



File PA-MNP 2006-001 (3200-M124-5)
12 January 2006

Mr. Paul Vanderlaan
Director of Project Assessment
New Brunswick Department of Environment
and Local Government
P.O. Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1
Facsimile (506) 453-2627

Dear Mr. Vanderlaan:

**Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline Management Ltd. (M&NP)
Brunswick Pipeline Project**

M&NP submitted a project description for the Brunswick Pipeline Project to the National Energy Board (the Board) and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the CEA Agency) on 6 January 2006. The purpose of the document is to initiate the coordination of the federal environmental assessment process and to provide an overview of the proposed Brunswick Pipeline Project (the project).

The project involves the construction and operation of a natural gas transmission pipeline from the Canaport™ Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility at Mispec Point, near Saint John, New Brunswick (currently under construction), to the international border near St. Stephen, New Brunswick and then on to the Baileyville compressor site in Baileyville, Maine. The project in Canada would consist of the construction and operation of a subsurface natural gas pipeline, approximately 145 km in length with a diameter of 762 mm (30 inches) and a maximum pressure of 9930 kPag (1440 psig), and associated above-ground facilities (i.e., metering station, valve sites and associated access driveways).

The project description is available on the Board's website (www.neb-one.gc.ca, click on "Regulatory Documents", go to "Looking for filing? Enter its Id here" and type in filing identification number "A11078" and click on "Go!").

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M&NP plans to apply to the Board in March 2006 pursuant to section 52 of the *National Energy Board Act* for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the project. The Board is seeking to determine involvement of federal authorities in the environmental assessment process under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEA Act) and the possible involvement of Nova Scotia in the environmental assessment of the project.

The Board and the Agency request that you review the project description and indicate:

- (a) whether your department/agency has an environmental assessment responsibility for the proposed project; or
- (b) whether your department/agency requires additional information to make a determination referred to in (a).

If your department/agency determines it has an environmental assessment responsibility, please send a short description of the nature of your potential environmental assessment responsibilities.

The Board asks that your response to (a) be provided to the Board by **2 February 2006**. With regard to (b), the Board asks that your response be provided to the Board within **10 days** of receipt of this letter. **Responses may be sent by facsimile to (403) 292-5503**. Please note that any correspondence in relation to this project description will be placed on the public record.

The Board further asks that you provide M&NP with a copy of any response in respect of the above requests.

It is anticipated that the CEA Agency will take on the role of Federal Environmental Assessment Coordinator (FEAC) for the project as the project is anticipated to be subject to the environmental assessment process of another jurisdiction.

If no response is received from you by the aforementioned date, the Board will assume that your department or agency has no responsibility to undertake an environmental assessment. If your department or agency does not have an environmental assessment responsibility with respect to the proposed project, you may still wish to participate in any public proceeding the Board may convene with respect to the proposed project.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Alison Farrand at (403) 299-2761. Responses may be sent by facsimile to (403) 292-5503.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours truly,

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

Michel L. Mantha
Secretary

c.c. Mr. Jim McLelland, Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, fax: (902) 420-0253,
phone: (902) 490-2201

Mr. Derek McDonald, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, Atlantic Region,
fax: (902) 426-6550, phone: (902) 426-9458