor stations that is designed and intended to service LNG terminal sites starting at Cypress in northeast BC and ending at Ridley Island on the north coast. The Certificate provides the flexibility to choose one of two routes to the Prince Rupert area—either through Nasoga Route or Kitsault Route.

WCGT is actively developing the Project to build one express, single-purpose natural gas pipeline from a compressor station near Willow Flats in northeast BC to potential delivery points from WCGT’s approved corridor between Cranberry Junction and Ridley Island to supply natural gas to potential LNG terminal sites. WCGT is not actively developing the second pipeline but continues to consider future development opportunities for the second pipeline.

The new compressor station at Willow Flats will have the potential to connect to Enbridge’s Westcoast Energy Inc. pipeline system near Compressor Station 2 or TC Energy’s NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. system, eliminating the need for the pipeline corridor from Cypress to Willow Flats and the compressor station at Cypress. These changes will be reflected in Certificate amendments as follows:

1. WCGT has applied to the EAO to amend its Certificate to remove approximately 138 kilometres of the Certified Pipeline Corridor (“CPC”) from Cypress to Willow Flats; and
2. WCGT will apply to the EAO to amend its Certificate to change the location of the compressor station from Cypress to Willow Flats.

The new delivery point(s) for the pipeline are currently being determined. WCGT will apply to the EAO to amend its Certificate to make routing changes along its approved Nasoga Route to a new delivery point or points. WCGT will retain the option to expand the Project to the currently approved delivery point at Ridley Island at a later date.

2.1. PROJECT HISTORY AND SCHEDULE IMPACTS

When the Certificate was granted on November 25, 2014, Spectra’s partner, BG International Limited was planning to develop the Prince Rupert LNG Project, an LNG Project at Ridley Island. WCGT had prepared draft schedules and plans for moving forward with the BC OGC and other regulatory permitting as well as carrying out further technical studies as outlined in the Certificate conditions, the EAO [Assessment Report](#) and the EA Application. The proposed construction schedule presented in the Certificate envisioned construction starting as early as the fall of 2016 and completion of the first of two potential pipelines as early as the fall of 2019. No definitive timeline was confirmed for a second pipeline; however, Condition 1 of the Certificate requires WCGT to substantially complete construction of the second pipeline within 9 years of the start of construction of the first pipeline.

The Project was put on hold in October 2015 after Spectra’s partner, BG International Limited, announced a merger with Shell and paused its Prince Rupert LNG project. When the Prince Rupert LNG Project was subsequently cancelled in March 2017, WCGT initiated discussions with possible commercial partners about other LNG or gas projects that could be supplied from the pipeline Project.

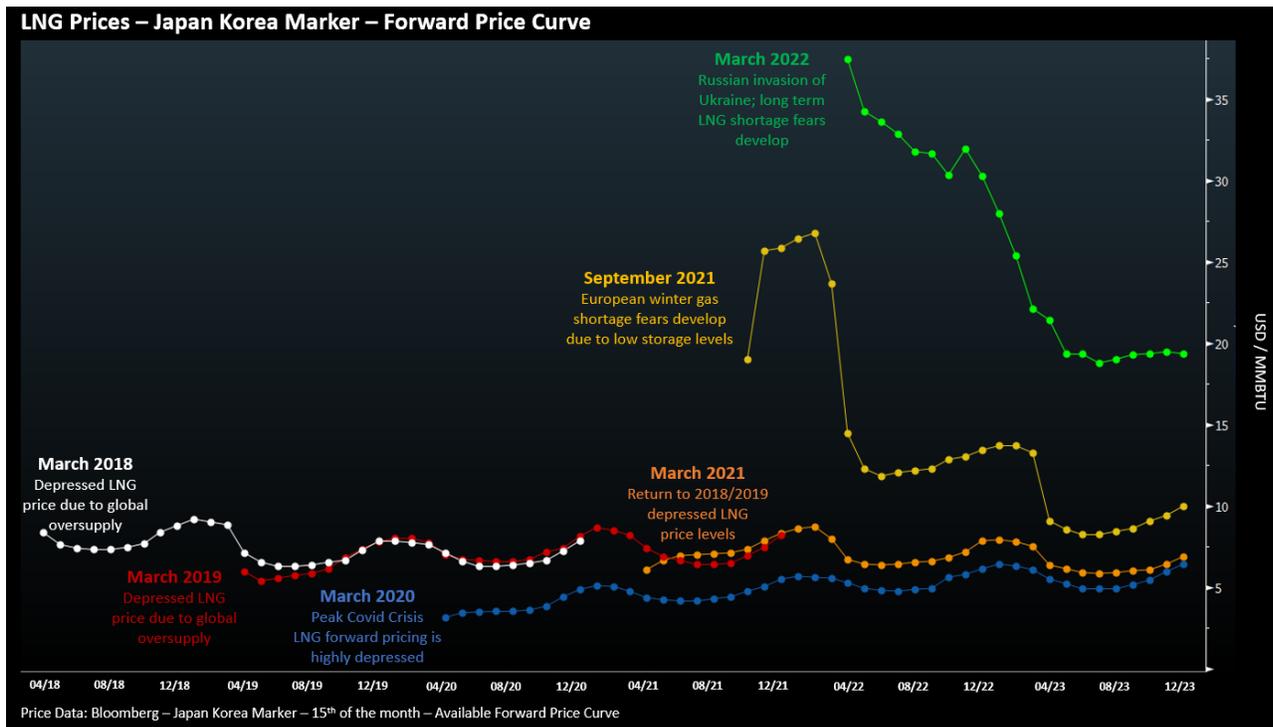
From 2017 through 2019, global natural gas and LNG prices were depressed due to a natural gas oversupply situation in North America (associated gas from unconventional oil plays, Permian & Bakken) and from new global LNG projects coming on stream. Figure 1 shows the Japan Korea Marker Forward Price Curve for LNG Prices. During this time several other LNG projects in BC were cancelled,³ making it difficult for WCGT to find a new commercial partner quickly. In 2018, WCGT applied for an extension of its Certificate, which was set to expire on November 25, 2019. On April 25, 2019, the EAO granted WCGT an extension of the Certificate to November 25, 2024 (“Certificate Extension”), allowing WCGT to continue business development discussions with potential commercial partners.

In March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic drastically reduced global gas and LNG demand, creating uncertainty for WCGT and proposed LNG projects. The change in market conditions, combined with the inability to travel and meet in person hindered and caused a delay in commercial negotiations for WCGT and the sponsors of proposed LNG projects.

In January 2021, WCGT received internal approval for funding to continue to advance the Project despite delays in commercial negotiations. The funding allowed WCGT to proceed with engagement and sufficient engineering, permitting and Project development work to commence construction and complete sufficient physical work to achieve a substantial start determination from the Minister by November 25, 2024 (“Substantial Start Deadline”), but there was still considerable uncertainty in the global market as shown in Figure 1 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

³ See for example the announcements of cancellation of Pacific NorthWest’s LNG Plant at Prince Rupert (<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/pacific-northwest-lng-delays-petronas-1.4352004>) and CNOOC’s Aurora LNG project ([China’s CNOOC cancels Aurora LNG project in B.C. - The Globe and Mail](#)).

Figure 1. LNG Prices – Forward Curves for Relevant Period



Throughout 2020 and into 2021, WCGT considered Project development options and schedules that would allow it to meet the Substantial Start Deadline.

WCGT planned a phased approach to permitting and the field work necessary to support the permits and approvals required to commence construction. This would have allowed WCGT to move forward with construction in certain sections to ideally achieve an earlier substantial start to construction and increased regulatory certainty as the global market improved and development of LNG projects progressed. In summary, WCGT had planned the following:

- Fall 2021 – Non-intrusive geophysical and environmental field program to support permitting of initial construction sections
- January - Fall 2022 – Intrusive geotechnical and environmental field program to support completion of permit applications for initial construction sections
- 2022 – Technical evaluations and development as required for front-end engineering and design (“FEED”) to support a Class III Estimate and determine any routing changes requiring Certificate amendments
- October 2022 – Apply for all permits for initial construction sections
- October 2023 – Receive approvals for initial construction sections and start construction in those sections
- October 2023 – Apply for all remaining permits and Certificate amendments required for construction of remaining sections

- May 2024 – Complete sufficient construction and physical activity to make submission to the Minister for substantial start determination
- November 25, 2024 – Substantial Start Deadline – date by which the Project must receive positive substantial start determination from Minister
- October 2028 – Substantial Completion of first pipeline (5 Years after Construction Start)

WCGT determined that a summer field program in 2021 and a nine-month field program in 2022 would be optimal to complete the necessary work required to start construction in 2023. The summer field program was scheduled for Q3 2021. Field work requires pre-planning as it must be coordinated with local Indigenous Nations to ensure that the necessary Indigenous knowledge holders, environmental and wildlife monitors, environmental stewards and technicians, or archaeological staff are available and prepared, if needed. In addition, time is needed to ensure Indigenous businesses with first aid and safety personnel and accommodation and catering services, among others, are available so that local Indigenous businesses benefit from the work.

In August 2021, WCGT was prepared to proceed with a non-intrusive geophysical field program and environmental field work. This field program included geophysical investigations on major watercourse crossings to support trenchless crossing design and feasibility assessments needed to apply for BC OGC pipeline permits. This work was also required to inform planning for the second year of field work in 2022, which would include an intrusive geotechnical program. WCGT applied to the BC OGC for IUPs to allow it to undertake the non-intrusive geophysical field program. Unfortunately, the BC OGC was not able to grant IUPs in Q3 2021 due to the permitting delays discussed above, so WCGT was only able to proceed with a limited amount of environmental field work and the geophysical field work had to be deferred to 2022.

In October 2021, WCGT applied for an amendment to the definition of construction in its Certificate to align it with the standard definition now used by the EAO in environmental assessment certificates for other projects. This change in definition of construction is necessary for WCGT to begin any intrusive geotechnical field work. WCGT engaged with all Indigenous Nations along the ROW about this application, including providing amendment information to BRFN, and answered all EAO information requests, in an effort to move the application forward. Although from WCGT’s perspective this amendment could be categorized as a “simple amendment”, WCGT understands the permitting delay impacted the EAO’s ability to move forward with consultation on the amendment application.

In light of material regulatory uncertainty, in early 2022, WCGT revised its field program for 2022. Field work in 2022 would have been crucial to meeting the Substantial Start Deadline and WCGT also recognized that Indigenous Nations were looking forward to field work to identify any concerns and mitigation measures and gain early training and employment opportunities. In April 2022, WCGT began applying for IUPs for the intrusive geotechnical investigative work, with the following field activities planned for 2022:

- Spring 2022 – Intrusive Investigation of Trenchless Crossings within initial construction sections;

- April 2022 – Helicopter-borne Electromagnetic (“HEM”) Survey (no IUP required; however, start date impacted by delay in Project permitting);
- May 2022 – Non-Intrusive Investigation of Major Watercourse Crossings;
- June 2022 – Intrusive Investigation of Trenchless Crossings between KM 262.8 to 481.9;
- July 2022 – Offshore Non-Intrusive Investigations (Bathymetry, Metocean and Magnetometer Survey);
- August 2022 – Intrusive Investigation of Compressor Station, and Non-Intrusive Investigation of Tunnel(s); and
- November 2022 – Active Fault Investigation (Non-Intrusive and Intrusive).

As of the date of this Application, WCGT has not received IUPs from the BC OGC or approval from the EAO of the amendment to change the definition of construction in the Certificate. With the current timeframe for obtaining IUPs and Certificate Amendments unknown, WCGT had to defer its 2022 field program. With the delays in issuing the IUPs and Certificate Amendment needed to conduct geophysical and geotechnical work, it is difficult to see how WCGT can meet the Substantial Start Deadline.

In early 2022, the impact of COVID-19 had finally lessened, and two supply crises (European gas storage constraints and a global natural gas shortage) increased global LNG demand certainty for the foreseeable future (see Figure 1 above). However, WCGT still remains limited in what Project development activities it can undertake, as it has not been able to obtain the necessary authorizations to proceed with field activities and there is still uncertainty as to when the necessary authorizations can be obtained. Even with the improved market conditions, the uncertainty around timing of receiving the IUPs and Certificate amendments needed to conduct geophysical and geotechnical work has created Project schedule uncertainty.

3. THE NEED FOR THE EXTENSION

While WCGT has been working extensively to engage with Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and interested parties and has made progress on Project development, two situations have caused significant delays and unpredictability making it difficult, if not impossible for WCGT to plan for and complete sufficient construction work before the Certificate expires on November 25, 2024: (1) the COVID-19 pandemic; and (2) the pause and delay in the issuance of certain permits by the BC government since July 2021. The delays experienced by WCGT are caused by the COVID-19 emergency and the permit delays, which in WCGT’s view, is a circumstance similar to an emergency.

3.1. THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

The COVID-19 pandemic had impacts in BC, Canada and the world that could not have been foreseen prior to March 2020. In November 2021, the Minister recognized that the COVID-19 pandemic created an emergency, stating the following:

I am of the view that there is an ongoing emergency related to COVID. COVID has been and continues to constitute an emergency in B.C. and many parts of the world due to its impacts on

public health, services, and the economy. While the COVID-19 provincial state of emergency declared under the Emergency Program Act ended on June 30, 2021, the effects of COVID are far-reaching and continue. B.C. is considered to be in the “fourth wave” of the pandemic and travel restrictions and requirements remain in effect related to crossing the international border.⁴

The global COVID-19 pandemic, the resulting provincial and national state of emergency, and the associated health orders issued by the BC government impacted WCGT’s ability to meet in person with Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and interested parties up until as recently as spring 2022 and has made planning field work difficult. Pandemic safety measures, including stay at home orders and travel restrictions, prevented WCGT from meeting face-to-face. While WCGT employed technological solutions such as video meetings, conference calls and virtual open houses, the inability to meet in person made it more difficult for WCGT to effectively share Project information, learn about and address site specific concerns, develop relationships and gain trust. Further, WCGT is interested in building partnerships with Indigenous Nations along the right of way so that Indigenous Nations not only benefit economically from the Project, but also become partners in it. It is difficult to develop these partnerships virtually. In WCGT’s view these partnerships are crucial to continuing to move the Project forward and the delay of these discussions caused by COVID-19 has negatively impacted Project development.

The Safety Measures also impacted WCGT’s ability to plan the required field work with Indigenous Nations. As noted above, WCGT planned to begin its field program in August 2021. Planning field work with local Indigenous Nations is critical to the success of field work. WCGT is committed to providing socio-economic opportunities to local Indigenous Nations through field work as Indigenous Nation participation in the field is critical to sharing Indigenous knowledge, identifying site specific issues and helping to identify mitigation or avoidance measures. To ensure this happens safely and that field work is productive, training is necessary. WCGT was not able to meet with Indigenous Nations in person to plan and train for field work, which impacted planning and scheduling of field work. Granting an extension will allow WCGT and Indigenous Nations more time to ensure that training and planning for field work maximizes opportunities for local Indigenous Nations. Many Indigenous Nations have discussed with WCGT the benefits of having more time to engage and prepare for jobs and other opportunities available through upcoming field work. But for COVID-19, WCGT could have worked with Indigenous Nations on these preparations much sooner.

As discussed above, the COVID-19 pandemic drastically impacted global gas and LNG prices, making the development of an LNG terminal difficult. The lack of certainty in the global natural gas and LNG market caused by COVID-19 delayed progression of commercial agreements with LNG terminal sponsors.

While WCGT is proud of its engagement with Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and interested parties, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in an estimated delay of more than two years in the development of the Project.

⁴ Reasons for Decision of the Minister: Emergency Variance for the KSM Project, November 16, 2021
<<https://www.krbd.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/KSM-Reasons-for-Decision-of-the-Minister-20211116.pdf>>.

3.2. IMPLICATIONS OF THE BC GOVERNMENT'S PERMITTING DELAYS

In July 2021, the BC government paused the issuance of certain permits, including those required for the Project to proceed, while it negotiates land management processes in BRFN's territory and Treaty 8 to restore and protect the ability of the land to support Indigenous ways of life and ensure future development authorizations manage cumulative effects on land and wildlife. For background, on July 28, 2021, David Eby, then the Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing, released a statement about the reason for the permitting delays noting the following:

...The court's decision was clear that the Province must improve its assessment and management of the cumulative impact of industrial development on Blueberry River First Nations' Treaty rights, and to ensure these constitutional rights are protected. The Province and Blueberry River First Nations have been directed to work together in the development of provincial processes that assess and manage the cumulative impact of industrial development, and recognize and respect Blueberry River First Nations' Treaty rights. The Province recognizes that negotiation, rather than litigation, is the primary forum for achieving reconciliation and the renewal of the Crown-Indigenous relationship. We welcome the opportunity to work closely with Blueberry River First Nations, other Treaty 8 Nations, stakeholders and the public to build a path forward for resource development in the territory – one that provides stable economic activity and employment along with environmental sustainability and respecting Treaty 8 rights.

On October 7, 2021, the BC government and BRFN reached an initial agreement to work together to develop land management processes in BRFN's territory that will restore and protect the ability of the land to support Indigenous ways of life and ensure future development authorizations manage cumulative effects on land and wildlife and their impact on BRFN treaty rights. An interim approach and long-term solutions still need to be negotiated. WCGT understands the BC government has also been negotiating a similar framework with other Treaty 8 First Nations.

While these negotiations proceed, the EAO and BC OGC have been and continue to be unable to issue certain permits and decisions. To proceed with Project development, WCGT must undertake certain non-intrusive geophysical and intrusive geotechnical investigative field work that require IUPs from the OGC. This work is required to finalize detailed engineering design and construction planning, which is necessary to finalize the centerline for the pipeline to obtain permits, complete Project design and construct the Project. The intrusive geotechnical investigative field work also requires approval by the EAO of an amendment to the definition of construction in the Certificate. Since July 2021, WCGT has applied for IUPs and an amendment to the definition of construction in the Certificate but has been unable to obtain them as the negotiations between the BC government, BRFN and Treaty 8 First Nations have been ongoing. As a result, WCGT delayed its non-intrusive geophysical field work, planned to begin in August 2021.

WCGT also planned to commence intrusive geotechnical studies beginning in 2022. The EAO has stated that if WCGT undertakes this work, there is a risk that the intrusive geotechnical work could be seen as the start of construction under the current definition in the Certificate (which would not be allowed since WCGT has not met all pre-construction conditions, such as the development of Condition Plans). Accordingly, as noted above, in October 2021, WCGT applied to the EAO to amend the definition of

construction to align it with the standard definition now used by the EAO in environmental assessment certificates for other projects. As noted above, the EAO has not been able to move forward with consultation on the amendment application. WCGT has discussed the application with all Indigenous Nations along the pipeline route and answered all EAO information requests, doing its best to move the application forward; however, it is unlikely a decision will be made until the BC government negotiates a new cumulative effects framework with BRFN and Treaty 8 Nations.

WCGT understands from the EAO that the amount of physical work expected to be completed to receive a positive substantial start determination has increased from the precedent set in the substantial start determination of more recent pipeline projects. However, WCGT is unable to take the necessary steps to begin construction and achieve substantial start until it receives the outstanding permits. Further, many of the Indigenous Nations engaged on the Project have indicated they do not want to see clearing started and a substantial start determination without certainty the Project will proceed. Granting an extension will allow proposed LNG terminal projects to continue to develop and advance, which will in turn provide WCGT with increased certainty that the Project will proceed, before clearing for WCGT commences.

