

National Energy
Board



Office national
de l'énergie

File OF-Fac-Gas-N081-2013-10 01
17 March 2014

Ms. Coral Deshield
Head, Program and Planning Coordination
Environment Canada
5421 Robertson Rd
Delta, BC V4K3Y3
Facsimile 604-946-7022

Dear Ms. Deshield:

**NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL)
North Montney Project (the Project) Application of 8 November 2013
Potential Effect on Species Listed Under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA)**

Pursuant to the SARA, the National Energy Board (the Board or NEB) hereby advises the Minister of Environment that the above-noted Project, if approved and constructed, may affect nine species listed on Schedule 1 of the SARA and/or their habitat.

The listed wildlife species that may be affected include:

Caribou (Pink Mountain herd) – Schedule 1 – special concern
Caribou (Graham herd) – Schedule 1 – threatened
Yellow rail – Schedule 1 – special concern
Common nighthawk – Schedule 1 – threatened
Short-eared owl – Schedule 1 – special concern
Olive-sided flycatcher – Schedule 1 – threatened
Canada warbler – Schedule 1 – threatened
Rusty blackbird – Schedule 1 – special concern
Western toad – Schedule 1 – special concern

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On 8 November 2013, NGTL applied to the NEB to construct and operate new pipeline facilities in the North Montney area of British Columbia. The Project would include approximately 306 km of up to 1,067 mm (NPS 42) outside diameter pipe and related components. Approximately 155 km of the proposed pipeline length would be located alongside or parallel to existing linear disturbances. The remaining length, or about 151 km, would be installed in new right-of-way, where existing linear disturbances are either not present or would not be paralleled due to constructability and other considerations. The Project would traverse a portion of habitat identified in Environment Canada's draft *Recovery Strategy for the Woodland Caribou, Southern Mountain Population (Rangifer tarandus caribou) in Canada – 204*. NGTL is proposing to have the Aitken Creek Section in service in the second Quarter of 2016, with the Kahta Section in service in the second quarter of 2017.

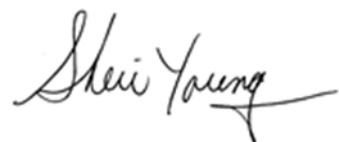
More information on the Project can be found on the Board's website at <http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/clf-nsi/rthnb/pplctnsbfrthnb/nvgsnrthmntny/nvgsnrthmntny-eng.html>.

The Project is subject to an environmental assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*. Additional information about the environmental assessment is available through the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry using reference number 80057.

Please note the NEB previously notified Environment Canada about this proposed Project through its 5 February 2014 Hearing Order GH-001-2014. Should Environment Canada, have specific advice related to the above matter, the Application to Participate form must be used to request participation in the GH-001-2014 hearing. For the advice to be considered it must be filed appropriately with the Board and served on NGTL by noon (Calgary time) on 19 March 2014.

Further enquiries can be directed to Ms. Katie Emond, Process Advisor, toll free at 1-800-899-1265.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheri Young". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sheri Young
Secretary of the Board