



Pipeline progress over the last six months

In the last six months the GNWT and other interested stakeholders in the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP) have made significant accomplishments towards the realization of the construction and operation of the project. This comes after Imperial Oil announced that it was deferring non-regulatory work on the MGP. Work like geotechnical data gathering, engineering and preparatory work on contracting for construction was put on hold, and the proponents put extra emphasis on key areas, such as access and benefits negotiations, fiscal certainty and regulatory issues.

Governments, Aboriginal organizations, and regulators have made some significant steps towards answering the proponents' requests as well as continuing to support preparation efforts on a community and regional level. Here's a timeline:

- May 18: Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) announced three regional social impact workshops and \$1.3 million for community governments to prepare for the MGP.
- July 11: The Dehcho First Nations ended its legal challenges against the environmental assessment in exchange for \$31.5 million from the federal government.
- July 18: The Joint Review Panel (JRP) determined there is sufficient information to proceed to public hearings, given additional information filed to the Panel.
- July 18: Federal government announced \$500 million to address social needs identified by Aboriginal organizations (Inuvialuit, Gwich'in, K'asho Got'ine, Tulita/Deline, and Dehcho). This funding is tied to the MGP moving forward.

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Issue Highlights

- Social impact workshops
- Environmental Monitors
- Tuk: Planning for development

The *GNWT Pipeline Update* is a quarterly publication, produced by the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office. It is distributed by e-mail and posted on Industry, Tourism and Investment's website: www.iti.gov.nt.ca

To have this publication e-mailed to you directly, please contact:
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GNWT wraps up regional social impact workshops series in Norman Wells

Sahtu elders, youth, residents and GNWT staff met in Norman Wells on September 30 to discuss and plan for anticipated impacts associated with the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP) and the associated pipeline. It was the third in a series of regional workshops hosted by the Department of Health and Social Services (HSS). Workshops were held in Inuvik and Fort Simpson earlier this summer.

These workshops were developed on recommendations by leadership at the Preparing for the Pipeline Conference, held in Inuvik December 2004. The workshops provided a forum for residents and GNWT staff to take the first steps towards collaborative planning to monitor and manage anticipated impacts from the proposed Project.

Reports are available from the HSS workshops held in Inuvik and Fort Simpson. The report from the workshop in Norman Wells will also be available. Contact HSS Communications Manager, Damien Healy, at (867) 920-8927.



Top left to right:
John Louison and Alfred Masuzumi from Fort Good Hope.

Bottom left to right:
Laura Lennie from Tulita. Paul T'seleie and Greg Laboucan from Fort Good Hope .

[Photos: Department of Justice]

The Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk: Preparing for the pipeline

Tuktoyaktuk has experienced the economic boom of resource development before. With the proposed MGP and associated pipeline, in the offing, the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk has a good sense for both the positive and negative impacts that arise from an economy based on resource development. The Hamlet is taking steps to ensure they can capitalize when the Project gets underway.



An aerial view of Tuktoyaktuk on the Beaufort Coast.
[Photo: Department of Municipal and Community Affairs]

With the help of funding that the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs made available to every community along the pipeline route, the Hamlet has hired a contractor to identify impacts the community may experience from the construction and operation of the MGP. The contractor is also preparing a submission for the upcoming public hearings with Joint Review Panel.

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- October 7: The JRP announced its readiness for the public hearing phase of the review.
- October 14: Federal Participant Funding: Phase Three was announced to allow interested stakeholders to participate in the public hearing process.
- October 18: National Energy Board (NEB) announced that it will hold a Pre-hearing Planning Conference in December to provide information on the NEB's role throughout the lifecycle of a pipeline and on the NEB hearing process for the MGP.
- MGP proponents and Aboriginal organizations continue to negotiate access and benefit agreements. Discussions are also ongoing around regulatory and fiscal certainty between governments and the proponents.

On September 15, MGP proponents informed the NEB and JRP that they need additional time to resolve key areas before moving to public hearings. A progress announcement from Imperial Oil, on behalf of the project partners, is expected in November.

The Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office

A number of new members have joined the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office.

Mr. Ian Butters is now the MVPO's Senior Advisor, Mr. Frank Ma joins the office as the Pipeline Specialist and Mr. Jared Zeldin will soon start as the Agreement Specialist. They join Director Mr. Tim Coleman, Communications Specialist Ms. Stacey McGaghey and Administrative Assistant Ms. Valerie Daniels in Hay River.