An extension will allow for more engagement with Indigenous Nations, such as BRFN. BRFN indicated to WCGT in a letter dated October 19, 2021, that at present the BRFN are not supportive of the Project proceeding, primarily in respect of the cumulative effects on their treaty rights, “at least until substantial restoration and healing of the land has taken place, and until the Province has instituted a proper system to assess cumulative effects” on their treaty rights. WCGT understands BRFN’s primary concern is the cumulative effects of development in its traditional territory. As will be discussed below, WCGT has applied to the EAO to amend the Certificate to remove 138 km from its pipeline corridor, eliminating potential impact to BRFN’s claim area from this Project, and reducing the impact of the Project in BRFN’s traditional territory.

Although WCGT is not involved in the negotiations among the government, BRFN and Treaty 8 Nations regarding the negotiated framework, WCGT has a shared interest in mitigating cumulative impacts on Aboriginal rights. WCGT recognizes the need for time for the involved parties to agree upon and implement necessary frameworks so expectations can be met, and consultation can be meaningful.

The 2018 EAA and consultation processes established under it, which encourage consensus-seeking and expressions of consent, are consistent with the principles of UNDRIP and the province’s *Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (“DRIPA”) legislation. WCGT respects BRFN’s current position with respect to the Project and hopes that providing additional time to engage with Indigenous Nations and waiting for the necessary frameworks to be in place to address their concerns will enable WCGT to obtain consensus and support for the Project.

The pause and delay in permitting has impacted WCGT’s ability to progress Project development and begin construction in order to meet the Substantial Start Deadline. WCGT could not have accounted for this permitting delay in its Project plans. In WCGT’s view, it is in the public interest to allow for the extension of the Certificate given the ongoing negotiations between the BC government, BRFN and other Treaty 8 First Nations and the impact of those negotiations on the timeline for the issuance of

necessary EAO approvals and OGC permits for the Project. This has created a circumstance comparable to an emergency.

3.3. DELAYS CAUSED BY THE EMERGENCY AND OTHER COMPARABLE CIRCUMSTANCE

The Minister considered a request for an emergency variance under section 46 and a second environmental assessment certificate extension under section 31(2) due to the COVID-19 pandemic in November 2021 for the KerrSulphurets-Mitchell Project (“KSM Mining Project”). In his decision regarding the KSM Mining Project he noted that “any emergency variance order should be tailored to projects that are actually facing a problem with their substantial start as a result of the pandemic”. WCGT’s Project is facing such a problem, due not only to the emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, but also by the aforementioned permitting delays.

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a delay of approximately two years in development of the Project due to the inability to meet in person for engagement with Indigenous Nations and commercial negotiations as well as the impact on the global natural gas and LNG market.

The delays in receiving permits resulted in deferral of much of WCGT’s planned field work for 2021 and 2022. WCGT understands and respects the need for the negotiations between the BC government and BRFN and Treaty 8 First Nations and that timing on long-term solutions is unknown. At this point, it is foreseeable that WCGT’s field work could be delayed upwards of four years when considering the delays to date (2021 and 2022) and the uncertainty around permitting timelines as well as the advanced planning required for field work (2023 – 2024) resulting in a delay of up to five years in total (2020 and 2021 from COVID-19 and 2021 possibly through 2024 from permitting delays impacting field work). The Certificate was originally issued for a period of five years under the 2002 EAA and an extension was granted in 2018 for an additional five years. Granting an additional extension of five years would make the Certificate valid for a period of 15 years. The 2018 EAA allows environmental assessment certificates to now be issued for a ten-year period (subsection 31(1)) with up to a five-year extension (subsection 31(4)), for a total of 15 years. This 15-year allowance in the 2018 EAA suggests the policy direction of the BC government supports a 15-year period for the Certificate. Project development has been delayed two years due to COVID-19, with an additional delay of at least two more years from permitting delays. The extent of the impact of permitting delays is unknown and is reliant on the details and timing for the implementation of the interim framework, currently in negotiation between BRFN and the province. The request for a five-year extension is not only justified given the potential for total delay of four to five years (still unknown as negotiations and delay continues today) but is also justified given the new timing for environmental certificates allowed under the 2018 EAA.

3.4. BENEFITS OF PROVIDING AN EXTENSION

Approving an extension of the Certificate will allow WCGT to continue to develop a Project that has many benefits for the province of BC and will be aligned with the BC government’s framework for natural gas development, including a fair return for B.C.’s natural resources, jobs and training opportunities for British Columbians, respect for and partnerships with Indigenous Nations and living up

to the province's climate commitments. This Project will play a unique and critical role globally by contributing to energy security, as well as climate and economic benefits.

The Project will ensure a fair return for BC's natural resources, including billions of dollars in incremental royalty revenue, taxes during operation of the Project and the associated LNG facility(s), and significant employment benefits during the construction of the Project. The Project will drive billions of dollars in both direct and associated investment during the construction of the Project and billions of dollars in future investment associated with the ongoing operations of the Project, ultimately adding billions of dollars to GDP annually for the expected 40+ year Project life. Furthermore, the Project enables low emission LNG to replace more emission intense energy sources such as coal for power generation in end user markets, making a positive impact on global emissions.

3.4.1 Positive Economic impacts

In 2020 the Conference Board of Canada released a report⁵ that evaluated a scenario similar to the Project at its fully permitted capacity. The evaluated scenario would lead to approximately \$500 Billion of investment over 45-years including investment in exploration and production, the transmission pipeline project and the associated liquefaction infrastructure. This equates to an annual impact on Canadian GDP of roughly \$11 Billion, with approximately \$8 Billion per year accruing to BC.

The annual fiscal impact to the province of BC from royalties and taxes is estimated at around \$2 Billion, with about 75% of that from indirect tax, royalties and carbon tax.

3.4.2 Positive Employment impacts

The Conference Board report estimated that the scenario it evaluated would enable over 70,000 jobs and \$4.4 Billion per year in associated wages in BC from all areas of investment in exploration and production, the transmission pipeline project and the associated liquefaction infrastructure. Many of these jobs will be created in regions that lack other significant employment prospects.

The Project itself will also result in increased opportunities for jobs and training for British Columbians. WCGT expects the Project to result in employment of an average of 3,000 people for four years with a peak employment of over 5,500 jobs during construction. Long-term, the Project will create upwards of 100 well-paying jobs if operated at its fully licensed capacity.

WCGT intends to provide economic opportunities to Indigenous Nations on several fronts, including through partnerships. Indigenous contractors and service providers are anticipated to comprise a material portion of the Project's workforce and vendors. Ownership in the Project is being offered to Indigenous Nations along the pipeline corridor in addition to benefit agreements.

3.4.3 Positive Global Climate Impacts

LNG produced in BC will largely utilize low carbon intensity renewable power, operate more efficiently due to the colder climate, travel shorter distances by ship to end use markets, and utilize natural gas produced in one of the most stringent regulatory regimes in the world. Taken together, the LNG produced is among the lowest carbon intense LNG in the world. The positive impacts of BC LNG on GHG

⁵ The Conference Board of Canada, (July 2020), "A Rising Tide. The Economic Impact of B.C.'s Liquefied Natural Gas Industry".

emissions globally was recognized by the EAO in its review of Cedar LNG’s impact on global GHG emissions. In section 3.4.2.2.3 on positive effect, the EAO stated:

However, Cedar LNG could have a positive impact on GHG emissions globally, if the importing countries were to use the natural gas as a replacement for coal in power production, due to the fact that natural gas-fired electricity generation results in approximately 40 percent less GHG emissions than coal-fired electricity generation. In ECCC’s GHG analysis, ECCC noted that Cedar LNG’s key mitigation measure to use BC Hydro’s clean grid electricity provides significant GHG emissions reductions and may offer further reductions as renewable electricity expands. Cedar LNG is likely to be one of, if not the lowest emission intensity producers of LNG globally, largely because of its reliance on clean B.C. electricity.⁶

The vast majority of LNG enabled by the Project will be utilized in power generation displacing growing coal fired generation in Asian markets with the potential to reduce global CO2 emission as follows:

Comparison of CO2 emissions utilizing coal or natural gas in combustion	
Coal	96 kgs of CO2 per mmbtu
Natural Gas	52 kgs of CO2 per mmbtu
Variance Natural Gas vs. Coal	Reduction of 44kgs of CO2 per mmbtu utilizing natural gas

Source: US Energy Information Administration (www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/co2_vol_mass.php)

The Project is expected to transport approximately 700 million mmbtu annually on initial startup. Using the above information, if the natural gas is used primarily to displace coal fired power generation over 30 million metric tons of CO2 emissions would be eliminated annually. This is equivalent to taking ~6.5 million vehicles off the road for a year, assuming annual emission of 4,600 kg of CO2 per vehicle. In addition, there would be increased efficiency converting natural gas into power vs. coal into power, which we have not taken into account in the above calculation. If the Project was developed to full permitted capacity, impacts in global emission reduction could be up to four times greater. Over the long term, as the world transitions to new sources of energy, the Project will be able to supply low carbon intensity natural gas into new energy supply chains including blue hydrogen and ammonia (low carbon fuels) in emerging markets ensuring the Project delivers positive impacts to global GHG emissions through coal displacement in the medium-term and as feedstock to low carbon fuels in the long-term.

The Project has been designed and is intended to serve LNG terminals near WCGT’s approved corridor between Cranberry Junction and Ridley Island, including LNG projects that are being developed or considered by Indigenous Nations. These Indigenous-led projects will not be able to proceed without supply from a pipeline project like the WCGT Project. Indigenous led projects like the LNG projects under consideration and partnerships on projects like the WCGT Project are important for economic reconciliation in Canada.

Improvements in Project design are also being incorporated to support important BC initiatives and policies including the BC government’s CleanBC Plan, Hydrogen Strategy and 5-year DAAP. WCGT has committed to changing the initiating natural gas-powered compressor station proposed in the EA

⁶ Environmental Assessment Office, (September 21, 2022), “Draft Assessment Report for Cedar LNG Project (Project)”.

Application to an electric-driven compressor station and will also undertake an assessment of hydrogen readiness. In addition, WCGT's programs and plans support a number of action items in the DAAP. This is explained in greater detail below in section 5.5.

4. WCGT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT APPROVALS

The Project has undergone significant EA and approvals, which are described in this section. The EA review under the 2002 EAA began in November 2012 and was completed in November 2014 when the Certificate was issued. On August 29, 2018, under subsection 18(2) of 2002 EAA, WCGT applied for an extension to its Certificate that was set to expire on November 25, 2019. The Certificate extension was granted on April 25, 2019. The EA review process is detailed in Section 4.1 and the process to extend the Project's Certificate is described in Section 4.2.

On October 24, 2013, the federal government amended the *Regulations Designating Physical Activities* under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, removing non-National Energy Board-regulated pipelines. Therefore, a federal EA was not required for the Project.

4.1. PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REVIEW

The Provincial EA process started on November 9, 2012, when the EAO issued an order under Section 10 of the 2002 EAA to find the Project reviewable under the 2002 EAA. The EA process included:

- Development of the Valued Components ("VC") and draft Application Information Requirements ("AIR") documents
- Issuance of the Order under Section 11 of the 2002 EAA detailing the EA process on May 6, 2013
- Comprehensive review of the VC document and draft AIR with input gathered from Working Group members (including relevant federal, provincial and local regulatory authorities and representatives of Indigenous Nations listed in the Section 11 Order and subsequent Section 13 Orders)
- Issuance of the final AIR on September 27, 2013
- Submission of the Application for a Certificate on March 1, 2014
- Issuance of the Certificate on November 25, 2014
- Active engagement and consultation with Indigenous Nations by WCGT and EAO throughout the review process to identify and seek to address interests and concerns raised.

The review of the Project by the EAO included materials filed by WCGT and input received through the Working Group and through Indigenous consultation efforts. The EAO assessed whether the Project was likely to have significant adverse environmental, economic, social, heritage and health effects, including cumulative effects, having regard for the mitigation measures proposed in the EA Application or otherwise developed through the EA process. Using the methodology outlined in the EAO's Guideline for the Assessment of Valued Components and Assessment of Potential Effects (2013), the EAO assessed the Project's potential adverse effects on the following valued components:

• Acoustics	• Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
• Air Quality	• Terrestrial Vegetation
• Greenhouse Gas Emissions	• Marine Environment
• Soil	• Labour Force
• Terrain Integrity	• Communities, Infrastructure and Services
• Freshwater Fish and Fish Habitat	• Transportation and Access
• Surface Hydrology	• Land and Resource Use
• Water Quality and Quantity	• Heritage Resources
• Wetland Function	• Human Health

Summary of Conclusions by the EAO and Ministers' Decision

In its recommendations to Ministers for decision, the EAO indicated it was satisfied that the EA process adequately identified and assessed the potential effects of the Project, and that Project design would prevent or reduce potential negative impacts of the Project such that no significant adverse effects are expected, with the exception of the Project's potential adverse effects on caribou and greenhouse gas emissions.

The Minister of Environment and the Minister of Natural Gas Development concurred with these findings and subsequently issued the Certificate subject to 43 conditions.

4.2. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATE EXTENSION

As discussed above, due to commercial delays in connection with the Prince Rupert LNG Project to which the pipelines were to be connected, pipeline construction had not commenced by August 2018 and as noted above, on August 29, 2018, WCGT applied for an extension to the Certificate for a period of five years under subsection 18(2) of the 2002 EAA.

On September 24, 2018, the EAO accepted WCGT's Certificate Extension request and subsequently established an advisory working group to provide technical advice on the review of the Extension Application based on membership from the EA ("Extension Working Group"). The Extension Working Group included a significant number of representatives of federal, provincial and local governments, and the Indigenous Nations identified in Schedule B of the Order issued by the EAO on May 6, 2013, under Section 11 of the 2002 EAA (Section 11 Order) and subsequent Section 13 Orders. Indigenous Nations listed in Schedule C of the Section 11 Order were also notified of the Extension Application and invited to have further discussion. Submissions on the Extension Application were received from the Gitksan Hereditary Chiefs ("Gitksan"), Metlakatla First Nation ("MFN"), Gitxaala Nation ("Gitxaala"), BRFN, Halfway River First Nation ("HRFN"), and Northern Health and Environment and Climate Change Canada. The main issues reviewed by the advisory working group included Aboriginal rights and title ("Aboriginal

Interests”), the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, environmental effects and health effects.

MFN, Gitxaala, and BRFN raised concerns related to the cumulative effects from multiple proposed projects and the resulting impacts to Aboriginal Interests. The EA required an assessment of the potential adverse effects of the Project, including cumulative effects, and the development of meaningful mitigation measures, including ways to avoid, minimize or otherwise manage any such potential adverse effects. The [Table of Conditions](#) (“TOC”) includes legally binding conditions to mitigate impacts to Aboriginal Interests as well as to address concerns raised during the EA.

The EAO indicated it was satisfied that a decision on the extension request would not change the current state of impacts resulting from industrial developments and that there are adequate conditions in place to ensure that cumulative effects are properly assessed and addressed prior to construction. The EAO noted that a potential extension of the Certificate would not authorize WCGT to start construction and that, prior to applying for construction permits and authorizations, WCGT would be required to develop a series of environmental management plans (conditions plans) in consultation with appropriate government agencies and First Nations. Those plans would need to take into consideration changes to the baseline data that occurred since the issuance of the Certificate.

The EAO was satisfied that despite changes to the physical environment, a potential approval of the extension request would not have consequences to the Indigenous Nations’ exercise of their Aboriginal Interests and treaty rights that had not otherwise been considered and appropriately addressed during the original EA and in the TOC.⁷ The EAO noted that continued concerns related to cumulative effects will be considered and discussed as part of the continued Crown consultation obligations related to the requirements of the Certificate and of subsequent permitting. The EAO found that granting this Application for a variance and extension to the Certificate would not result in a change to the effects on Indigenous Nations’ exercise of treaty rights or interests that were assessed during the EA and considered in the Extension Request, nor is it likely to cause incremental or additional negative effects to the Indigenous Nations’ or their rights.

On April 25, 2019, an Order under Section 18(4) of the 2002 EAA to extend the Certificate for five years was issued, with requirements from the original EA remaining in effect for the duration of the Project lifecycle.

4.3. INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DURING ASSESSMENT PROCESS

During the EA, WCGT engaged with the Nisga’a Nation and Indigenous Nations identified in the Section 11 Order, and subsequent Orders issued by the EAO on July 9, 2013, February 21, 2014 and May 29, 2014 under Section 13 of the 2002 EAA (Section 13 Orders). The procedural aspects of the proponent’s (i.e., WCGT’s) consultation with the Nisga’a Nation are set out in section 17 of the Section 11 Order. Schedule B Nations were those with Aboriginal Interests within 2 km of the proposed Project, and Schedule C Nations were those within 30 km of the proposed Project. The Nisga’a Nation and the

⁷ https://projects.eao.gov.bc.ca/api/public/document/5cc1fa27c15a040024944935/download/WCGT_EAC-Final%20Extension-Report_April%202025.pdf.

Indigenous Nations consulted on the Project are listed below, as referenced in the Section 11 Order and subsequent amendments to Schedules B and C in the Section 13 Orders:

- Nisga’a Nation

Schedule B

Treaty 8 Nations

- Blueberry River First Nations
- Doig River First Nation⁸ (“DRFN”)
- Halfway River First Nation
- McLeod Lake Indian Band (“MLIB”)
- Prophet River First Nation⁹ (“PRFN”)
- Saulteau First Nations (“SFN”)
- West Moberly First Nations (“WMFN”)

First Nations

- Nak’azdli Whut’en First Nation
- Tsay Keh Dene Nation
- Takla Lake First Nation (“TLFN”)
- Lake Babine Nation (“LBN”)
- Gitxsan (Wilps)¹⁰
 - Geel;
 - Nii Kyap;
 - Gitludahl;
 - Tsa Buk;
 - Gwii Yeehl;
 - Wii Gyet;
 - xGwoimtxw;
 - Wii Mugulxw;

⁸ Doig River First Nation was moved from Schedule C to Schedule B as referenced in the Section 13 Order dated February 21, 2014.

⁹ Prophet River First Nation was moved from Schedule C to Schedule B as referenced in the Section 13 Order dated May 29, 2014.

¹⁰ Naming clarifications were made to the listing of Gitxsan (Wilps) in the Section 13 Order dated February 21, 2014.

- Haiwaas;
- Miluulak; and
- Delgamuukw
- Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs (“Gitanyow”)¹¹
 - Wilp Gamlakyeltxw (as represented for the purposes of consultation by the Gitanyow’s Office)
 - Wilp Malii (as represented for the purposes of consultation by the Gitanyow’s Office)
 - Wilp Gwaas Hla’am (as represented for the purposes of consultation by the Gitanyow’s Office)
 - Wilp Watakhayetsxw (as represented for the purposes of consultation by the Gitanyow’s Office)
 - Wilp Luux Hon
- Kitsumkalum Band (“Kitsumkalum”)
- Kitselas First Nation (“Kitselas”)
- Lax Kw’alaams Band (“LKB”)
- Metlakatla First Nation
- Gitxaala Nation

Schedule C

- Dene Tha’ First Nation¹²
- Fort Nelson First Nation
- Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
- Tl’azt’en First Nation
- Treaty 8 Tribal Association
- Yekooche First Nation
- Gitxsan (Wilps)¹³:
 - Gitgwinuxw;
 - Luus;
 - Wii Hlengwax;
 - Yagosip;

¹¹ The Section 13 Order dated February 21, 2014 indicates that Gitanyow Nation, represented by Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs, requested that individual Wilps be listed on Schedule B of the Section 11 Order.

