



OF-Fac-Gas-N081-2014-20 02
1 June 2015

Environment Canada
Environmental Assessment Division
Prairie and Northern Region, EA South
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Winnipeg, MB R3C4W2
Email easouthpnr@ec.gc.ca

**NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL)
2017 NGTL System Expansion Project (the Project) Application of 31 March 2015
Potential Effect on Species Listed Under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA)**

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

The listed wildlife species that may be affected include:

Woodland caribou, boreal population - Schedule 1 - threatened

- Chinchaga Range
- East Side Athabasca Range (ESAR)
- West Side Athabasca Range (WSAR)

Canada warbler - Schedule 1 - threatened

Common nighthawk - Schedule 1 - threatened

Little brown myotis - Schedule 1 - endangered

Loggerhead shrike - Schedule 1 - endangered

Northern myotis - Schedule 1 - endangered

Olive-sided flycatcher - Schedule 1 - threatened

Peregrine falcon - Schedule 1 – special concern

Rusty blackbird - Schedule 1 – special concern

Short-eared owl - Schedule 1 - special concern

Western toad - Schedule 1 – special concern

Wood bison - Schedule 1 – threatened

Yellow rail - Schedule 1 – special concern

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On 31 March 2015, NGTL applied to the NEB to construct and operate an expansion of the NGTL system in Alberta. The Project would include five separate pipeline components totalling approximately 230 km, two compressor stations and related activities. Approximately 208 km of the proposed pipeline length would be alongside or parallel existing linear disturbances. The remaining length, or about 22 km, would be installed in a new right-of-way, where existing linear disturbances are either not present or would not be paralleled due to constructability and other considerations. NGTL is proposing to have the Project components in service by 1 April 2017. More information on the Project can be found on the Board's website at <http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/ngtl-expansion>.

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 80099.

The Project passes through critical habitat identified in Environment Canada's Recovery Strategy for the Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus Caribou*), Boreal Population, in Canada (2012).

Should Environment Canada have specific advice related to the above matter, the Application to Participate (ATP) form must be used to request participation in the GH-002-2015 Hearing. For the advice to be considered it must be filed appropriately with the Board and served on NGTL by 9 July 2015, at 4:00 pm Calgary time. The start date of the ATP period is 18 June 2015.

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

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Sheri Young
Secretary of the Board