



**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT:
PIPELINE TO SERVE THE
PROPOSED THOROLD COGEN L.P.**

File No. 160960284

Prepared for:

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Executive Summary

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. ("Enbridge") is proposing to install a Nominal Pipe Size ("NPS") 12-inch (305- millimetres ("mm")) diameter steel pipeline to supply natural gas to serve the proposed Thorold CoGen L.P., a Gas-Fired Cogeneration Station in Thorold, Ontario. The proposed pipeline begins where TransCanada PipeLine's existing natural gas pipeline crosses Townline Road in Thorold, Ontario, and ends at the site of the proposed gas-fired power generation station to be located on the property of Abitibi Consolidated Inc. - Thorold Division. The approximate length of the proposed pipeline route is 2.9 kilometres ("km").

Enbridge retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. ("Stantec") to prepare an Environmental Report ("ER") for construction and operation of the proposed pipeline, to meet the intent of the Ontario Energy Board's ("OEB") *Environmental Guidelines for the Location, Construction and Operation of Hydrocarbon Pipelines and Facilities in Ontario (2003)* ("OEB Guidelines (2003)"). The ER accompanies Enbridge's application to the OEB for Leave to Construct the proposed pipeline.

The ER describes the process used to identify and evaluate route alternatives for the proposed pipeline, in order to select a preferred route. The ER also considers the environmental and socio-economic setting associated with the pipeline, and the potential environmental and socio-economic effects of the proposed pipeline. Based on these potential impacts, mitigation measures are recommended to minimize these effects.

In preparing the ER, input was received from interested parties and stakeholders through a public consultation program, including local, provincial, and federal government agencies, First Nations and residents within or in close proximity to the Study Area. This information provided important data concerning local environmental and socio-economic features. Stantec has considered this information during route selection to address the potential environmental effects of the proposed pipeline and recommend appropriate mitigation measures.

A Study Area was established based on a general review of the area and preliminary assessment of routing opportunities and constraints between the project endpoints. The principal objective in defining the Preferred Route was to select an acceptable route in consideration of environmental, technical, and economic factors.

The preferred and alternative routes were identified and analyzed by Enbridge and Stantec using published information, field reconnaissance, aerial photo interpretation and information provided by landowners, tenants, agencies and members of the general public through direct contact with Stantec or at one of the Public Information Sessions.

Physical, natural, and socio-economic features were identified along the Preferred Route. A detailed review of the potential effects of the project on these features is provided in the ER. An

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT:**PIPELINE TO SERVE THE PROPOSED THOROLD COGEN L.P.****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**April 2008

analysis of the cumulative effects relating to construction and operation of the proposed pipeline along the Preferred Route are also summarized within the report.

In the opinion of Stantec, the recommended program of mitigation, monitoring, and contingency measures addresses the concerns raised to date during the public consultation program. It also addresses any effects, including potential cumulative effects, identified during the detailed technical review of the Preferred Route. With the implementation of all of the above-noted measures during the construction and operation phases of the project, Stantec is of the opinion that no significant adverse environmental or socio-economic effects will occur.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT:
PIPELINE TO SERVE THE PROPOSED THOROLD COGEN L.P.**

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	E.1
1.0 INTRODUCTION	1.1
1.1 DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED PIPELINE	1.1
1.2 PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT	1.1
1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE ER	1.2
1.4 APPROVAL PROCESS AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS	1.4
2.0 ER STUDY PROCESS	2.1
2.1 PHASE I – INVENTORY AND MAPPING OF ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES	2.1
2.2 PHASE II – PIPELINE ROUTE SELECTION PROCESS	2.1
2.3 PHASE III – PREFERRED ROUTE ALIGNMENT AND RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MEASURES	2.5
3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES IN THE STUDY AREA	3.1
3.1 DATA SOURCES AND MAPPING	3.1
3.2 STUDY AREA	3.1
3.3 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES IN STUDY AREA	3.2
3.3.1 Physical Features	3.2
3.3.2 Agricultural Features	3.2
3.3.3 Biophysical Features	3.3
3.3.4 Socio-Economic Features	3.3
4.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROGRAM	4.1
4.1 IDENTIFYING, NOTIFYING, AND UPDATING THE PUBLIC	4.2
4.1.1 Project Newsletters	4.2
4.1.2 Mailouts	4.3
4.1.3 Newspaper Ads	4.3
4.2 RECEIVING INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC	4.4
4.2.1 Agency Contacts	4.4
4.2.2 First Public Information Session	4.4
4.2.3 Second Public Information Session	4.5
4.2.4 Third Public Information Session	4.6
4.2.5 Stakeholder Consultation	4.6
4.2.6 First Nations Consultation	4.7
4.3 COMPILATION AND INCORPORATION OF INPUT	4.8
4.3.1 Follow-up	4.8
5.0 ROUTE EVALUATION METHODOLOGY	5.1
5.1 STEP 1: ROUTING OBJECTIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS	5.2
5.1.1 Routing Objectives	5.2
5.1.2 Environmental Constraints and Opportunities	5.2
5.2 STEP 2: GENERATE ALTERNATIVE ROUTES	5.3