¹² Dene Tha’ First Nation was added to Schedule C as referenced in the Section 13 Order dated July 9, 2013.

¹³ Naming clarifications were made to the listing of Gitxsan (Wilps) in the Section 13 Order dated February 21, 2014.

- Antgililbix;
- Wii Gaak;
- Wii Minosik;
- Luutkudziiwus;
- Kliiyem Lax Haa;
- Gyologyet;
- Djogaslee;
- Lelt;
- Mauus;
- Yal;
- Tenim Gyet;
- Wii Eelast;
- Giist;
- Baskyatsinhlikit; and
- Gwininitxw.

WCGT also undertook public engagement activities throughout the EA, as directed in the Section 11 Order.

WCGT provided extensive opportunity for Indigenous Nations and stakeholders to participate, raise concerns, provide feedback and input into the assessment of the Project. Sections 11 and 12 of Volume 1 in the EA Application describe the efforts to assess and consider Aboriginal Interests throughout the EA Application. Section 13 of Volume 1 of the EA Application describes the public engagement efforts undertaken by WCGT during the assessment to allow multiple opportunities for the public to provide input into the process.

In the [Assessment Report](#), the EAO was satisfied that:

- Consultation with Indigenous Nations, government agencies, and the public, and the distribution of information about the proposed Project have been adequately carried out by WCGT and that efforts to consult with Indigenous Nations will continue on an ongoing basis;
- Engagement with the Nisga'a Nation and the provision of information or studies, as appropriate, about the proposed Project and its potential environmental effects and the measures that can be taken to prevent or mitigate those effects have been adequately carried out by the WCGT, and that efforts to engage the Nisga'a Nation will continue on an ongoing basis;
- Issues identified by Indigenous Nations, government agencies and the public, which were within the scope of the EA, were adequately and reasonably addressed by WCGT during the review of the EA Application;

- Issues identified by Nisga'a Nation, which were within the scope of the EA, were adequately and reasonably addressed by the WCGT during the review of the EA Application; and
- The potential for adverse effects on the Aboriginal rights and Treaty 8 rights of Indigenous Nations has been avoided, minimized or otherwise accommodated to an acceptable level.

The Certificate contains specific conditions that require WCGT to develop management plans, and these plans are informed through engagement with Indigenous Nations, Relevant Regulatory Authorities and stakeholders. WCGT recognizes the importance of planning the Project in the context of regulatory changes that have emerged since the Certificate was issued, including the 2018 EAA and the DRIPA (see section 5.6 of this Application), and views work to be undertaken to advance the development of Condition Plans to be an important opportunity to work in the spirit of consent and collaboration with Indigenous Nations.

5. WORK UNDERTAKEN TO ADVANCE THE PROJECT

WCGT has undertaken considerable work to advance the Project since the Certificate was issued in 2014. This has included the commercial negotiations to secure customers for the Project as discussed above; progressing with the permits and approvals necessary to investigate, develop, construct and operate the Project; implementing conditions in the Certificate; engaging with Indigenous Nations and stakeholders; and improving Project design to align with Clean BC and feedback from Indigenous Nations. Other than the commercial negotiations, which are addressed above, WCGT's progress in each of these areas is discussed below.

5.1. PROVINCIAL AUTHORIZATIONS

Various licenses, permits and approvals are required to advance field programs to inform detailed engineering design and construction planning, and ultimately the construction and operation of the Project under federal, provincial, and local jurisdictions. WCGT seeks to continue to gather relevant information to inform detailed Project planning and engineering to be able to advance applications for relevant provincial and federal authorizations and deliver on commitments and conditions tied to existing approvals. WCGT notes that efforts to advance this work are limited by the circumstances that are the subject of this Application.

As described above, in October 2021 WCGT submitted an application to amend the definition of construction in the Certificate. In addition, on May 11, 2022, WCGT applied under Section 32 of BC EAA 2018 to amend the Certificate to remove 138 km from the eastern portion of the CPC. WCGT determined that the first 138 km in the eastern portion of the CPC (i.e., Kilometre Post ("KP") KP 0 to KP 138 as described in Schedule A of the Certified Project Description) are no longer required to support development of the Project. The proposed new start location for the Project is near Willow Flats, approximately 40 km west of Chetwynd. This new start location eliminates 138 km of proposed pipeline and two proposed construction camps near Fort St. John and Hudson's Hope from the Project as well as the associated conditions, permits and approvals relevant to these components. Removing the initial 138 km of the CPC results in the elimination of localized potential effects and materially reduces

cumulative adverse effects from construction, operation, maintenance, and future decommissioning activities in BRFN core traditional territory and Treaty 8.

5.2. IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTIFICATE CONDITIONS

The Project is subject to 43 conditions outlined in the Certificate, of which 22 conditions require development of specific management plans for environmental resources (the Condition Plans), nine conditions are related to mitigation and will be addressed in the Condition Plans, and the remaining conditions relate to general Project considerations and notification procedures. Table 1 provides a summary of progress on each Certificate condition. A significant amount of WCGT’s efforts to date have been focused on implementing Certificate Conditions. The status of each Certificate Condition is shown below in Table 1.

WCGT is taking a phased approach to developing the 24 Condition Plans required by the 22 conditions, whereby the 16 plans relevant to terrestrial pipeline construction are being developed in advance of the 8 plans relevant to the marine and west coast sections. This approach aligns with overall Project planning and was adopted to alleviate concurrent schedule pressures associated with high volumes of review on Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and Relevant Regulatory Authority (“RRA(s)”).

Table 1. WCGT Certificate Condition Status

Condition Number(s)	Topic	Status
1	Substantial Completion	At this time, the Project is advancing the work required in order to meet conditions associated with the construction of the first pipeline, and schedule planning considers timelines outlined in this condition.
2	Peace River crossing	An amendment to remove the first 138 km (approximately) of the pipeline route has been submitted to the EAO. This route amendment would remove the crossing of the Peace River adjacent to the Highway 29 Hudson’s Hope Bridge and therefore this condition would no longer be applicable.
3	Update KP Concordance Table	The table of concordance showing updated KP locations and corresponding maps will be submitted to the EAO 30 days prior to the planned date to commence construction.
4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 22, 25, 28, 29, 30, 33, 35 (Terrestrial)	Terrestrial Condition Plans	Detailed Outlines have been prepared and released for engagement as per the description below; review and update of mitigation is underway; and draft Condition Plans are currently in preparation.
5 to 9, 18, 35 (Marine), 43	Marine & West Coast Condition Plans	Marine and West Coast Condition Plans will follow the development of initial 16 Terrestrial Condition Plans.
14	Grizzly Bear Agreement	WCGT is seeking input from RRA’s on the Condition Plan Outlines to further the progression of the plan.
17	Caribou Agreement	WCGT is seeking input from RRA’s on the Condition Plan Outlines to further the progression of the plan.

Condition Number(s)	Topic	Status
20	Low Elevation Flights	Mitigation measures related to low elevation helicopter and fixed wing flights over UWR and WHA are included in the Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (Condition 19).
21	Marbled Murrelet	Mitigation measures related to marbled murrelet are included in the Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (Condition 19).
23	Vegetation Control Activities	This condition will be addressed during construction and operation of the Project. No pre-construction or planning action required at this time.
24	Red- and Blue-Listed Plants and Ecological Communities	Appropriately timed field work is planned for all relevant locations of the route where red- and/or blue-listed plants and ecological communities have been identified by the BC Conservation Data Center.
26	Mugaha Marsh	Mitigation measures related to Mugaha Marsh are included in the Wetlands Management Plan (Condition 12).
27	Nisga'a Lava Bed Memorial Park	N/A - WCGT will not require a park boundary amendment for the Project route through the Park as WCGT plans to follow the route through the Park for which a park boundary amendment has already been obtained by PRGT. WCGT will seek a Certificate amendment to reflect this route.
31	Consultation with Timber Tenure Holders	Consultation was initiated in January 2022 to identify active tenure holders.
32	Notification of Tenure Holders	This condition will be addressed six months prior to activities that may affect tenured rights. No pre-construction or planning action required at this time.
34	Policy	A no-hunting, no-trapping, no-fishing and no-plant gathering policy will be included in the Conditions Plans (Condition 35).
36	Environmental Inspection	This condition will be addressed during construction of the Project. No pre-construction or planning action required at this time.
37	Indigenous Nations	Engagement with Indigenous Nations is ongoing.
38	Cultural Awareness Program	This condition will be addressed prior to the commencement of construction.
39	Indigenous Consultation Report	This condition will be addressed during construction and operations of the Project. No preconstruction or planning action required at this time.
40	Indigenous Technical Review	WCGT will continue to engage with SFN, WMFN, MLIB, DRFN and PRFN regarding a technical review.
41	Nisga'a Nation	Engagement with Nisga'a Nation is ongoing.
42	Nisga'a Nation Participation	Engagement with Nisga'a Nation is ongoing.

WCGT is drafting the Condition Plans collaboratively and with input from Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and RRA's. To maximize opportunities for input throughout the drafting process, a staged approach is being implemented that includes:

- Detailed outlines, or 40% drafts to provide reviewers with the framework for the Condition Plan and create opportunity for early input on the approach taken for each Condition Plan. The detailed outlines do not include any mitigation measures. Input is being gathered through meetings, in written format and through a virtual open house platform.

- Draft Condition Plans, or 90% drafts to provide the full text for review and input. WCGT seeks to address interests and concerns raised by Indigenous Nations, RRA's and stakeholders through this review process.
- File Ready Condition Plans – these will be submitted to the EAO in accordance with the requirements of the Certificate Conditions, and where appropriate, undergo a timed review for EAO acceptance or approval.
- Final Condition Plans – accepted or approved by EAO.

The detailed outlines of the initial 16 terrestrial Condition Plans were prepared in late-2021 and provided to Indigenous Nations, stakeholders and RRA's for input and feedback in January 2022 through WCGT's Project webpage, virtual open house, virtual presentations, and via email. Input received on the detailed outlines will inform the drafting of the Condition Plans. WCGT plans to share draft Condition Plans for input and review as part of ongoing engagement in 2023.

Throughout the engagement period, input received on the Draft Condition Plans will be reviewed, discussed, and incorporated into the Condition Plans such that upon finalization of the Condition Plans all concerns have been addressed. WCGT expects these initial 16 terrestrial Condition Plans to be finalized and ready for submission to the EAO, BC OGC and others in early 2025.

Additionally, WCGT has been undertaking a thorough review of all Project mitigation previously presented in the Preliminary Terrestrial Environmental Management Plan (Appendix 3A of the EA Application). While remaining consistent with the intent of the previous mitigation, the wording of mitigation is being updated to reflect current and emerging construction technologies and best management practices, as well as WCGT's standards. Updated mitigation wording will be included in the Condition 35 Environmental Management Plans and shared across all Condition Plans. By reviewing and updating the mitigation early in the process of Condition Plan development, WCGT will ensure that when Draft Condition Plans are released for engagement and input, they include the most current practices and standards on which to base future discussions.

Development of detailed outlines for the marine Condition Plans is expected to commence in 2023 with a similar engagement process as described above throughout 2024 and early 2025.

Tracking of engagement activities and input or feedback received on the Condition Plans is of the utmost importance to the success of Condition Plan development and WCGT has established robust documentation protocols of all engagement activities.

5.3. INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Following the granting of the 2019 Certificate Extension, WCGT provided an update to Indigenous Nations and local and regional governments indicating that while WCGT was in discussions with multiple parties, work on the Project would not commence until the necessary binding commercial agreements were in place. WCGT reiterated that it listened to feedback throughout the Certificate extension process and remained interested and committed to the development of a natural gas transmission project to the coast to serve LNG export terminals. Some of the feedback provided by Indigenous

Nations stated the importance of ensuring that participation and partnership opportunities with Indigenous Nations are integrated into the development of the Project.

In March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic emerged and created a provincial, federal and global state of emergency. As noted above, advancement of commercial discussions, including those with Indigenous Nations, were impacted by the emergency. WCGT developed a Community and Indigenous Engagement Plan to support increased engagement on the Project to local communities and potentially impacted Indigenous Nations. The engagement plan focused on strengthening existing relationships with Indigenous Nations and community investment to support those affected by the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

WCGT also participated in initiatives to support the First Nations Climate Initiative, such as participating in working groups to discuss how the Project could meet the province's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, through Project electrification.

Re-commencement of Engagement Program

In Q1 2021, WCGT accelerated its community and Indigenous engagement program in the spirit of consent and collaboration on advancing the Project, focused on potentially impacted Nations (i.e., Schedule B Nations). WCGT has also reached out to other Nations if archaeology or investigative work was planned within their traditional territory and engaged with individual Nations at their request. WCGT provided a Project factsheet to potentially impacted Indigenous Nations and began to meet virtually. The engagement update stated that WCGT had been working closely with potential LNG terminal sponsors on developing an LNG project that would receive natural gas from the WCGT Project. As such, WCGT wished to advance discussions with local Indigenous Nations and stakeholders involved in the EA and Certificate Extension. Topics included economic opportunities, information sharing and participation in Certificate amendments, investigative environmental and engineering field work, permits (including archaeology), and other interests. WCGT has been providing regular Project updates and communications including factsheets, maps and shapefiles, historical EA documentation and other information as requested.

In Q2 2021, WCGT offered initial capacity funding to support Indigenous Nations to engage with WCGT, its contractors and provincial regulators in discussions regarding advancement of the Project. The intent of the funding was for information sharing and engagement-related initiatives that support Project readiness including:

- Meetings with WCGT's Community and Indigenous relations team to discuss Project updates;
- Assisting Indigenous Nation representatives to attend meetings related to the Project;
- Reviewing initial permits and Certificate amendments required by WCGT;
- Responding to regulators regarding the Project and permits requested;
- Discussions with the Project's Environmental and Engineering contractors;
- Discussing contracting and procurement, employment and training with WCGT or contractors, specifically related to environmental and engineering investigative work;

- Other activities as seen fit by the Indigenous Nation to ensure meaningful engagement including sharing information on how the Project may impact an Indigenous Nation’s rights and interests, and what can be done to mitigate those concerns, as appropriate; and
- Initiating further discussions regarding additional capacity funding required to support participation in forthcoming regulatory processes.

WCGT also engaged Indigenous Nations regarding the environmental and geophysical field work that was being planned for Q3 2021 including participation and employment opportunities. WCGT and its environmental contractor engaged frequently with Indigenous Nations to set up sub-contracting opportunities related to the field program, and as requested, met with municipal and regional government. Sub-contracting discussions progressed with Indigenous owned, partnered or affiliated businesses, specifically in relation to support services required for environmental technicians, wildlife monitors, archaeology, medics, helicopters, transportation, and accommodations. A reduced and limited environmental field work program took place in Fall 2021 with participation from local Indigenous businesses.

Advancing Engagement with the Nisga’a Nation

As noted in Section 12 of Volume 1 of the EA Application (Part D – Nisga'a Nation), the interests of Nisga’a Nation are set out in and governed by the Nisga’a Final Agreement (“NFA”) – a modern treaty to which the governments of BC and Canada are also parties. The NFA defines Nisga’a Nation’s treaty rights with respect to several categories of lands, including Nisga’a Lands (an area of land that Nisga’a Nation have a fee-simple interest in), the Nass Wildlife Area and the Nass Area. WCGT has been committed to working with the Nisga’a Nation and its leadership as it re-commenced its engagement program, ensuring that it built a program focused on several areas that recognize these unique rights in the Nisga’a Lands and Nass Area, of which the Project traverses 174 km. Through meetings and open discussions, WCGT has focused on the following areas of importance with the Nisga’a Nation:

- Supply Chain Management Indigenous Procurement and Inclusion: shared vision and understanding of WCGT requirements and expectations of contractors, and identifying opportunities for contracting for Nisga’a Nation businesses and citizens;
- Employment and training: discussing WCGT’s process and approach and learning about the Nisga’a Nation’s goals and desires for its citizens;
- Culture: information sharing and learning;
- Environment: planning for field work that would be required for Project development;
- Nisga’a Final Agreement understanding and importance;
- Condition 33: Social Economic Effects Management Plan, including contracting and employment strategies; and
- Meeting the province's CleanBC plan and sharing Enbridge’s Environment, Social and Governance goals.

Engagement Regarding Regulatory Permits

WCGT has been engaging with Indigenous Nations regarding Certificate amendments and permits. This has included:

- BC OGC geophysical (non-intrusive) IUPs (submitted July/August 2021);
- Certificate amendment to change the definition of construction (submitted October 2021);
- Certificate amendment to remove 138 km of the eastern part of the CPC (submitted May 2022);
- BC Heritage Branch Archaeology Permit (submitted November 2021); Archaeology Branch began consultation with Indigenous Nations in April 2022;
- Condition Plans – began engagement in Q4 2021; the official launch letter with live virtual open house was sent out in January 2022; and
- BC OGC geotechnical (intrusive) IUPs (submitted April 2022).

Advancing Agreements, Economic Partnerships and Opportunities

WCGT has been meeting with potentially impacted Indigenous Nations along the pipeline corridor to collaborate on a work plan for Indigenous Nations to engage and provide input throughout the pre-construction planning and permitting processes via a Project Participation Agreement and other agreements (Agreements). Through these Agreements, WCGT would provide an Indigenous Nation with capacity funding intended to support participation in key activities including, but not limited to:

- Engaging on fieldwork plans and facilitating participation through contractors, including the Archaeology program;
- Supporting development of Conditions Plans from draft to final;
- Reviewing and engaging on Certificate amendments;
- Reviewing and engaging on other permits, as needed;
- Routing and engineering design workshops;
- Discussions regarding an employment, procurement and training strategy to support construction execution planning; and
- Pre-construction communication and engagement with community members.

Draft Agreements have been provided to all potentially impacted Indigenous Nations along the right of way, with the exception of BRFN due to its ongoing negotiations with the BC government. Discussions regarding finalizing the Agreements are ongoing, however, the ability to finalize the work plan for the Agreements has been impacted by the delays in Project permitting and Certificate amendments, as this makes it difficult to determine the schedule for field work and pre-construction activities.

Socio-Economic Requirements of Contractors

WCGT follows Enbridge Inc.'s Indigenous Peoples Policy, which directs the organization to develop mutually beneficial relationships with Indigenous Nations close to, or potentially affected by, our

operations. To live up to the Indigenous Peoples Policy, WCGT has committed to a series of socio-economic requirements that all contractors must follow. The Socio-Economic Requirements of Contractors (“SERC”) supports relationships and mutually beneficial partnerships with Indigenous Nations and provides opportunities for economic participation of Indigenous owned businesses and community members. These commitments are a shared responsibility involving employees, contractors and affiliates.

Indigenous Nations have expressed a keen desire to secure WCGT contracting and employment opportunities, including for pre-construction field work. WCGT is committed to providing employment, contracting and training opportunities for Indigenous Nations, as evidenced through the SERC. WCGT has worked on advancing these opportunities with Indigenous Nations over the last year and will have more opportunities to offer when field work is able to proceed.