The MVPO team works with GNWT staff on various aspects of the MGP including community initiatives and economic opportunities. The office was created to act as a support system to the GNWT as the Project moves through the regulatory review and environmental assessment process towards project construction and operation. The MVPO administers pipeline specific funding programs that support community and regional efforts. Staff coordinate GNWT-wide communications activities, including the production of this newsletter. MVPO staff will visit residents, councils or organizations to provide updates about the GNWT's work on the MGP. If you are interested in MVPO visiting you, please contact (867) 874-5400, or email mvpo@gov.nt.ca

Preparing for the pipeline

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The Preparing for the Pipeline funding program was made available to community governments in the spring. Grants of \$20,000 are available to each of the 21 communities in the Mackenzie Valley to support preparatory work and research. An application-based program of up to \$30,000 is available for 22 eligible communities to review proposals, assess impacts, negotiate community access agreements and undertake general planning and preparation. Another application-based program of up to \$15,000 each exists for the remaining 11 communities in the NWT to plan and assess any potential impacts or opportunities from pipeline development for their community.

For more information on the work that the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk or other communities are doing in preparation for the MGP or to highlight your own communities work, please contact your regional Municipal and Community Affairs office.

This newsletter is produced by the GNWT's Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Office.
It is available on Industry, Tourism and Investment's website: www.iti.gov.nt.ca
Or you can contact the MVPO to get your copy delivered to your e-mail address.
Contact the MVPO, e-mail mvpo@gov.nt.ca, or phone (867) 874-5400

Occupational Certification for Environmental Monitors now available

Occupational Certification for individuals working as Environmental Monitors in the Northwest Territories began October 1, 2005.

Certification is based on the standards developed in 2003 by Education, Culture and Employment in conjunction with the Building Environmental Aboriginal Human Resources project and industry partners.

Individuals wishing to become certified must complete a Skills Checklist (a self-development tool designed to be completed on the job); a knowledge assessment (multiple-choice exam and case studies); a performance evaluation (practical demonstration of key skills) and have a minimum of 1800 hours (approximately one year of work experience).

Performance evaluations will be conducted at the regional level by trained evaluators through a partnership with Environmental and Natural Resources.

Get ready for the oil and gas industry



Aurora College, in partnership with the GNWT, industry and Aboriginal organizations offers a wide-range of courses to prepare northerners for jobs with the oil and gas industry.

Some training courses include:

- Pipeline and Production Operations Technical Training Program and Pipeline and Production Operations Apprenticeship Program
- Various courses from heavy equipment operations to cooking programs to survey programming

Call Rory Voudrach, Aurora College
Industrial and Oil/Gas Training Coordinator,
(867) 777-7839

Definition:

Environmental Monitors

They observe the environment and the impacts of human activities. They serve as the eyes of landowners by monitoring whether the terms and conditions of land-use agreements are being met. They may also work as technical assistants to scientists conducting research on the land. They possess local knowledge and land skills that enable them to travel safely on the land. Environmental Monitors understand the importance of a healthy environment and the wise use of resources to the community.

Regional oil and gas roundup

Dehcho/South Slave

Paramount Resources is the main operator in the Dehcho region, with properties near Fort Liard and Cameron Hills, south of Kakisa. In total, Paramount plans to shoot 40 kilometers of 2D linear seismic, drill 10 new wells, 8 re-entry well and 10 workovers.

Sahtu

Three companies have planned winter programs for this season in the Sahtu. Those companies include Apache, Paramount, Husky and Explore Data. Explore Data plans to conduct a speculative seismic programs at two different locations in the Sahtu.

Husky plans to drill two exploratory wells and test one other well at its property south west of Tulita. Apache and Paramount plan to drill three shallow exploratory wells at its Turton Lake property, which is north east of Norman Wells.

Beaufort Delta

An offshore well drilled by Devon is the main program around Inuvik this winter. This is the first time in more than 15 years that an offshore well has been drilled in the Beaufort Sea.

Getting down to business in the Dehcho

Dehcho business owners hit the books October 4-5 in Fort Simpson. For two days, Industry, Tourism and Investment staff helped participants identify and discover ways to make the most of their businesses. Participants covered a variety of topics, including costing and pricing, managing the balance sheet, and using financial statements as management tools.

Visit the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment's website (www.iti.gov.nt.ca) to learn more about the Mackenzie Gas Project, and the oil and gas industry in the NWT.



Land is Life's Tonya Makletzoff-Cazon is getting help from Henry Murzyn, CESO Aboriginal Services, with Bernice Isaiah, Starving Marvin's Welding Services, looking on.

[Photo: Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment]