

**ALASKA NATURAL GAS PIPELINE
CANADIAN REGULATION
MAY 2012**

NORTHERN PIPELINE AGENCY

The Canadian federal government's Northern Pipeline Agency (<http://npa.gc.ca/home>) was created with the proclamation of the Northern Pipeline Act in April 1978 to oversee planning and construction of the Canadian portion of the Alaska Highway Gas Pipeline Project by Foothills Pipe Lines Ltd. (now a TransCanada subsidiary). The minister of Natural Resources is responsible for management of the agency.

The Northern Pipeline Act lays out the agency's goals:

- Facilitate efficient and expeditious planning and construction of the pipeline, taking into account local and regional interests, the interests of residents, particularly First Nations.
- Consult and coordinate with provincial, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories governments.
- Maximize the project's social and economic benefits, while minimizing social and environmental harm.
- Ensure the highest possible Canadian participation in all aspects of planning and building the pipeline.

The agency acts as a single window between federal authorities and TransCanada, and between provincial and territorial governments and the U.S. government. The agency is a one-stop permitting and regulatory office for construction of the pipeline project. Most Canadian federal applications related to the gas line will get filed with the agency.

The Northern Pipeline Agency serves a similar coordinating function as the U.S. Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects, but with the addition of its regulatory and permitting responsibilities. The Northern Pipeline Act delegates to the agency many regulatory powers of other Canadian departments and agencies related to the pipeline project. This is not the case, however, for powers reserved exclusively to the National Energy Board or shared between the NEB and Northern Pipeline Agency.

While waiting to see if the project proceeds, the agency is working with TransCanada as the company updates the project's environmental work from years ago and also is working with the company to renew the pipeline's easements in the Yukon Territory.

Agency staff in 2011-2012 also started a consultation process with First Nations along the pipeline route to ensure their active engagement in the process.

CONTACT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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