In collaboration with WCGT, its environmental contractor and Indigenous Nations, field work job descriptions have been prepared and shared where proposed field work would occur and multiple meetings have been held to review training requirements and opportunities (i.e., a training matrix) associated with that work. However, WCGT is of the view that it is unreasonable to ask Indigenous Nations to wait or put other opportunities on hold while it is faced with unknown delays in permitting and is unable to confirm participation opportunities.

One area where WCGT has been able to advance training that supports Indigenous interests, safety, and transferable skill development is in its Wildlife Watch Training program. The program, under development in collaboration with the University of Northern British Columbia, will support two cohorts to qualify to actively work on all Project field teams as Wildlife Watch, to ensure the participation of Indigenous Nations and support WCGT’s core value of safety. These courses are anticipated to run in Fall 2022 and Winter 2023, subject to availability of the Indigenous Nations.

WCGT remains committed to working with Indigenous Nations to scope out and offer direct contracting, subcontracting and/or participation opportunities, including support for pre-qualifying for certain types of work.

WCGT has also been working with Indigenous Nations to develop a program to help educate those working on the Project, both employees and contractors, about local Indigenous cultural traditions and practices, historical information and spiritual beliefs. In collaboration with local Indigenous Nations, WCGT plans on incorporating Indigenous storytelling, cultural awareness, traditions and practices in the field during construction.

Indigenous-Led Project/Financial Ownership

WCGT has heard an interest from Indigenous Nations in financial ownership throughout development of the Project and is committed to working collaboratively with Indigenous Nations to develop a partnership opportunity. Part of WCGT’s ongoing review during the Project development stage is to understand which financial models will facilitate such partnerships. WCGT has been learning about Indigenous Nations’ interests in equity models and has been reviewing lessons learned from other projects.

Beginning in the fall 2021, WCGT held meetings with potentially impacted Indigenous Nations along the pipeline corridor to formally introduce concepts for a financial model for Indigenous ownership in the Project. Following those meetings, WCGT provided a partnership proposal letter that stated WCGT would be prepared to offer Indigenous Nations along the proposed pipeline corridor an investment opportunity to own an interest in the Project. WCGT expressed an interest in developing the model in collaboration with Indigenous Nations and to receive input before it is finalized. The letter outlined a proposal for a possible investment concept as a starting point for discussions. Subsequent meetings have occurred regarding the model and on May 12, 2022, WCGT invited Indigenous Nations' leadership and advisors to an inaugural "all Nations" meeting to advance the concept. WCGT heard that there was a high-level of interest from Indigenous Nations to continue the discussion and a commitment to meet again after Summer 2022.

Based on this feedback, a second "all Nations" meeting was held on October 12, 2022. Facilitated by a third party, WCGT and the Nations talked about the various streams of engagement on the Project and the distinction between ongoing Project engagement with individual Nations as one stream of engagement and engagement on ownership as a separate stream. At this time, there is interest from the Nations to continue to evaluate the ownership model, in tandem with ongoing engagement relating to environmental, cultural and social interests related to the Project. Participating Indigenous Nations have made it clear that any conversation about ownership opportunities do not constitute support for the Project or negate the need to be fully engaged in the regulatory process and environmental stewardship. WCGT understands and agrees with this separation between ownership opportunity discussions and WCGT's engagement requirements.

Local/Regional Government Engagement

WCGT has been engaging with local and regional government regarding the Project. This engagement has occurred with local governments through virtual meetings, phone calls, and in person where available.

With respect to BC OGC IUP applications, WCGT met with the District of Mackenzie, which is a potentially impacted municipal tenure holder for the Williston Lake IUP. WCGT provided a public Project update to Mayor and Council in July 2021 and responded to inquiries from the District's Land and Environmental Coordinator. At a regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the District of Mackenzie on January 24, 2022, the Council reviewed and accepted WCGT's Geotechnical Investigative Studies Notification Letter. The Council did not have any objections to the IUP application and had no further comments or Project-related requests for WCGT.

WCGT provided a public Project update to the Peace River Regional District ("PRRD") Board of Directors in September 2021, including proposed plans for environmental field work in the region. The PRRD Board of Directors did not raise any concerns regarding the Project.

In January 2022, WCGT provided a public Project update to the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako. WCGT spoke about Certificate amendments that had been submitted or were forthcoming, proposed environmental and engineering field work planned for the region and Condition Plans, including the forthcoming engagement on the Social and Economic Effects Management Plan ("SEEMP"). The

Regional District asked about the potential impact of the Project on local medical resources and services, communities taking on added burden to health resources, and power supply to the Project. WCGT advised that potential impacts to local health resources and services would be adequately considered and mitigated in the SEEMP and that WCGT would work with local communities on the development of the SEEMP. WCGT also provided information about the Project's current plans to reduce compressor station requirements and build an originating electric drive compressor station. WCGT advised that it would consult with BC Hydro and/or independent power producers regarding the Project's power supply requirements.

In May 2022, through Enbridge, WCGT sponsored and attended the North Central Local Government Association ("NCLGA") annual convention in Fort St. John and held an in-person reception for local government representatives potentially impacted by the Project. The purpose of attending the NCLGA and hosting the reception was for WCGT representatives to be available to answer questions about the Project and to provide updates.

As requested, in July 2022 WCGT presented an update on the Project to the City of Terrace and provided information about the need for a Certificate extension. The City of Terrace raised interests regarding socio-economic impacts of large-scale infrastructure development and a desire for a revenue sharing agreement with the province. WCGT indicated that they would engage with the City of Terrace on the Project's Socio-Economic Effects Management Plan, should a Certificate extension be granted and the Project proceed.

In September 2022, WCGT attended the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention in Whistler, BC. WCGT met with multiple local and regional governments to provide updates on the Project and potential future activities in various regions.

WCGT has received letters of support for the Application from several local and regional governments (see Appendix B). WCGT looks forward to further engaging these communities should the Project proceed.

SEEMP Engagement

In January 2022, the Condition Plans engagement program "launch letter" was distributed to local and regional governments. The letter stated that WCGT would like to collaborate with the recipient in the development of the Condition Plans, while simultaneously seeking input into draft mitigation measures to meet the Conditions. The letter described an approach to drafting the Condition Plans, a preliminary timeline for engagement and development of the Condition Plans and provided notification that a member of the team would follow up for a meeting request. The letter also provided a link to a [Virtual Open House](#) regarding the Condition Plans and requested feedback on detailed outlines of the Plans.

Following the launch letter, representatives from WCGT reached out to the following local governments and municipalities to confirm contacts, provide a copy of the detailed SEEMP outline, and begin setting up individual meetings to further the development of the draft SEEMP.

Local Government

- City of Fort St. John – SEEMP introduction meeting February 2022

- District of Hudson’s Hope – SEEMP introduction meeting February 2022
- District of Mackenzie
- City of Prince George
- District of Houston
- District of Chetwynd
- District of Fort St. James
- Village of Fraser Lake
- Town of Smithers
- District of New Hazelton
- Village of Hazelton
- City of Terrace
- City of Prince Rupert
- District of Port Edward

Regional Districts

- Regional District of Fraser-Fort George
- Peace River Regional District
- Bulkley-Nechako Regional District – SEEMP introduced to Board January 2022
- Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (“RDKS”)
- North Coast Regional District

Investment and Participation in Regional Events

WCGT has participated in and sponsored a number of Indigenous and local community events and conferences. Unfortunately, many events were cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19, but WCGT was pleased to participate or sponsor the following events since 2020:

- BC Natural Resources Forum – Prince George, January 2020; Virtual, January 2021 and January 2022
- First Nations Major Project Coalition – Prince George, March 2020; Virtual, March 2021; Vancouver, April 2022; Prince George (Annual General Meeting), October 2022
- First Nations Climate Initiative – Virtual, February and April 2020; June and October 2021; June 2022
- Forward Summit – Calgary, May 2022
- Indigenous Partnership Success Showcase – Vancouver, May 2022

- Prophet River First Nation Cultural Camp – July 2022
- Terrace River Boat Days – July 2022
- SFN Golf Tournament – August 2022
- MLIB Annual General Meeting – August 2022
- HRFN’s Rodeo – August 2022
- Nation2Nation Community Session – Terrace, September 2022 and Prince Rupert, November 2022

5.4. PROJECT DESIGN IMPROVEMENTS

WCGT has also developed improvements to the Project design since the Certificate Extension was granted. Design improvements including specific changes that align with the Province’s CleanBC plan and Hydrogen Strategy and support the BC government’s 5-year DAAP are described below.

As noted above, WCGT has proposed to remove 138 km from the pipeline route. This design improvement will reduce the impact in BRFN’s core traditional territory and the Treaty 8 region, reducing the Project’s cumulative impact and will specifically result in:

- ~8,300,000m² less of civil works related to clearing, access development, etc.; and
- ~990,000m³ less of impacted native soil for trenching and backfill.

WCGT has committed to changing the initiating natural gas-powered compressor station, south of Chetwynd, proposed in the EA Application to an electric-driven compressor station. This aligns with the Province’s CleanBC Plan, specifically helping to ensure that more industries are powered with clean, renewable, made-in-BC renewable power and continuing to electrify BC’s economy.

In line with the BC government’s Hydrogen Strategy, WCGT is committed to evaluating the Project’s suitability for hydrogen transportation to support development of BC’s hydrogen economy. Current research shows that relatively low concentrations of hydrogen, 5%–20% by volume, appear to be feasible with very few modifications to existing pipeline systems or end-use appliances. However, this assessment of feasibility will vary from location to location. Future industry development will determine requirements for hydrogen transport within existing systems based on International Hydrogen Technical Committee (ISO/TC197), the European Industrial Gas Association and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and other organizations that specify standards for the production, storage, transportation, testing and use of hydrogen.

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

On November 26, 2019, the BC government passed the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (“Declaration Act”) and made a commitment to upholding the human rights of Indigenous Peoples. BC was the first jurisdiction in Canada to adopt the UNDRIP. The Declaration Act sets out BC’s framework for reconciliation.

On March 30, 2022, the BC government released its DAAP. WCGT has reviewed the DAAP and submits that by granting an extension, WCGT will have an opportunity to contribute to achieving some of the actions set out in the DAAP by working with Indigenous Nations and partners to create opportunities, jobs and implement appropriate environmental protections, in the interest of the public. WCGT is committed to working with Indigenous peoples in a meaningful way towards reconciliation. Having additional time to engage with Indigenous Nations in relation to the Project and on matters of priority to them, such as avoiding or mitigating cumulative impacts on Aboriginal or Treaty rights, will benefit all those potentially affected by the Project and is in the public interest. Specifically, through existing commitments made with respect to the Project and through continued engagement with Indigenous Nations, WCGT will assist with the following actions set out in the DAAP:

- Action 1.5 – co-develop and implement new distinctions-based policy frameworks for resource revenue-sharing and other fiscal mechanisms with Indigenous Peoples. WCGT will provide financial benefits to Indigenous Nations through potential equity opportunities, job opportunities, taxes or payments in lieu of taxes.
- Action 2.6 – co-develop strategic-level policies, programs and initiatives to advance collaborative stewardship of the environment, land and resources, that address cumulative effects and respects Indigenous knowledge. WCGT will engage with Indigenous Nations on the development of environmental stewardship or guardian programs that will support Indigenous involvement in long-term mitigation and monitoring of the Project.
- Action 2.7 – collaborate with First Nations to develop and implement strategies, plans and initiatives for sustainable water management. Through the Condition Plans, WCGT will collaboratively develop and implement strategies for sustainable water management.
- Action 2.8 – collaborate with Indigenous partners on issues related to conservation and biodiversity in BC including the protection of species at risk. Through the Condition Plans, WCGT will collaboratively develop and implement strategies for conservation and biodiversity in BC including the protection of species at risk.
- Action 2.12 – collaboratively develop and implement CleanBC and the Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy to support resilient communities and clean economic opportunities for Indigenous Peoples that benefit our shared climate and advance reconciliation. WCGT has committed to changing the initiating natural gas-powered compressor station proposed in the EA Application to an electric-driven compressor station to help ensure that more industries are powered with clean, renewable, made-in-BC renewable power and to continue to electrify BC's economy.
- Action 3.15 – include Indigenous languages in communications and signage where feasible. WCGT's community investment program will support the preservation of Indigenous languages and culture.
- Action 4.5 – provide support for Indigenous post-secondary education and skills training. WCGT will work with interested Indigenous Nations to support training and skills development as part

of WCGT's job readiness program. WCGT will also provide support for education and training through community investments.

- Action 4.6 – provide support to increase participation by Indigenous Peoples in culturally relevant sport, physical activity and recreation initiatives and opportunities that increase Indigenous engagement in traditional and mainstream sports in both urban and rural or remote areas. WCGT will work with interested Indigenous Nations to provide support to increase the preservation of Indigenous culture and sport.
- Actions 4.7-4.11 – provide support for mental health and wellness programs for Indigenous Peoples. WCGT will work with interested Indigenous Nations to provide support for mental health and wellness programs through community investments.
- Action 4.29 and 4.30 – collaborate with Indigenous Peoples and provide funding to assist with the revitalization of Indigenous languages in BC. Through community investments, WCGT will work with interested Indigenous Nations to provide funding to assist with the revitalization and preservation of Indigenous languages.
- Action 4.35 – work with Indigenous Peoples to protect cultural, spiritual and heritage sites and objects. WCGT will work with Indigenous Nations to identify cultural, spiritual and heritage sites of significance to the Nation to ensure these sites can be protected and that the Project avoids or mitigates any potential impacts to these sites. WCGT's initiative to develop cultural moments and stories with local Indigenous Nations that can be shared with WCGT employees and contractors at daily toolbox talks will help those working on the Project learn about cultural, spiritual and heritage sites and objects in order to protect them.
- Action 4.41 – work with Indigenous Nations and provide funding to assist with community-led programs for Indigenous Peoples to upgrade skills, obtain credentials, secure employment and develop and support community economies. Through community investments, WCGT will work with interested Indigenous Nations to provide funding to support skills development, employment and economic opportunities.
- Action 4.43 – co-develop recommendations on strategic policies and initiatives for clean and sustainable energy. This includes identifying and supporting First Nations-led clean energy opportunities related to CleanBC and other initiatives. WCGT will work with interested Indigenous Nations on opportunities or initiatives related to clean and sustainable energy.
- Action 4.44 – support Indigenous Youth Internship programs. Through community investments, WCGT will work with interested Indigenous Nations to support Indigenous youth internship programs and employment opportunities.
- Action 4.46 – provide economic supports for Indigenous workers by increasing access to services and programs. Through community investments, WCGT will work with interested Indigenous Nations on education and training and increasing access to related services and programs.

- Action 4.49 – provide support to enhance treaty and self-governing Nations’ fiscal capacity to deliver services to their citizens. Through community investments, WCGT will work with interested Indigenous Nations to enhance opportunities available to their citizens.

6. ENGAGEMENT ON THE CERTIFICATE EXTENSION APPLICATION

In March 2022, WCGT initiated discussions with Indigenous Nations regarding WCGT’s intention to pursue a Certificate extension and the reasons for doing so. WCGT requested an opportunity to meet directly with Indigenous Nations to discuss the extension and answer questions or concerns related to the extension.

In April 2022, WCGT provided written correspondence to Indigenous Nations and stakeholders regarding reasons for pursuing the extension and offered to meet to answer any questions.

Various meetings with Indigenous Nations and stakeholders occurred throughout Spring 2022 to discuss the Certificate extension, receive feedback and answer questions. In June 2022, WCGT provided a draft of the Application to potentially impacted Indigenous Nations for review prior to the Application being submitted and offered the same to local and regional governments.

Following sharing of the draft Application, WCGT provided summaries of the interests or concerns heard throughout engagement on the Application to individual Nations who provided comments along, with WCGT’s response to those comments.

WCGT had planned to submit the Application in Summer 2022, but later paused the submission to allow more time for review of the Application by Indigenous Nations, and to attempt to address outstanding concerns upon receiving notice from two Indigenous Nations of their plans to oppose the Application. Additional ongoing efforts have been made to advance discussions and address concerns of those Nations as summarized in the Interest, Comment and Concern Summary Table in Appendix A. WCGT acknowledges that support for or non-objection to the Certificate extension does not constitute support or consent for the Project at this stage. WCGT anticipates engagement will continue with all Indigenous Nations throughout the Application review period to continue to address concerns collaboratively with Indigenous Nations and their members.

WCGT recognizes that Indigenous Nations are currently evaluating the potential environmental and cultural impacts on rights and interests in tandem with the economic reconciliation and partnership opportunities that may come with the development of this Project. Indigenous Nations have been clear that environmental and cultural stewardship is essential, and additional time is required to work alongside WCGT through the evaluation of refined routing, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities, the development of conditions plans that will outline measures to avoid or mitigate impacts that may be caused by the Project, among others. Future field work, traditional land use assessments and archaeology studies will support Indigenous Nations and WCGT with further evaluation and refinement of the Project route.

The table in Appendix A summarizes interests, comments or concerns related to the draft Application and WCGT’s response to those comments, including an indication of support, non-objection, or objection. Please see Appendix B for copies of letters received in support of the Application. Some

Indigenous Nations preferred to take a neutral approach on the extension at this time and wait for further engagement during the Application review period.

7. PLANS AND TIMELINES FOR ADVANCING THE PROJECT IF EXTENSION IS GRANTED

If the extension to the Certificate is granted, the activities listed are planned in the 12 to 18 months following for enhanced Project assessment and development:

- Material grade and pipe size analysis for improved construction and operational safety
- Light Detection and Ranging and HEM Surveys completed
 - Allows for improved efficiency and reduction in effects from field program
 - Eliminates resource and environmental impacts by tightening program evaluations and improving route centerline certainty
- Complex Constructability Assessment and Centerline Refinement
 - Further improves efficiency and accuracy of future field programs and quantifies environmental impacts based on construction workspace requirements
 - Allows identification of opportunities to reduce the width of the right of way and confirm right of way requirements with the intent to minimize environmental impacts and reduce civil work impact
- Enhanced field program in FEED prior to detailed design or construction start
- Assessment and selection of permanent routing and elimination of proposed alternate routes
- Trenchless crossing methodology selections to mitigate risks related to installation, operation and environmental impact

The expected schedule for Project development and construction is as follows:

- 2024 – Anticipated environmental field work commencement
- 2025 – Environmental field work
- 2025/2026 – Anticipated Certificate amendment application for routing revisions in initial construction sections
- 2025/2026 – Anticipated Certificate amendment application for new Project terminus with routing revisions
- 2025/2026 – Anticipated Certificate amendment application for compressor station at Willow Flats
- 2025/2026 – Anticipated Certificate amendment application for any additional routing changes
- 2026 – Start of Construction
- 2026/2027 – Final Investment Decision
- Q1 2029 – Provide submission to the Minister for Substantial Start Determination
- Q4 2029 – Substantial Start Deadline
- 2031 – Substantial Completion of construction

8. CHANGES TO THE CERTIFICATE

Since the Certificate was granted in 2014, the 2002 EAA has been replaced with the modernized 2018 EAA and the EAO has developed new policies, guidelines and standard definitions to be included in environmental assessment certificates. As a result, some of the terms, conditions and definitions in the Certificate do not align with the 2018 EAA and current EAO policies, guidelines and standard definitions. If the extension is granted, WCGT asks the CEAO to amend the Certificate and a definition in Schedule B, Table of Conditions to align it with the 2018 EAA and current EAO policies, guidelines and standard definitions. WCGT recognizes that the EAO may recommend other changes to the Certificate to align it with current EAO policies, guidelines and standard definitions, including minor changes to ensure clarity and alignment with the Minister's responsibilities in the 2018 EAA and that future amendments may also include these types of changes.

8.1. THE DEFINITION OF CONSTRUCTION

As noted above, WCGT has requested a change to the definition of construction in Schedule B of the TOC to the Certificate. The requested wording is consistent with the wording in environmental assessment certificates issued to other natural gas pipeline project sponsors since the Certificate was issued to WCGT. WCGT understands the proposed wording is consistent with a standard definition used in environmental assessment certificates issued more recently. The proposed change in wording would therefore improve consistency across environmental assessment certificates for natural gas pipeline projects. WCGT asks that the CEAO change this definition in the Certificate if the extension is granted. WCGT requests that the EAO change the definition of Construction in Schedule B, TOC from:

All activities associated with the construction of the Project including any physical alteration to the Certified Pipeline Corridor by the Holder for the purposes of site preparation and activities that modify the land, vegetation, or natural environment and ground disturbance related to the building of all Project components.

to instead read:

The phase of the Project during which physical alteration of land, vegetation or any other aspect of the natural environment occurs, including upgrading, repairing, replacing, or removing, any existing work or infrastructure. Construction does not include any activities conducted solely for investigative purposes under a valid permit or authorization.

8.2. THE REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER OF THE CERTIFICATE

Section 5 of the Certificate addresses requirements in the event the Certificate is transferred and states the following:

5.(1) Except as provided below, neither this Certificate nor any interest in it may be transferred to any person.

(2) A transfer of this Certificate will only be effective if the proposed Holder acknowledges that, upon transfer, it will be responsible for complying with the conditions of the Certificate, and both the proposed Holder and the Holder;

a. obtain consent for the transfer from the Executive Director prior to completing the transfer transaction;

b. apply under section 19 of the Act for such amendments to this Certificate, if any, as the Executive Director deems necessary to ensure compliance with and enforceability of this Certificate and to otherwise reflect the proposed transfer; and

c. confirm by written notice to the Executive Director, within 14 days of the completion of all aspects of the transfer transaction other than this notice, that the transfer has been completed.

(3) An interest in this Certificate may be transferred by way of a grant of security to lenders or financiers without consent.

(4) A transfer to a trustee in bankruptcy, by a receiver or a trustee in bankruptcy pursuant to a court approved sale or as part of a court approved arrangement under the Company Creditors Arrangement Act may occur without consent.

(5) If this Certificate is transferred without consent, pursuant to sections 5(3) or (4), the new and former Holder must notify the Executive Director within 30 days of the transfer and apply within the time specified by the Executive Director for any amendments to this Certificate that the Executive Director deems necessary to ensure compliance with and enforceability of this Certificate and to otherwise reflect the completed transfer.

Section 33 of the 2018 EAA addresses transfer of certificates stating the following:

33(1) On application by the holder of an environmental assessment certificate or exemption order, the chief executive assessment officer may transfer the certificate or order to another person on any conditions the chief executive assessment officer considers appropriate.

(2) An application under subsection (1) must be made in accordance with the requirements of the chief executive assessment officer.

(3) The chief executive assessment officer may make requirements for the purposes of this section that apply generally or with respect to a specific reviewable project.

The EAO's Transfer Policy and Procedure issued June 2021 states section 33 applies to all projects with a certificate no matter when the certificate was issued. It also states that conditions in certificates issued before December 16, 2019 (when the 2018 EAA came into force) for transfers of a certificate are cancelled and replaced with section 33. WCGT requests that the CEO remove section 5 from the Certificate since the EAO can now rely on section 33 of the 2018 EAA.

8.3. THE REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER OF AN INTEREST IN THE PROJECT

Section 6 of the Certificate addresses requirements in the event an interest in the Project is transferred and states the following:

6. (1) *Except in connection with the granting of security to Project lenders or financiers, prior to the Holder transferring a significant interest in the Project, the Holder and proposed transferee must:*

a. obtain consent for the transfer from the Executive Director; and

b. apply under section 19 of the Act for such amendments to this Certificate, if any, as the Executive Director deems necessary to ensure compliance with and enforceability of this Certificate and to otherwise reflect the proposed transfer.

(2) A transfer to a trustee in bankruptcy, by a receiver or a trustee in bankruptcy pursuant to a court approved sale or as part of a court approved arrangement under the Company Creditors Arrangement Act may occur without consent.

(3) If a significant interest in the Project is transferred without consent pursuant to section 6(2), the Holder must notify the Executive Director within 30 days of the transfer and apply within the time specified by the Executive Director for any amendments to this Certificate that the Executive Director deems necessary to ensure compliance with and enforceability of this Certificate and to otherwise reflect the proposed transfer.

The EAO's Transfer Policy and Procedure issued June 2021 states after the 2018 EAA came into force, the EAO stopped including conditions requiring consent for transfers of a "project", an "interest in a project", or "a significant interest in a project" and instead relies on general compliance provisions of the 2018 EAA to address compliance issues associated with transferring a certificate or order or a transfer of a "project", an "interest in a project", or "a significant interest in a project". WCGT requests the CEAO remove section 6 from the Certificate since it is not needed under the 2018 EAA.

9. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, WCGT submits the following:

- The COVID-19 pandemic created an emergency situation that has delayed the Project by approximately more than two years;
- The inability for WCGT to obtain permits while negotiations between BRFN and the Treaty 8 First Nations and the BC government to develop a new cumulative effects framework has delayed the Project by two field seasons and the expected length of the delay is still unknown;
- The permit delays from the above negotiations could not have been predicted and it is in the public interest to grant a variance to allow time for those negotiations to occur before considering or issuing the permits;
- The permit delays created a circumstance similar to an emergency where from WCGT's perspective, a variance of the 2018 EAA to permit the requested 5-year Certificate extension would be in the public interest;
- Granting the variance and extension to the Certificate would not result in a change to the effects assessed during the EA; and
- Granting the variance and extension to the Certificate are unlikely to cause incremental or additional negative effects to the Indigenous Nations or their rights.

WCGT requests that:

- 1) Under Section 46 of the 2018 EAA the Minister issue an order to vary the 2018 EAA to allow the CEAO to grant a further Certificate extension under Section 31(4) of the 2018 EAA;
- 2) Under Section 31(2) of the 2018 EAA, the CEAO extend the Certificate with any additional conditions; and
- 3) The CEAO amend the Certificate to align it with the 2018 EAA and current EAO policies, guidelines and standard definitions.

APPENDIX A – INTEREST, COMMENT AND CONCERN SUMMARY TABLE

Summary of Indigenous Nation’s and Stakeholder’s interests raised during engagement for the Application

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
Blueberry River First Nations	BRFN advised in an October 19, 2021 letter that they intended to oppose the WCGT Project, including any Certificate amendments or extensions. BRFN stated they believed the original EAO decision in 2014 failed to properly assess their concerns about cumulative effects on their treaty rights and the 2019 Certificate Extension was similarly deficient. BRFN also mentioned that they will oppose any future permits with respect to the pipeline, at least until substantial restoration and healing of the land has taken place, and until the Province has instituted a proper system to assess cumulative effects and their treaty rights. BRFN directed WCGT to provide future correspondence to BRFN legal counsel.	<p>WCGT is aware of BRFN’s concerns related to the cumulative effects from multiple proposed projects and the resulting impacts to Aboriginal and treaty rights in BRFN’s territory, which were raised during the EA and in the 2019 Certificate extension.</p> <p>The Project’s EA required an assessment of the potential adverse effects of the Project, including cumulative effects, and the development of meaningful mitigation measures, including ways to avoid, minimize or otherwise manage any such potential adverse effects. WCGT acknowledges that the assessment of the Project occurred prior to the Yahey decision and that a framework is being developed to address cumulative effects that have been assessed moving forward.</p> <p>A legally binding condition of the Certificate is to develop a plan to mitigate potential impacts to Aboriginal and treaty rights as well as to address concerns raised during the EA. These conditions require ongoing consultation with Nations, and it is WCGT’s hope to engage BRFN on the development of Condition Plans, should the Project proceed, in order to address BRFN’s interests and incorporate the new framework being negotiated with the BC government following the Yahey decision.</p>

¹⁴ Names of Indigenous Nations or Stakeholder in alphabetical order.

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		<p>WCGT has also been considering ways to reduce the potential impact of the Project on BRFN’s territory, such as applying to the BC EAO to amend the Certificate to remove 138 km of the certified corridor in BRFN territory. This application was submitted earlier this year and is currently under review.</p> <p>WCGT acknowledges that time has passed since the Certificate was issued in 2014. Most notably, WCGT acknowledges that the BC government has introduced new environmental assessment legislation (i.e., 2018 EAA), which is aligned with the DRIPA and that consultation requirements and expectations have evolved since 2014. WCGT expects to meet or exceed consultation requirements under the legislation and is working with individual Nations to address their unique expectations and protocols for consultation.</p> <p>Detailed environmental and engineering studies need to be conducted to continue to evaluate potential impact from the Project and determine the appropriate mitigation and/or avoidance required. These activities require permits and Certificate amendments that cannot be issued while negotiations between BRFN and the BC government on the new framework are underway. An extension to the Certificate would provide additional time so that when the framework is in place, WCGT and BRFN can determine together whether the Project can proceed in a manner that is consistent with the framework and does not unjustifiably infringe BRFN’s (or any other Indigenous Nation’s) Aboriginal and treaty rights.</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	BRFN comments received on draft 2022 Application	
	<p>In correspondence related to the Application, BRFN raised concern that the amount of new gas production demands that will come with the WCGT Project cannot be sustained over the life of the Project without further damaging BRFN treaty rights and would make it impossible to come up with an acceptable cumulative impacts plan that would meet the criteria set by the court.</p> <p>BRFN legal counsel has indicated they will be taking BRFN's concerns to the regulators and to government directly as it is the Crown that has the legal responsibility to consult and to protect BRFN treaty rights. BRFN legal counsel stated they would respond to the proposed Application to the regulator.</p>	<p>A draft of the Application was provided to BRFN legal counsel on June 29, 2022.</p> <p>WCGT respects that BRFN and the government need time to reach an agreement on a framework for cumulative effects and we look forward to learning about this new framework so that WCGT and BRFN can determine together whether the Project can proceed in a manner that is consistent with the framework.</p> <p>New gas production will not be approved unless it complies with the new framework that BRFN is developing with the government of BC. Until that framework is in place, one cannot determine whether potential impacts from upstream production on BRFN treaty rights can be managed or whether a plan can be developed that will meet the court's requirements. Our potential customers are gas producers in BC and Alberta who would also be responsible for working with BRFN, Treaty 8 Nations, communities, regulators and government on sourcing gas supply. As WCGT currently has yet to execute binding commercial agreements, we cannot comment on the source of gas at this time.</p>
	<p>BRFN stated: We would ask that you address in your application why your company's desire to extend this flawed certificate constitutes a public emergency, and why the extension of a past breach of treaty and breach of fiduciary duty owed to an Indigenous nation is in the 'public interest' in 2022.</p>	<p>WCGT has addressed in the Application the rationale and need to seek an extension to the Certificate. To proceed with Project development, WCGT must undertake certain non-intrusive geophysical and intrusive geotechnical investigative field work that requires IUP from the OGC. The intrusive geotechnical investigative field work also requires EAO approval of an amendment to the definition of construction in the Certificate, which WCGT Ltd. applied for in October 2021. Since the pause</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		<p>and delay in the issuance of certain permits by the BC government, WCGT has applied for, but been unable to obtain the IUPs and Certificate amendments while the negotiations between the BC government, BRFN and Treaty 8 First Nations have been ongoing. WCGT could not have accounted for this permitting delay in its Project plans. This is a situation that is comparable to an emergency – a situation that could not be predicted and over which WCGT has no control. It is in the public interest to allow for the extension of the Certificate given the delay related to the important ongoing negotiations. This is impacting WCGT’s ability to further Project development within the prescribed timeline and warrants an extension.</p> <p>WCGT understands that the BC government and BRFN reached an initial agreement to work together to develop land management processes in BRFN’s territory that will restore and protect the ability of the land to support Indigenous ways of life and ensure future development authorizations manage cumulative effects on land and wildlife and their impact on BRFN’s treaty rights. An extension of the Certificate would not extend a past breach of the treaty or fiduciary duty owed to BRFN. Rather, once BRFN and the BC Government have agreed to a framework, an extension would allow WCGT and BRFN to determine together whether the Project can proceed in a manner that is consistent with the framework and does not unjustifiably infringe BRFN’s (or any other Indigenous Nation’s) Aboriginal and treaty rights. In WCGT’s view, it is in the public interest to allow time for the necessary negotiations between the government of BC, BRFN and the Treaty 8 First Nations before the EAO and OGC issue certain permits for the Project, to be able to provide long-term solutions and greater certainty for Project development moving forward.</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		<p>Once finalized, WCGT will be able to work with BRFN and other potentially impacted Indigenous Nations to avoid or mitigate any potential impacts the Project may have on Aboriginal and treaty rights.</p>
	<p>BRFN stated: We had understood that Enbridge was no longer proposing to build any portion of its pipeline within our Claim area and that you are also applying for an amendment accordingly. The Court case issued a declaration that applied only to the Claim area.</p> <p>We wish to ask that you provide copies of the applications for ‘non-intrusive geophysical and intrusive geotechnical investigative field work’ that you made to the OGC, and advise as to why those were within our Claim area if they were.</p>	<p>WCGT applied to the EAO to amend its Certificate to remove 138 km of its pipeline route early this year, including a portion of the route that crossed BRFN’s claim area. Accordingly, the WCGT Project will no longer cross BRFN’s claim area. This amendment application is still under review.</p> <p>WCGT submitted eight IUP applications for non-intrusive geophysical field work in July and August 2021 and three IUP applications for intrusive geotechnical investigative field work in April 2022. The IUP applications are not located within the BRFN Claim Area. The applications submitted to OGC include field activities proposed within Treaty 8 territory, to the south and west of the BRFN Claim area. While outside of BRFN claim area, WCGT would be happy to provide copies of these OGC applications to BRFN if requested.</p> <p>However, since the pause and delay in the issuance of certain permits by the BC government throughout Treaty 8, WCGT could not proceed with this planned field work in 2021 and 2022 despite this work not being located in BRFN’s claim area. WCGT respects the BC government’s decision to not issue permits while negotiations are ongoing.</p>
	<p>BRFN asked: why you need a five-year extension for a delay of one year?</p>	<p>WCGT provided information and rationale on the term of the extension request in correspondence to Indigenous Nations, as well as within the Application. The impact from the COVID-19 pandemic lasted approximately two years. Additionally, since the release of the Yahey decision, WCGT has been unable to obtain</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		<p>field work permits, so its field work program for 2021 and 2022 was delayed.</p> <p>WCGT understands that an interim framework has not yet been agreed to between the BC Government and BRFN and the other Treaty 8 First Nations so it is possible and very likely that planned field work in 2023 will be delayed as well. This would result in a two-to-three-year delay. WCGT is requesting a five-year extension, because of the two-year COVID-19 delay, in addition to an expected permit delay of two to three years (possibly more). We look forward to learning about this new framework so that WCGT and BRFN can determine together whether the Project can proceed in a manner that is consistent with the framework.</p>
	<p>BRFN asked: Why you need an extension now, when the outcome of negotiations has not yet been determined (including whether your project will be allowed to proceed)?</p>	<p>The WCGT Project Certificate expires on November 25, 2024 and WCGT must either obtain an extension for the Certificate or be deemed by the Minister to have substantially started the Project, which includes some physical construction before the expiry date. Field studies and a significant amount of engineering, design, Project development and planning work is still required before construction can start as well as lead time to receive pipeline materials. WCGT's planning efforts indicate that due to the experienced and ongoing expected delays as referenced in Application, there is not enough time to complete this pre-construction and construction work to meet the November 25, 2024 deadline unless an extension is granted.</p> <p>When WCGT was notified in July 2022 that BRFN was not supportive of the Application, WCGT decided to pause the submission to allow more time to respond to and address outstanding concerns. We are of the view that it is necessary to apply for the extension now to determine whether the BC</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		government will grant more time for WCGT and Indigenous Nations to conduct the required work for the Project to proceed.
	BRFN asked: Why you did not apply to the OGC sooner?	<p>In early development of the Project, WCGT decided to apply to the EAO for Certificate amendments before applying to the OGC for permits. As noted above, certain field work must be completed before OGC permits can be obtained and WCGT cannot complete that field work without the IUPs that have been delayed as described above, or the amendment to the Certificate to change the definition of construction.</p> <p>WCGT began to consider an Application to the EAO to extend the Certificate in early 2022 when it became evident due to the experienced and expected delays regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and permitting that there would not be enough time to complete the necessary pre-construction and construction work to meet the November 25, 2024 Substantial Start deadline set out in the Certificate.</p> <p>WCGT began to engage with Indigenous Nations in March 2022 regarding the extension and has been working to address any concerns or questions related to the Application prior to applying. When WCGT was notified in July 2022 that BRFN was not supportive of the Application, WCGT decided to pause the submission to allow more time to respond to and address outstanding concerns. WCGT reiterates that support or non-objection of the Certificate extension does not constitute support for the Project at this time, recognizing the amount of work still required to advance the Project to potential construction.</p>
	BRFN asked: Why you did not care about the Court case under way when you made your 2019 application?	WCGT's submission of the Extension Application was not an indication that it did not care about BRFN's Court case. WCGT acknowledges and respects BRFN's Aboriginal and Treaty rights

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		and would like to work with BRFN to avoid or mitigate any impacts the Project may have on BRFN's rights and interests.
	BRFN asked: Why is it not more in the 'public interest', if you are determined to proceed with this Project, that you apply for a new EA Certificate under the current legislation and pursuant to the cumulative impacts management regime that the Province will implement after the current negotiations?	WCGT's Certificate remains valid, and it would not be in the public interest to repeat a concluded assessment process. All condition requirements and amendments to the existing Certificate will follow the new 2018 EAA and the new framework developed by BRFN and Treaty 8 Nations when negotiations are complete. Although WCGT has an existing Certificate, the Project will still require several permits, including those required from the OGC. Applications for these permits will also follow the new framework developed by BRFN and Treaty 8 Nations when negotiations are complete.
	BRFN asked: In respect of COVID-19, we ask that you advise the EAO what activities or meetings specifically that were postponed by COVID-19, why other methods of meeting or planning were not available, and specify what period of time each activity was delayed. Please be specific about what activities, if any, could not be performed during that entire period of time.	<p>WCGT's activities were impacted by the provincial and national state of emergency, and the associated health orders issued by the BC government. Those safety measures, including stay at home orders and travel restrictions, prevented WCGT from executing required field work with Indigenous Nations. Limits of crew sizes, physical distancing and overall consideration for safety and health of the crew would have impacted the ability to ensure meaningful participation of Indigenous Nations in the planned field work. To be able to conduct the field work safely, training is also necessary. WCGT also was not able to meet with Indigenous Nations in person to plan and train for field work, which impacted planning and scheduling of field work.</p> <p>As noted in the Application, WCGT employed technological solutions such as video meetings, conference calls and virtual open houses; however, those technological solutions were not available to all Indigenous Nations or communities, especially at the beginning of the pandemic. While helpful in ongoing planning, these solutions are not as effective as being out on the</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		land together, conducting field studies, sharing Project information in person, learning about and addressing site specific concerns and developing relationships and trust. In addition, during the first 6 months or more of the pandemic, many Indigenous communities were “closed”. The priority for communities, understandably, was the safety and wellbeing of their members, not engagement with industry. WCGT took guidance from Indigenous Nations on the appropriate time and methods for engagement, which varied with each Nation due to different comfort levels.
City of Fort St. John	<p>The City of Fort St. John provided a letter to WCGT dated May 30, 2022 indicating support for the Certificate extension and of the Project.</p> <p>The City of Fort St. John stated an interest in increasing pipeline capacity due to the economic and environmental benefits to the North Peace region and Canada as a whole. The City of Fort St. John commented that they offer a strong and knowledgeable workforce and hope to see local contractors and individuals hired for the Project and to be further consulted if the Project proceeds. The City of Fort St. John stated they see great value in WCGT’s efforts to develop a natural gas transmission system and wished to express support of the Project.</p>	WCGT thanks the City of Fort St. John for their support of the Application and looks forward to further engagement with the City should the Project proceed. WCGT values the City’s input into the development of the SEEMP, which will describe all Project interactions with labour force conditions and community-level infrastructure and services, and identify priorities for each of the communities, such as ensuring opportunities for local contractors.
City of Prince Rupert	The City of Prince Rupert provided a letter to WCGT dated October 12, 2022 indicating support for the Certificate extension.	WCGT thanks the City of Prince Rupert for their support of the Application and looks forward to further engagement with the City should the Project proceed.

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
City of Terrace	<p>The City of Terrace provided a letter to WCGT dated August 2, 2022, indicating support for the Certificate extension. The City of Terrace commented that the need for a five-year extension seemed reasonable considering the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and permit delays.</p> <p>Council raised the following interests in their letter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned that Terrace staff are unable to provide the appropriate time and effort required to participate in the development of the SEEMP, a condition of the Certificate, and requests compensation for staff time. • Interest in a revenue sharing agreement with the Province and stated that Terrace continues to realize the growth impacts of various large-scale projects taking place in the region but little to no infrastructure dollars to support the growth. 	<p>WCGT thanks the City of Terrace for their support of the Application and looks forward to further engagement with the City should the Project proceed.</p> <p>WCGT values the City’s input into the development of the SEEMP. The SEEMP will describe all Project interactions with labour force conditions and community-level infrastructure and services, as well as interactions with transportation and access associated with roads and traffic in municipal areas as required in Condition 33 of the Certificate. Potential Project interactions with socio-economic conditions were extensively studied during the provincial EA process for the Project. Moving forward, WCGT’s ongoing engagement program with Indigenous groups, local communities, regulatory authorities and stakeholders will support the development of the SEEMP. It will include recommendations regarding monitoring and effectiveness of socio-economic effects management and identify priorities of affected parties with respect to recommended and new mitigation measures.</p> <p>WCGT is willing to work with the City of Terrace regarding their capacity constraints and request for compensation. WCGT will meet with the City to develop a work plan for staff involvement in the development of the SEEMP, should the Project proceed.</p> <p>WCGT understands that the provincial government is aware of the City’s interest in a revenue sharing agreement with the Province. WCGT has observed that a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Province and the Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance in September 2022, of which the City of Terrace is a named party.</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
District of Chetwynd	<p>The District of Chetwynd provided a letter to WCGT dated June 13, 2022 indicating support for the Certificate extension. The District of Chetwynd commented that the need for a five-year extension seemed reasonable considering the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and permit delays.</p>	<p>WCGT thanks the District of Chetwynd for their support of the Application and looks forward to further engagement with the community should the Project proceed.</p>
Doig River First Nation	<p>DRFN provided a letter to WCGT dated June 17, 2022 indicating non-opposition to a Certificate extension for the Project.</p> <p>DRFN is currently evaluating the potential environmental and cultural impacts on their rights and interests in tandem with the economic reconciliation and partnership opportunities that may come with the development of the Project. The proposed pipeline may impact the exercise of Aboriginal or Treaty rights in their territory.</p> <p>DRFN stated that environmental and cultural stewardship is their highest priority, and they require more time to work with WCGT Ltd. through the evaluation of refined routing, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities, and the development of Conditions Plans that will outline measures to avoid or mitigate impacts that may be caused by the Project.</p>	<p>A draft of the Application was provided to DRFN on June 29, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p> <p>WCGT thanks DRFN for their letter regarding the Application and looks forward to further engagement with DRFN on their areas of interest should the Project proceed. WCGT looks forward to continuing to advance a Project Participation Agreement with DRFN and WCGT is committed to working with DRFN on the issues of interest to them including development of Condition Plans.</p> <p>WCGT hosted a community meeting in DRFN in February 2022 to provide information about potential contracting, training, and employment opportunities and will continue to engage DRFN on future environmental field work programs, should the Project proceed.</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	DRFN has expressed an interest in employment and contracting opportunities for their members through environmental field work programs.	
Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs	<p>WCGT has been attempting to engage with Gitanyow since early 2021, however, availability to meet and discuss the Project in detail has been limited. On November 14, 2022, WCGT and Gitanyow representatives from Malii and Luuxhon met in person to discuss various aspects of the Project including the 2022 Certificate extension and capacity funding for Gitanyow to continue discussions with WCGT in 2023.</p> <p>WCGT also provided correspondence and information about the extension Application. No specific interests or concerns on the Application have been received to-date.</p>	<p>A draft of the Application was provided to Gitanyow on June 27, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p> <p>WCGT is aware that Gitanyow has a strong interest in wildlife, fish/salmon and salmon habitat and aquatics, and ecosystem health which is captured in their Land Use Plan. WCGT is also aware Gitanyow continues to conduct environmental and cultural studies on their Laxyip to add to their knowledge. WCGT would like to work together with Gitanyow on developing future field work programs, wildlife management plans, access management plans and other plans of interest to Gitanyow.</p> <p>Gitanyow has also requested WCGT undergo a Wilp Sustainability Assessment to better evaluate potential impacts from the Project. WCGT has also been made aware that some of the impacted Wilp have deep concerns over the Project and further discussion is required to determine if there is a path forward.</p> <p>WCGT has also been made aware of Gitanyow's interests in green energy projects specifically to provide power to compressor stations or LNG facilities associated with the Project, and their concerns regarding climate change. WCGT is keen to continue discussions with Gitanyow about Enbridge Inc.'s pathways to energy transition and lower carbon solutions for the Project.</p>
Gitxaala Nation	WCGT sent Gitxaala information regarding the Application and has not heard any specific interests from Gitxaala on the Application to-date.	A draft of the Application was provided to Gitxaala on June 27, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<p>During the launch of engagement on the Project’s Condition Plans in early 2022, as well as through engagement on the Certificate extension, Gitxaala raised concern over the length of time that has passed since the issuance of the WCGT Certificate. Gitxaala recommends WCGT work closely with regulators to ensure all updates to the relevant legislative and policy frameworks, including ‘new’ datasets and assessment reports, are accounted for in future assessments and particularly in the development of Condition Plans.</p> <p>On November 2, 2022, Gitxaala, through the Gitxaala Territorial Management Agency (“GTMA”), provided a letter to WCGT stating non-objection to WCGT proceeding with the Application. Gitxaala stated that once the Application has been accepted by the BC EAO, they will enter into the formal regulatory consultation process with the Province regarding the issuance of the extension, at which time GTMA will engage in a full review of the official Application submission.</p>	<p>WCGT agrees that time has passed since the WCGT EA process was completed and the Certificate was issued in 2014. Most notably, WCGT acknowledges that the BC government has introduced new environmental assessment legislation (i.e., 2018 EAA), which is aligned with the DRIPA and that consultation has evolved over the years. Detailed environmental and engineering studies need to be conducted to continue to evaluate, mitigate or avoid potential impacts from the Project and specifically, potential impacts on Aboriginal and treaty rights. These activities require permits and Certificate amendments that have been delayed. An extension to the Certificate would provide additional time to conduct the studies and refresh the datasets where practicable, with Gitxaala involvement.</p>
Gitxsan Hereditary Chiefs	<p>During engagement with the Gitxsan Hereditary Chiefs (Simgiigyet whose Laxyip the proposed Project crosses, Simgiigyet with adjacent Laxyip, the Gitxsan Laxyip Management Office and Wilp members) concerns and interests raised include:</p>	<p>A draft of the Application was provided to Gitxsan Simgiigyet whose Laxyip the proposed Project crosses on June 27, 2022. A comment was raised during a subsequent meeting that the timeline to review the draft Application felt rushed and that they were feeling pressured to review the draft Application and provide comments. WCGT acknowledged that extra time could</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline data from 2013, which supported the original EA, is outdated and requires updating • Expressed interest in hiring Gitxsan technical specialists to conduct independent environmental studies as well as an interest in training members as environmental technicians to support future assessment work • Indicated that additional time is required to be able to provide the proper engagement and communication protocols with WCGT • Capacity funding is required to support ongoing dialogue with WCGT and Gitxsan Hereditary Chiefs and to be able to add additional human resources, including technical specialists to review environment and archaeological files. • The Simgiigyet have indicated to WCGT that they have many environmental and cultural values that require protection. Evaluation of archaeological and cultural sites, protection of salmon and rivers and waterways along with other wildlife values all require Gitxsan participation to ensure protection. 	<p>be given to Gitxsan to review the Application, and that there is no pressure for Gitxsan to provide comments prior to the Application submission as engagement on the Application would be ongoing after submission. WCGT also reiterated that support for the Application does not equate to support or consent for the Project. Based on the timeline concerns raised here, and the desire to address interests and concerns as much as possible prior to submission, WCGT paused the submission of the Application until later in the year.</p> <p>WCGT acknowledges that time has passed since the Certificate was issued in 2014. Most notably, WCGT acknowledges that the BC government has introduced new environmental assessment legislation (i.e., 2018 EAA), which is aligned with the DRIPA and that consultation has evolved over the years. Detailed environmental and engineering studies need to be conducted to continue to evaluate, mitigate or avoid potential impacts from the Project and protect cultural resources important to Gitxsan. WCGT feels more time is needed to work with Gitxsan on future studies and data collection in Gitxsan Laxyip, support Gitxsan in conducting specialist reviews and prepare for environmental field work opportunities. An extension to the Certificate would provide additional time to conduct the studies and refresh the datasets of importance with Gitxsan involvement.</p> <p>WCGT is committed to providing capacity funding, which may be used to hire technical specialists and a facilitator to support Gitxsan in participating in future assessment work, including evaluation of archaeological, cultural and environmental sites that require protection. WCGT would like to continue work on a Project Participation Agreement that will outline a scope of work,</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		<p>Gitxsan engagement protocols and appropriate funding to continue to advance assessment of the Project.</p> <p>On October 24, 2022, the Gitxsan Laxyip Management Office provided WCGT with a draft protocol and capacity funding proposal to facilitate ongoing communication and engagement on the Project. WCGT is reviewing and intends to progress discussions with the Gitxsan Simgiigyets on capacity funding and protocol agreements.</p> <p>WCGT acknowledges that each Wilp speaks independently through their Sim'ogit and some Sim'ogit have expressed their Wilp are not supportive of pipelines. Many Sim'ogit have also expressed concerns about the potential impacts of the Project on the Laxyip and a desire to continue dialogue. WCGT remains willing to meet with Gitxsan membership and is taking guidance from the Gitxsan Simgiigyets regarding engagement and communication protocols between Gitxsan and WCGT. WCGT is committed to building trust through this process and finding ways to continually address those potential impacts in an open and transparent way, and respects that time is required to meaningfully consult with Gitxsan Hereditary Chiefs and their individual Wilp.</p>
Halfway River First Nation	<p>WCGT sent HRFN information regarding the Application and has not heard any specific concerns about the extension from HRFN to-date.</p> <p>On October 8, 2022, HRFN indicated that they would not provide a non-objection to the extension Application until the proposed route</p>	<p>A draft of the Application was provided to HRFN on June 29, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p> <p>WCGT and HRFN continue to engage on the Project, including developing a future environmental field work studies plan and advancement of a Project Participation Agreement.</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<p>amendment that will eliminate the section near the Halfway reserve is completed.</p> <p>WCGT and HRFN continue to collaborate on a Project Participation Agreement. HRFN is informed of the process to apply for an extension and will amend their proposed work plan accompanying the Project Participation Agreement to reflect the regulatory review work ahead.</p>	<p>WCGT appreciates HRFN’s comments regarding the route amendment to eliminate the section near the Halfway reserve. As per the Certificate amendment application submitted to the EAO earlier in 2022 to remove approximately 138km from the eastern end of the route, WCGT has committed to avoiding specific HRFN Traditional Land and Resources Use locations, including Halfway River Indian Reserve (IR) No. 168, and Halfway River Settlement.</p> <p>WCGT understands that the EAO continues to review and engage with Indigenous Nations on the eastern route Certificate amendment application.</p>
Kitselas First Nation	<p>Kitselas inquired about the length of the extension and rationale for the expectation that field work could be delayed by two to three years. Kitselas also asked that WCGT provide more information as to what would constitute substantial construction work and has raised that they have concerns with construction starting and having to see environmental impacts (i.e., corridor clearing) only to have the Project halted later.</p> <p>Kitselas provided comments on the draft Application on July 18, 2022 as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suggested defining or describing what would constitute "substantial construction work". 2. Regarding WCGT’s indication that field work could be delayed by 2-3 years, Kitselas inquired as to whether this is based on 	<p>A draft of the Application was provided to Kitselas on June 27, 2022. WCGT provided the rationale and term of the extension request with a copy of the draft Application.</p> <p>WCGT thanks Kitselas for reviewing the draft Application. Regarding describing what constitutes substantial construction work, this refers to certain work and activities that must be completed on a Project before the Project’s Certificate expires. The substantial start decision is made by the Minister. If the Project is deemed to have been substantially started, the Certificate will remain in effect for the life of Project. There is no definition of “substantially started” although the EAO updated its policy in June 2021 and the Courts have provided guidance as to how the term should be interpreted. WCGT must complete certain engineering, permitting and Project development work to commence construction and complete enough physical work to achieve a substantial start determination from the Minister by November 25, 2024.</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<p>guidance/estimates from the BC Government or Treaty 8 Nation leaders?</p>	<p>WCGT understands from the EAO that the amount of physical work expected to be completed to receive a positive substantial start determination has increased from the precedent set from substantial start determinations for previous pipeline projects. WCGT is unable to take the necessary steps to complete pipeline permitting, fulfill Conditions, begin construction and achieve substantial start until it receives the outstanding permits. WCGT acknowledges that Kitselas and other Indigenous Nations engaged on the Project have indicated they do not want to see clearing started without certainty the Project will proceed. Granting an extension would provide WCGT with increased certainty that the Project will proceed, before clearing for the Project commences.</p> <p>With regard to Kitselas’s inquiry about WCGT’s expected permit delays, WCGT’s estimate was based on delays to date and public announcements from the BC government about its negotiations with BRFN and the other Treaty 8 Nations. WCGT’s field work program for 2021 and 2022 have already been delayed, and an interim framework has not yet been agreed to between the BC Government and BRFN and the other Treaty 8 First Nations, so it is possible that field work will need to be delayed in 2023 as well resulting in a two-to-three-year delay.</p>
<p>Kitsumkalum Band</p>	<p>Kitsumkalum indicated to WCGT in an email dated July 22, 2022 that they did not have any concerns with the Certificate extension Application.</p>	<p>WCGT provided the draft of the Application to Kitsumkalum on June 27, 2022.</p> <p>WCGT thanks Kitsumkalum for their response and looks forward to working with Kitsumkalum First Nation should the Project proceed.</p>
<p>Lake Babine Nation</p>	<p>LBN commented they would need to review a draft of the Application prior to submission.</p>	<p>WCGT provided LBN the draft of the Application on June 27, 2022.</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<p>During review of the Application, LBN requested a map of their territory in relation to the Project.</p> <p>LBN indicated the need for time to fully assess the environmental, social and cultural impacts of the Project with the LBN membership.</p>	<p>WCGT has provided the requested mapping to LBN.</p> <p>WCGT acknowledges LBN’s concerns to ensure adequate time to fully assess the environmental, social and cultural impacts of the Project. There is still a lot of work to be done to develop detailed routing, land stewardship plans, address potential social and economic effects, and collaborate on the development of Condition Plans to outline mitigation approaches. WCGT hopes an extension to the Certificate will be granted to allow for further consultation with all the membership.</p> <p>WCGT and LBN met on November 13, 2022 to review the Certificate extension timelines and advance discussions on a Project Participation Agreement for ongoing engagement in 2023.</p>
Lax Kw’alaams Band	<p>LKB has indicated that development in their traditional land and marine territory requires LKB to conduct highly thorough and technically robust reviews and has indicated to WCGT that a future Certificate amendment to select the western route would require a new EA process. In correspondence dated June 6, 2022, LKB commented they committed to working in good faith on all EA processes for the Project so that the impacts to LKB’s rights and environmental and cultural impacts are fully understood by all parties.</p> <p>LKB indicated interest in capacity funding to support participation in the pending Certificate</p>	<p>WCGT is committed to providing capacity funding to LKB to participate in EA processes related to the Project. On June 27, 2022, WCGT responded to LKB’s June 6, 2022 correspondence to clarify Certificate amendment applications that are underway and proposed to ensure alignment on the Project status and required regulatory processes. WCGT reiterated a commitment to understanding and addressing LKB’s concerns and the intent to collaborate on future assessment work. WCGT indicated that should the Project proceed, WCGT will conduct further desktop studies, support Traditional Land Use studies and undertake all regulatory process in collaboration with LKB.</p> <p>WCGT provided a draft Project Participation Agreement to advance capacity funding with LKB. LKB provided WCGT with a draft capacity funding budget and proposed work plan to</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<p>amendments that have been identified to date, to adequately facilitate appropriate review of the Project's potential impacts on Aboriginal Rights and Title.</p>	<p>accompany the draft Agreement. On October 20, 2022, WCGT and LKB met to discuss the proposed capacity funding Agreement and work plan. A revised Agreement and capacity funding budget was received from LKB on November 17, 2022. WCGT is reviewing and will finalize the Agreement with LKB in short order.</p>
Comments received from LKB on the 2022 draft Application		
	<p>LKB responded to WCGT on July 21, 2022 upon review of the draft Application. LKB stated they would not be supporting the extension request and intend to make their position and arguments to the EAO once WCGT files the final Application. LKB stated they do not believe the extension it is appropriate, lawful, in LKB's interests or the public's interest. LKB stated their concerns as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LKB believes that WCGT is seeking an additional extension to allow the Project to proceed more than ten years after receiving the original approval and avoid the influence of new legislation. 2. Scientific understanding of the impacts of a Project of this kind has dramatically changed since the assessment in 2014 and Cumulative effect assessments have changed. 3. The original certificate was conducted with the process which failed to give fair roles to First Nations as now deemed proper in the new 2018 legislation. 	<p>WCGT provided the draft of the Application to LKB on June 27, 2022.</p> <p>Following the sharing of a draft of the Application with LKB, and upon receipt of LKB's July 21, 2022 letter, WCGT provided a response on August 23, 2022 to address comments made in the letter and to provide feedback on LKB's draft work plan and capacity funding budget. WCGT requested a time to meet to finalize the Project Participation Agreement and work plan and continue to address LKB's concerns in person rather than by email or letter. On October 20, 2022, WCGT and LKB met to discuss the proposed Agreement and work plan and determined a path forward for review to finalize the Agreement in short order.</p> <p>In response to LKB's comments on the draft Application:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WCGT is not seeking an extension to the Certificate to avoid new legislation. WCGT acknowledges that the BC government has introduced new environmental assessment legislation (i.e., 2018 EAA), which is aligned with the DRIPA and that consultation requirements and expectations have evolved since 2014. WCGT expects to meet or exceed consultation requirements under the legislation and is working with individual Nations to

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Misuse of the Certificate granted for the previous Project, now abandoned, to go to a new Project (on Lax Kw'alaams territory), on a new route, with a new underwater portion. 5. Concerns with project splitting and a failure to properly assess all components of the new pipeline and LNG Project. 6. The Certificate should not be granted a further extension to allow for an amendment process to enable a new pipeline to a different Project along a different route, but instead should be required to undertake an assessment under the new 2018 Environmental Assessment Act. 	<p>address their unique expectations and protocols for consultation. Any amendment to the Certificate, including an amendment to the western portion of the route, will follow the new 2018 EAA. Of note, the 2018 EAA allows environmental assessment certificates to now be issued for a ten-year period (subsection 31(1)) with up to a five-year extension (subsection 31(4)), for a total of 15 years. This 15-year allowance in the 2018 EAA suggests the policy direction of the BC government supports a 15-year period for a Certificate. WCGT's request for a five-year extension is reasonable given the delays outlined in the Application, but also given the new timing for environmental certificates allowed under the 2018 EAA.</p> <p>In addition, WCGT is seeking an extension in part to allow more time for the necessary negotiations between the government of BC, Blueberry River First Nations and the Treaty 8 First Nations before the EAO and OGC issue certain permits for the Project. WCGT believes it is in the public interest, and interest of all Indigenous Nations in BC, to be respectful of the time required to negotiate the framework so that long-term solutions can be identified, creating greater certainty for Project development moving forward.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. WCGT does not agree that scientific understanding of potential impacts of pipeline projects has dramatically changed but agrees that scientific and technological change have improved field and environmental data collection methods. Additional field work and

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		<p>environmental studies will be required before WCGT can begin construction. WCGT would like to work alongside LKB to ensure a common understanding of potential impacts the Project may have on LKB's rights, culture and the environment. Any material changes to the Project would be addressed in an application to amend the Certificate for route change, but there are no material changes to the Project resulting from a request to extend the Certificate.</p> <p>3. As indicated in correspondence with LKB, WCGT acknowledges and appreciates that the 2018 EAA includes new roles for First Nations people. WCGT understands that LKB is interested in a new environmental assessment process for amendments to select a western route. The EAO process for the amendment to the western portion of the route will follow the new 2018 EAA, which includes new roles for First Nations. WCGT has not started developing this amendment nor has it selected a final route for the corridor. This amendment is not expected to be submitted to the EAO until further studies are completed in collaboration with LKB. WCGT wants to work with LKB to develop appropriate and tailored mitigation strategies that address LKB's interests or concerns. WCGT looks forward to developing those initiatives collaboratively with LKB should the Project proceed.</p> <p>4. The WCGT Project was originally planned to deliver natural gas to BG Group's LNG project in Prince Rupert. The BG Group's LNG project was cancelled, but the WCGT</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		<p>Project was never abandoned and WCGT has been seeking new LNG terminal sponsors to work with since cancellation of the BG Group’s project. WCGT will seek an amendment to add a new delivery point at Wil Milit if a LNG project proceeds at that location, but will also maintain the option to deliver gas to a future LNG plant at Prince Rupert should one proceed in that location.</p> <p>5. LNG terminals that could be served by the WCGT Project have been proposed by other project sponsors not affiliated with WCGT and WCGT has no plans to build a LNG terminal in northwest BC. It would not be appropriate to assess distinct projects that are developed, managed and owned by different companies in one process even if they are physically connected and one is supplying gas to the other. Cumulative impacts will be evaluated in separate assessment processes for each proposed project.</p> <p>6. The Certificate for the approved corridor provides the flexibility to choose one of two routes to the Prince Rupert area—either through Nasoga Route or Kitsault Route. WCGT is actively developing the Project to build one express, single-purpose natural gas pipeline from a compressor station near Willow Flats in northeast BC to a delivery point on the north coast to supply natural gas to potential LNG terminal sites. Any future amendment to the Certificate, which will be mandatory to determine the final delivery point and will require substantial environmental and marine studies to support the</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
		<p>amendment, will follow requirements under the 2018 Environmental Assessment Act.</p> <p>WCGT would like to work with LKB to address their concerns and co-develop plans to assess the western route options to ensure LKB's interests are incorporated. WCGT expects that the work plan being developed jointly between LKB and WCGT will support those efforts moving forward.</p>
Metlakatla First Nation	<p>On June 29, 2022, MFN provided a letter of non-objection to the Certificate extension.</p> <p>MFN stated that environmental and cultural stewardship is a high priority and expects that WCGT will continue to work with MFN through the evaluation of refined routing, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities, and the development of management plans and follow up monitoring programs that should outline the measures to avoid or mitigate impacts that may be caused by the Project. MFN indicated that if a Certificate extension is granted, MFN expects that the EAO will review and modernize the Conditions for the Project and that MFN will be consulted on any proposed changes to Project conditions. MFN indicated that their letter of non-objection to the Certificate extension should not be interpreted as support for the WCGT Project.</p>	<p>WCGT thanks MFN for their letter of non-objection regarding the Application and looks forward to further engagement with MFN on their areas of interest should the Project proceed. WCGT is committed to working with MFN on issues of interest to them including the development of Condition Plans.</p> <p>WCGT provided the draft of the Application to MFN on June 27, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p> <p>WCGT is continuing to advance a Project Participation Agreement with MFN.</p>
McLeod Lake Indian Band	Throughout engagement prior to, and during the Certificate extension review period, MLIB has raised concerns regarding routing and has	WCGT is aware of the concerns raised by MLIB on the certified corridor through the Mugaha Valley and Calazon Creek and has committed to evaluating other routing options while continuing

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<p>requested alternate routing outside of the certified corridor. Specifically, MLIB is concerned about impacts of the Project in the Mugaha Valley and Calazon Creek areas as important harvesting and cultural areas for MLIB.</p> <p>Additional concerns were raised by MLIB regarding WCGT's process and timing of the discussions around evaluating routing options. MLIB has requested WCGT advance efforts into evaluating other viable route areas. MLIB stated that they look forward to further engagement on the Project to determine if reasonable accommodation can be reached.</p>	<p>discussions on mitigation in the certified corridor. In order to properly assess the options, environmental and engineering field work will be required. Until WCGT can secure investigative permits to conduct field work, and until WCGT has secured an extension to the Project's environmental assessment Certificate, WCGT will not be able to advance evaluation of the route or potential mitigation options outside of desktop discussions. Discussions continue with MLIB on how the parties can best work together on the routing evaluation and mitigation discussions.</p> <p>WCGT provided a draft of the Application to MLIB on June 29, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p>
Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation	<p>During engagement on the Certificate extension, NWFN has communicated to WCGT that environment and land stewardship is their highest priority. NWFN has directed WCGT to engage with the Keyoh membership regarding potential impacts and benefits of the Project.</p> <p>NWFN has stated they are concerned that the full intent of DRIPA has not, and needs to be, realized and implemented into the province's regulatory processes.</p> <p>NWFN has also raised that they have developed a Land Use Plan that they would provide to WCGT to support ongoing evaluation of potential Project impacts. NWFN is interested in WCGT's proposed water course crossing methods</p>	<p>WCGT respects NWFN's guidance to engage with the Nation's Keyoh members. WCGT hosted a community meeting with Keyoh members on March 8, 2022 and provided a Project update bulletin for Keyoh members on July 15, 2022 to provide an update on the Project, including information about WCGT's plans to pursue a Certificate extension.</p> <p>WCGT acknowledges NWFN's comments regarding DRIPA. WCGT discussed with NWFN that aspects of Application address where the Project would support the Declaration Act Action Plan, including creation of long-term mitigation and land stewardship and guardianship initiatives.</p> <p>WCGT will conduct geophysical and geotechnical studies to further evaluate the proposed Nation River crossing and crossing methods. Permits required to conduct that work have been delayed; however, WCGT hopes to conduct additional studies</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<p>planned for Nation River and minimizing potential impacts. NWFN has also stated interest in updating their community's socio-economic plan.</p> <p>On October 31, 2022, NWFN provided a letter of support for the Certificate extension to WCGT.</p>	<p>with NWFN involvement in 2023 to ensure local knowledge is incorporated.</p> <p>WCGT is interested in supporting NWFN with capacity funding to update their socio-economic plan and collaborate with the community on the development of a SEEMP for the Project. WCGT has been engaging with NWFN lands and resources manager, and their new economic development officer to advance a draft PPA.</p> <p>WCGT provided a draft of the 2022 Application to NWFN on June 27, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received. WCGT thanks NWFN for their letter of support for the Certificate extension.</p>
Nisga'a Lisims Government	WCGT presented to NLG in April 2022 to discuss the rationale for the extension. NLG requested to review the Application prior to it being submitted.	WCGT provided a draft of the 2022 Application to NLG on June 7, 2022. NLG provided brief revisions that were incorporated into the Application. WCGT appreciates NLG's feedback on the draft Application.
Peace River Regional District	The PRRD provided a letter to WCGT dated May 27, 2022 indicating that at its May 12, 2022 Regional Board meeting, the Regional Board resolved to support WCGT in its request for a five-year extension to its Certificate. The Regional Board acknowledged the need for a five-year extension seemed reasonable considering the hardship of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for additional time for the BC government to negotiate a long-term solution with BRFN and Treaty 8 First Nations.	WCGT thanks the PRRD for their support of the Application and looks forward to further engagement with the Board and municipalities within the PRRD should the Project proceed.

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
Prophet River First Nation	PRFN indicated to WCGT in an email dated May 26, 2022 that they did not have any concerns with the Certificate extension.	<p>WCGT thanks PRFN for their email regarding the Certificate extension and looks forward to further engagement with PRFN on their areas of interest should the Project proceed. WCGT looks forward to continuing to advance a Project Participation Agreement with PRFN. WCGT is committed to working with PRFN on issues of interest to them including the development of Condition Plans.</p> <p>WCGT provided a draft of the 2022 Application to PRFN on June 29, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p>
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine	RDKS provided a letter of support of the extension to WCGT on May 30, 2022, and later re-stated in an email to WCGT on July 13, 2022 that the Regional District has no objections to the request by WCGT for an extension to the Certificate for the Project.	WCGT thanks the RDKS for their support of the Certificate extension and looks forward to further engagement with the Board and municipalities within the RDKS should the Project proceed.
Saulteau First Nations	<p>SFN provided a letter to WCGT on July 11, 2022 indicating support for the Certificate extension.</p> <p>SFN stated that environmental and cultural stewardship is SFN's highest priority and that more time would be welcomed for in-person meetings to work with WCGT through critical components of Project development such as the evaluation of refined routing, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities, and the development of Condition Plans that will outline measures to avoid or mitigate impacts that may be caused by the Project.</p>	<p>WCGT provided a draft of the Application to SFN on June 29, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p> <p>WCGT thanks SFN for their support of the Certificate extension and looks forward to further engagement on their areas of interest should the Project proceed. WCGT looks forward to continuing to advance a Project Participation Agreement with SFN to facilitate continued engagement on routing, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities and the development of Condition Plans.</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<p>SFN commented that the support for the extension does not indicate consent or support for the Project at this time.</p>	
Takla Lake First Nation	<p>WCGT sent TLFN information regarding the 2022 Certificate extension and has not heard any specific interests or concerns from TLFN on the Certificate extension to-date, however, TKLN has expressed interest in capacity funding and advancing a Project Participation Agreement. TLFN is interested in continuing to engage with WCGT through the review of the Certificate extension, and advance Project partnership discussions.</p> <p>TLFN leadership and staff have been actively engaging with WCGT and appropriate member engagement protocols will be considered as part of the workplan in the Project Participation Agreement.</p>	<p>WCGT will take guidance from TKLN leadership regarding appropriate member engagement protocols and communication to the community about the Project. WCGT looks forward to advancing the Project Participation Agreement and developing a workplan for future activity should the Project proceed.</p> <p>WCGT provided a draft of the Application to TLFN on June 27, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p>
Tsay Keh Dene Band	<p>TKDB provided a letter to WCGT dated July 13, 2022 indicating support for the Certificate extension. The letter stated that environmental and cultural stewardship is TKDB's highest priority and that TKDB request additional time for all parties to complete the work required to advance the Project in a collaborative and responsible manner for the benefit of interested First Nations and, more broadly, all British Columbians. TKDB indicated that support for the extension does not constitute consent or support</p>	<p>WCGT provided a draft of the Application to TKDB on June 27, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p> <p>WCGT thanks TKDB for their support of the Certificate extension and looks forward to further collaboration with TKFN should the Project proceed.</p> <p>WCGT and TKDB are working to progress the Project Participation Agreement and will continue to advance the regulatory workplan to support Project activities.</p>

Indigenous Nation or Stakeholder ¹⁴	Interests raised during 2022 Certificate extension engagement	WCGT response
	<p>for actual construction of the WCGT Project at this time.</p> <p>During engagement on the Application, TKDB reiterated the importance of finalizing a Project Participation Agreement in order to provide proper support to the community to participate in ongoing regulatory reviews.</p>	
West Moberly First Nations	<p>WMFN provided a letter to WCGT dated June 17, 2022 indicating non-opposition to a Certificate extension for the Project. WMFN indicated that as a result of the Yahey decision, WMFN expects concrete changes in the provincial approach to decision-making and consultation to specifically examine cumulative impacts and impacts to treaty rights, for all authorized activities in Treaty 8 territory. WMFN stated that the Project is situated on and around areas of key interest and significance for WMFN and that the letter of non-opposition should not be construed as support or consent for the Project. WMFN expects to have further and ongoing discussions with WCGT to discuss interests and concerns and expects to receive timely information in accordance with their rights to free, prior, and informed consent for any such future discussions and any separate applications related to the Project.</p>	<p>WCGT thanks WMFN for their support of the Certificate extension and looks forward to having further engagement should the Project proceed. WCGT is committed to having further discussions on WMFN's areas of interests and concerns including the sharing of information as required for consensus.</p> <p>WCGT provided a draft of the Application to WMFN on June 29, 2022. No comments on the Application have been received.</p>

APPENDIX B – LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR THE APPLICATION

- Doig River First Nation - Letter of Support
- Gitxaala Territorial Management Agency - Letter of Support
- Metlakatla First Nation - Letter of Support
- Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation - Letter of Support
- Saulteau First Nations - Letter of Support
- Tsay Keh Dene Band - Letter of Support
- West Moberly First Nations - Letter of Support
- District of Chetwynd - Letter of Support
- City of Fort St. John - Letter of Support
- Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine - Letter of Support
- Peace River Regional District - Letter of Support
- City of Prince Rupert - Letter of Support
- City of Terrace - Letter of Support



Box 56 Rose Prairie, BC V0C 2H0
Phone: (250) 827-3776 Fax: (250) 827-3778

June 27, 2022

Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project – Environmental Assessment Certificate Extension Request

Doig River First Nation is providing this letter in connection with Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission's (WCGT) Ltd. project request for an extension to Environmental Assessment Certificate #E14-05 (Certificate) for the WCGT Project.

Our Nation is currently evaluating the potential environmental and cultural impacts on our rights and interests in tandem with the economic reconciliation and partnership opportunities that may come with the development of this Project. The proposed pipeline corridor traverses through our territory and may impact the exercise of Aboriginal or Treaty rights.

Environmental and cultural stewardship is our highest priority and with the revitalized Environmental Assessment Act and alignment of UNDRIP, the context for consultation has evolved. We require more time to work with WCGT Ltd. through the evaluation of refined routing, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities, the development of conditions plans that will outline measures to avoid or mitigate impacts that may be caused by the Project, and more.

While WCGT Ltd. communicated and met with our Nation virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic and state of emergency, as restrictions ease, we would welcome additional time to have more detailed in-person meetings about these critical components of Project development to ensure meaningful engagement and consultation can continue to occur.

We also acknowledge the British Columbia Supreme Court decision in *Yahey v British Columbia*, 2021 BCSC 1287 and the need to allow time for the provincial government, Blueberry River First Nations and Treaty 8 First Nations to develop an interim framework for moving forward with projects in their territory. We understand that the provincial government has not issued regulatory permits or Certificate amendments while these discussions continue, and this has resulted in delays to some of the environmental and investigative field work needed for the Project to advance pre-construction planning.

In consideration of all the above, we are supportive of an extension to the Certificate to provide additional time to conduct the work required to prepare the Project for construction and to determine the best path forward on this Project together.

This letter does not indicate our community consents to, or supports, the WCGT Project at this time, but rather this letter is intended to convey our support for WCGT Ltd.'s application for an extension to the Certificate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stue" followed by "per." in a cursive style.

DOIG RIVER FIRST NATION



Gitxaala Nation

Gitxaala Territorial Management Agency

#280 – 110 1st Avenue West, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1A8

Phone: (250) 627-3339 Fax: (250) 627-3338



Gitxaala
Territorial
Management
Agency

November 2, 2022

John Blanchette
Community & Indigenous Relations Advisor
Enbridge
Vancouver, BC

Emailed to john.blanchette@enbridge.com

Dear John Blanchette:

Re: West Coast Gas Transmission Project's Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate Extension

On behalf of Gitxaala Nation, Gitxaala Territorial Management Agency (GTMA) has reviewed information provided by Enbridge regarding the West Coast Gas Transmission (WCGT) project application for an extension of their Environmental Assessment Certificate, first issued in 2014. We understand that this extension is being sought on the grounds that the project has faced unforeseen challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and recent judicial rulings regarding the Blueberry River First Nation, and as such, requires more time to execute the Project as planned.

It is also our understanding that the intent of sharing preliminary information regarding the EAC extension application, and later the draft application, is meant to serve as an opportunity for Enbridge to identify and address any concerns that First Nation's may have before formal submission to the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office (BC EAO). We recognize that once the application has been accepted by the BC EAO, Gitxaala will enter into the formal regulatory consultation process with the Province regarding the issuance of the extension, at which time GTMA will engage in a full review of the official application submission.

As you are aware, Gitxaala has previously expressed concern about the duration of time that has passed since the issuance of the EAC 8 years ago, and the impact this may have on the management of project related adverse effects that are predicated on assessment data collected almost a decade ago. Though these concerns were stated in regard to EAC amendments the WCGT project is also undertaking, in addition to the aforementioned extension, it is a concern that is appropriately applicable to the extension request. As such, GTMA's recommendation that WCGT work closely with regulators to ensure all updates to the relevant legislative and policy frameworks, including 'new' datasets and assessment reports, are accounted for in future assessments and particularly in the development of Condition Plans is applicable to the extension request.

GTMA notes that WCGT understands this concern and in response to our recommendation, has committed to including updated detailed environmental and engineering studies to continue to evaluate, mitigate or avoid potential impacts from the Project and specifically, potential impacts on Aboriginal and treaty rights. Enbridge has expressed that the extension currently being sought would provide additional time to conduct the studies and refresh the datasets where practicable, with Gitxaala involvement.



Gitxaala Nation
Gitxaala Territorial Management Agency
#280 – 110 1st Avenue West, Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1A8
Phone: (250) 627-3339 Fax: (250) 627-3338



Given the above information, GTMA cannot identify any objections to Enbridge submitting the application for an extension at this time. As always, GTMA staff remains available to discuss this letter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Samantha Wagner
Regulatory Affairs Manager

cc: Bruce Watkinson (director.gtma@gitxaalanation.com), GTMA



Metlakatla Governing Council

P.O. Box 459
Prince Rupert, B.C.
V8J 3R2

Phone: (250) 628-3234
Fax: (250) 628-9205

Fern Stockman
Project Assessment Director
Fern.Stockman@gov.bc.ca
Environmental Assessment Office

**Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project – Environmental Assessment
Certificate Extension Request – Letter of Non-Objection**

Dear Fern,

Metlakatla First Nation (MFN) is providing this letter in connection with the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission (WCGT) Ltd. Project request for an extension to Environmental Assessment Certificate #E14-05 (Certificate). As the EAO is aware, the proposed pipeline corridor traverses through MFN territory and would impact the exercise of our rights.

Environmental and cultural stewardship is our highest priority and with the revitalized Environmental Assessment Act and its alignment with UNDRIP, the context for consultation has evolved since the issuance of #E14-05. MFN expects to continue to work with WCGT through the evaluation of refined routing, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities, and the development of management plans and follow up monitoring programs which should outline measures to avoid or mitigate impacts that may be caused by the project.

MFN understands that the British Columbia Supreme Court decision in *Yahey v British Columbia*, 2021 is resulting in ongoing engagements between the provincial government, Blueberry River First Nations, and Treaty 8 First Nations to develop an interim framework for future projects in their territory. We understand that the provincial government has not issued regulatory permits or Certificate amendments while these discussions continue, and this has resulted in delays to environmental and investigative field work required for WCGT to advance their pre-construction planning. In consideration of this and the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, MFN does not object to WCGT's request for a Certificate extension. However, if a Certificate extension is granted, MFN expects that the BC Environmental Assessment Office review and modernize the Environmental Assessment Conditions for the project and that MFN be consulted on any proposed changes to Project conditions.

Please note that the intent of this letter is to convey that there is no objection to WCGT's request for a Certificate extension. This letter should not be interpreted as support for the WCGT Project.

Sincerely,



Harold Leighton
Chief Councilor, Metlakatla First Nation

cc: Deanne Watts, Environmental Assessment Manager, Metlakatla Stewardship Society
Graham Genge, Sr Community and Indigenous Relations Advisor, Enbridge



NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

P.O. Box 1329,
Fort St. James, B.C. V0J 1P0
Telephone (250) 996 – 7171
Fax (250) 996 – 7634

October 31, 2022

Province of British Columbia

**Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project – Environmental Assessment
Certificate Extension Request**

Nak'azdli Whut'en is providing this letter in connection with Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission's (WCGT) Ltd. Project request for an extension to Environmental Assessment Certificate #E14-05 (Certificate) for the WCGT Project.

Our Nation is currently evaluating the potential environmental and cultural impacts on our rights and interests in tandem with the economic reconciliation and partnership opportunities that may come with the development of this Project. The proposed pipeline corridor traverses through our territory and may impact the exercise of Aboriginal rights.

Environmental and cultural stewardship is our highest priority and with the revitalized Environmental Assessment Act and alignment of UNDRIP, the context for consultation has evolved. We require more time to work with WCGT Ltd. through the evaluation of refined routing, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities, the development of conditions plans that will outline measures to avoid or mitigate impacts that may be caused by the Project, and more.

We also acknowledge the British Columbia Supreme Court decision in *Yahey v British Columbia*, 2021 BCSC 1287 and the need to allow time for the provincial government, Blueberry River First Nations and Treaty 8 First Nations to develop an interim framework for moving forward with projects in their territory. We understand that the provincial government has not issued regulatory permits or Certificate amendments while these discussions continue, and this has resulted in delays to some of the environmental and investigative field work needed for the Project to advance pre-construction planning.

In consideration of all of the above, we are supportive of an extension to the Environmental Assessment Certificate to provide additional time to conduct the work required and to determine the best path forward on this Project.

This letter does not indicate our community consents to, or support for, the WCGT Project, but rather this letter is intended to convey our support for WCGT Ltd.'s application for an extension to the EA Certificate.

With regards,



Aileen Prince

Chief, Nak'azdli Whut'en

PC: Rosemarie Sam, Manager: Yinka Howunline

Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project – Environmental Assessment Certificate Extension Request

Saulteau First Nations is providing this letter in connection with Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission's (WCGT) Ltd. Project request for an extension to Environmental Assessment Certificate #E14-05 (Certificate) for the WCGT Project.

Our Nation is currently evaluating the potential environmental and cultural impacts on our rights and interests in tandem with the economic reconciliation and partnership opportunities that may come with the development of this Project. The proposed pipeline corridor traverses through our Treaty Lands and may impact the exercise of Aboriginal or Treaty rights.

Environmental and cultural stewardship is our highest priority and with the revitalized Environmental Assessment Act and alignment of UNDRIP, the context for consultation has evolved. We require more time to work with WCGT Ltd. through the evaluation of refined routing, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities, the development of conditions plans that will outline measures to avoid or mitigate impacts that may be caused by the Project, and more.

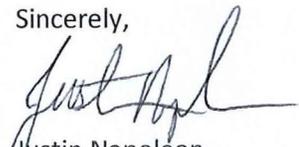
While WCGT Ltd. communicated and met with our Nation virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic and state of emergency, as restrictions ease, we would welcome additional time to have more detailed in-person meetings about these critical components of Project development to ensure meaningful engagement and consultation can continue to occur.

We also acknowledge the British Columbia Supreme Court decision in *Yahey v British Columbia*, 2021 BCSC 1287 and the need to allow time for the provincial government and Treaty 8 First Nations to develop an interim framework for moving forward with projects in their Treaty Lands.

In consideration of all of the above, we are supportive of an extension to the Certificate to provide additional time to conduct the work required to determine the best path forward on this Project together.

This letter does not indicate our community consents to, or supports, the WCGT Project at this time, but rather this letter is intended to convey our support for WCGT Ltd.'s application for an extension to the Certificate.

Sincerely,



Justin Napoleon
Chief

Proudly determined



TSAY KEH DENE NATION

1940 Third Avenue.
Prince George, BC
V2M 1G7
Ph. (250) 562-8882
Fax (250) 562-8899

June 13, 2022

Environmental Assessment Office
Province of British Columbia

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project – Environmental Assessment Certificate Extension Request

Tsay Keh Dene Nation is a First Nation with its traditional territory in north-central BC. Tsay Keh Dene has a longstanding relationship with Enbridge and Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission's (WCGT) Ltd. and its pipeline project (the "WCGT Project"). WCGT has requested, or will request, an extension to Environmental Assessment Certificate #E14-05 (Certificate) for the WCGT Project.

We are currently reviewing the potential environmental, cultural and other impacts of the WCGT Project on Tsay Keh Dene rights and interests. This review is occurring in conjunction with ongoing economic reconciliation and partnership opportunities that will exist if the WCGT project is finally developed and operated. Tsay Keh Dene believe these economic reconciliation and partnership opportunities have the potential to produce substantial, long term economic benefits for all First Nations who choose to participate.

Environmental and cultural stewardship is Tsay Keh Dene's highest priority. With amendments to the *Environmental Assessment Act* and BC's commitment to implement UNDRIP, the context for consultation has evolved. Accordingly, we require more time to collaborate with WCGT in assessing the routing of the WCGT Project, land stewardship planning, employment and economic opportunities, the development of siting plans that will outline measures to avoid or mitigate impacts that may be caused by the Project, and more.

WCGT met with Tsay Keh Dene's staff and consultants during the COVID-19 pandemic and state of emergency. However, these virtual meetings with staff and consultants are not a substitute for in person and broader engagement with Tsay Keh Dene and its members. To allow that broader engagement to occur, we request additional time for detailed in-person meetings about critical components of the WCGT Project and how the Project will affect Tsay Keh Dene rights and interests and advance its vision for sustainable economic development.

We are familiar with the British Columbia Supreme Court decision in *Yahey v British Columbia*, 2021 BCSC 1287 and the need to allow time for the provincial government, Blueberry River First Nations and Treaty 8 First Nations to develop an interim framework for pending and future projects in their traditional territories. We understand the provincial government has not granted regulatory permits or Certificate amendments while these discussions continue and this has caused some delays to environmental and investigative field work required to advance pre-construction planning for the WCGT Project. To its credit, WCGT adapted to these challenges and maintained a strong commitment to ongoing engagement with Tsay Keh Dene.

In consideration of all of the circumstances, we support an extension to the Certificate to provide additional time for all parties to complete the work required to advance the Project in a collaborative and responsible manner for the benefit of interested First Nations and, more broadly, all British Columbians. This support, however, does not constitute consent to or support for actual construction of the WCGT Project at this time.

Sincerely,

Tsay Keh Dene Nation

Per:



Chief Johnny Pierre



June 17, 2022

Our file: 9871
Sent via email Jennifer.Prochera@enbridge.com

Jennifer Prochera
Community and Indigenous Relations Advisor
Enbridge Inc.
8320 89A St
Fort St John, BC V1J 0P1

Jennifer, Je aa haanach'e:

RE: WMFN Response to Enbridge's Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project-EAC Amendment Letter

I am the Chief of West Moberly First Nations ("West Moberly"). I write in response to your recent correspondence of June 14, 2022, in relation to your intent to apply for an Environmental Assessment Certificate ("EAC") extension for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project (the "WCGT Project").

Enbridge has indicated that it intends to apply for a five-year extension to its EAC due to timing constraints on regulatory permitting stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent Yahey Decision, and to allow for additional time for face-to-face discussions, engagement, and planning for project opportunities (the "Proposed Extension"). West Moberly confirms based on the information made available that we are not opposed to the Proposed Extension.

West Moberly, as a Treaty 8 adherent, has protected rights recognized under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ("UNDRIP"), guaranteed by the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (British Columbia), and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Canada).

West Moberly provides our response in the context of the recent Yahey Decision¹, in which Madam Justice Burke found that Treaty 8 has been breached and "the provincial regulatory

¹ *Yahey v British Columbia*, 2021 BCSC 1287.

regimes do not adequately consider Treaty rights or cumulative effects of industrial development.”² We expect concrete changes in the provincial approach to decision-making and consultation to specifically examine cumulative impacts and impacts to treaty rights, for all authorized activities in Treaty 8 territory.

The WCGT Project is situated on and around areas of key interest and significance for West Moberly, and this letter of non-opposition should not be construed as support or consent for the WCGT Project. West Moberly expects to have further and ongoing discussions with Enbridge to discuss our interests and concerns and expects to receive timely information in accordance with our rights to free, prior, and informed consent for any such future discussions and any separate applications related to the WCGT Project.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact West Moberly’s Lands Manager Tamara Dokkie (tamara.dokkie@westmo.org) and its Legal Counsel, Josh Lam (josh@sagelegal.ca).

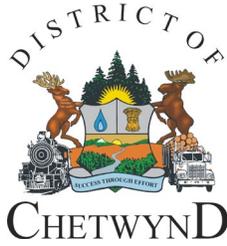
Wuujo aasanaláá

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roland Willson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chief Roland Willson
West Moberly First Nations

CC: Tamara Dokkie, Lands Use Manager
Joshua Lam, Legal Counsel

² Yahey Decision at para 1880



District of Chetwynd

Box 357
Chetwynd, BC
Canada V0C 1J0

tel: (250) 401-4100
fax: (250) 401-4101

email: d-chet@gochetwynd.com

June 13, 2022

Michaela Bjorseth
BC Manager, Community and Indigenous Engagement
Enbridge

Via Email: Michaela.bjorseth@enbridge.com

Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project Environmental Assessment Certificate Extension Request

Dear Michaela Bjorseth,

At its May 16, 2022 District of Chetwynd Council Meeting, Council resolved to support Enbridge in its request for a five-year extension to the BC Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project to be applied for to the BC Environmental Assessment Office in July 2022.

The District acknowledges the need for a five-year extension given the various delays that have made the completion of project outcomes impossible to achieve before the extension deadline of November 2024. The request for an extension seems reasonable considering the impacts of the COVID – 19 pandemic and permit delays that require additional time for the BC government to negotiate a long-term solution with Blueberry River First Nations and Treaty 8 First Nations.

Sincerely,

DISTRICT OF CHETWYND


Mayor Allen Courtoreille

May 30, 2022

File # 0220-20

Via email: Michaela.Bjorseth@enbridge.com

Enbridge Inc.
Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission
8320 89A Street
Fort St. John, BC V1J 0P1

Attention: Michaela Bjorseth, Manager, BC, Community and Indigenous Engagement

Dear Michaela Bjorseth:

Re: Letter of Support for Enbridge/Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission's Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate Extension

This letter is in support of the submission being made by Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission (WCGT) Ltd. for a five-year extension for their British Columbia Environmental Assessment Certificate.

On behalf of Council, we are please to provide this letter of support for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project so they may build a natural gas transmission system running from northeastern B.C. to the north coast. Increasing pipeline capacity has economic and environmental benefits to the North Peace region and Canada as a whole.

The City of Fort St. John offers a strong and knowledgeable workforce. We hope to see local contractors and individuals hired for this project and our community further consulted. Understandably, the COVID-19 pandemic hindered the WCGT's ability to meet in person with Indigenous groups, stakeholders and interested parties. We look forward to opportunities for in-person engagements moving forward.

We see great value in this organization's efforts to develop a natural gas transmission system and wish to express support of this project, which benefits the Fort St. John community.

Sincerely,



Lori Ackerman
Mayor



Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine

300-4545 Lazelle Avenue
Terrace, B.C. V8G 4E1
Tel 250-615-6100
Fax 250-635-9222

Our file no 6877 30 11

May 30, 2022

Michaela Bjorseth
Manager, BC, Community & Indigenous Engagement
Enbridge
8320 89A Street
Fort St. John, B.C.
V1J OP1

Dear Ms. Bjorseth

**Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project
Environmental Assessment Certificate Extension Request**

Your April 29, 2022, letter requesting support for an additional five-year extension to the BC Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission project was considered by the Regional District of Kitimat Stikine Board at its regular meeting on May 27th. A portion of the pipeline route is within this regional district's boundary.

You indicate that the extension is required due to several factors including delays to the project caused by the pandemic making required field work difficult; and the additional time required for the on-going negotiation between the Province and First Nations on a new cumulative effects framework.

The Regional District has no objections to the BC Environmental Assessment Office granting a five-year extension to the Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project to allow for continued engagement with affected Indigenous groups, stakeholders, and other interest groups; and to undertake additional fieldwork.

Yours truly,

Ted Pellegrino,
Director Development Services



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

May 27, 2022

File: 6850.27

Michaela Bjorseth
Manager, BC, Community and Indigenous
Engagement
Enbridge
8320 89A St.
Fort St. John, BC
V1J 0P1
Via Email: Michaela.bjorseth@enbridge.com

**Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project Environmental Assessment Certificate
Extension Request**

Dear Michaela Bjorseth,

At its May 12, 2022, Regional Board Meeting, the Regional Board resolved to support Enbridge in its request for a five-year extension to the BC Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project at the end of June 2022.

MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED

“That the Regional Board supports Enbridge in its request for a five-year extension to the BC Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project at the end of June 2022.”

The Regional Board acknowledges the need for a five-year extension given the various delays that have made the completion of projected outcomes impossible to complete before the extension deadline of November 2024. The request for an extension seems reasonable considering the hardship of the COVID – 19 pandemic and the need for additional time for the BC government to negotiate a long-term solution with Blueberry River First Nations and Treaty 8 First Nations.

Sincerely,
Tyra Henderson

Tyra Henderson
Corporate Officer

c: Honorable Mike Bernier, MLA Peace River South, Honorable Dan Davies, MLA Peace River North
REPLY TO: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca



Office of the Mayor

 424 3rd Avenue West
Prince Rupert, BC, V8J 2S2

 (250) 627 0939

 mayor@princerupert.ca

October 12, 2022

Michaela Bjorseth
BC Manager, Community and Indigenous Engagement
Enbridge
Via Email: Michaela.bjorseth@enbridge.com

**Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project Environmental Assessment
Certificate Extension Request**

Dear Michaela Bjorseth,

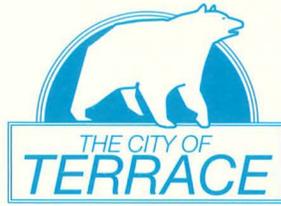
At its September 19, 2022, City of Prince Rupert Council Meeting, the Council resolved to support Enbridge in its request for a five-year extension to the BC Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project to be applied for to the BC Environmental Assessment Office in August 2022.

The City of Prince Rupert acknowledges the need for a five-year extension given the various delays that have made the completion of project outcomes impossible to achieve before the extension deadline of November 2024. The request for an extension seems reasonable considering the impacts of the COVID – 19 pandemic and permit delays that require additional time for the BC government to negotiate a long-term solution with Blueberry River First Nations and Treaty 8 First Nations.

Sincerely,



Mayor Lee Brain



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

August 2, 2022

Michaela Bjorseth
BC Manager, Community and Indigenous Engagement, Enbridge
Via Email: Michaela.bjorseth@enbridge.com

Dear Mr. Bjorseth:

Re: Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project Environmental Assessment Certificate Extension Request

At the July 25, 2022 City of Terrace Regular Council Meeting, Ms. Jennifer Prochera requested a five-year extension to the BC Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project, to be applied for to the BC Environmental Assessment Office in August 2022.

The City of Terrace acknowledges the need for a five-year extension given the various delays that have made the completion of project outcomes impossible to achieve before the extension deadline of November 2024. The request for an extension seems reasonable considering the impacts of the COVID – 19 pandemic and permit delays that require additional time for the BC government to negotiate a long-term solution with Blueberry River First Nations and Treaty 8 First Nations.

With that being said, Council is supportive of the requested five-year extension to the BC Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project subject to compensation for staff time spent participating on the Social and Economic Effects Management Plan (SEEMP). We feel it is very important to bring Terrace's issues to the SEEMP; yet, given current constraints, staff are unable to provide the appropriate time and effort required without any compensation.

Council is also supportive of the request subject to a Revenue Sharing Agreement with the Province. Terrace continues to realize the growth impacts of various large-scale projects taking place just outside of municipal boundaries yet receives little to no infrastructure dollars to support the growth.

Sincerely,

Carol Leclerc
Mayor

c.c. Jennifer Prochera: jennifer.prochera@enbridge.com

3215 EBY STREET, TERRACE, B.C.
CANADA V8G 2X8
250-635-6311
FAX 250-638-4777