**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT:
PIPELINE TO SERVE THE PROPOSED THOROLD COGEN L.P.**

Table of Contents

5.3	STEP 3: ALTERNATIVE ROUTE SCREENING AND SELECTION OF THE PRELIMINARY PREFERRED ROUTE	5.3
5.3.1	Route Screening Summary	5.5
5.4	SELECTION OF THE PRELIMINARY PREFERRED ROUTE	5.5
5.4.1	Common Route Segments	5.5
5.4.2	Preliminary Preferred Route Interconnection	5.6
5.4.3	Preliminary Preferred Route	5.6
5.5	SELECTION OF THE PREFERRED ROUTE	5.7
6.0	ROUTE ALIGNMENT AND MITIGATION MEASURES	6.1
6.1	PHYSICAL FEATURES	6.1
6.1.1	Physiography	6.1
6.1.2	Bedrock Geology	6.2
6.1.3	Climate	6.3
6.1.4	Seismicity	6.4
6.1.5	Hydrology	6.4
6.2	BIOPHYSICAL FEATURES	6.9
6.2.1	Watercourses and Fisheries	6.9
6.2.2	Forest and Vegetation Cover	6.10
6.2.3	Wetlands	6.10
6.2.4	Natural Heritage and Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest ("ANSI"s)	6.11
6.2.5	Wildlife	6.11
6.3	SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS	6.12
6.3.1	Municipal Structure	6.12
6.3.2	Existing Linear Facilities	6.12
6.3.3	Population and Institutional Facilities	6.15
6.3.4	Land Use	6.16
6.3.5	Waste Disposal and Potentially Contaminated Sites	6.18
6.3.6	Heritage and Archaeological Features	6.18
6.3.7	Land Claims	6.19
6.3.8	Conservation Lands	6.20
6.4	PERMITS REQUIRED	6.20
7.0	HYDROSTATIC TESTING	7.1
8.0	CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	8.1
8.1	METHODOLOGY	8.1
8.2	STUDY BOUNDARIES	8.2
8.2.1	Spatial	8.2
8.2.2	Temporal	8.2
8.3	ANALYSIS OF CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	8.3
8.3.1	Year 2008: Baseline Conditions	8.4
8.3.2	Year 2009: Construction	8.5
8.3.3	Year 2013: Maintenance	8.7
8.4	SUMMARY	8.9

**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT:
PIPELINE TO SERVE THE PROPOSED THOROLD COGEN L.P.**

Table of Contents

9.0 MONITORING AND CONTINGENCY PLANS	9.1
9.1 MONITORING.....	9.1
9.1.1 Watercourse Crossing	9.1
9.1.2 Municipal Roads	9.2
9.1.3 Vegetation.....	9.2
9.1.4 Landowner and Community Relations Program	9.2
9.2 CONTINGENCY	9.3
9.2.1 Construction Delays.....	9.4
9.2.2 Accidental Spills.....	9.4
9.2.3 Unexpected Finds	9.4
10.0 CONCLUSION.....	10.1
11.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY	11.1

List of Tables

Table 5.1 Preliminary Alternative Routes and Route Segments	5.4
Table 6.1 Location of Preferred Route Relative to Roads.....	6.13

List of Figures

Figure 2.1 ER Study Process for the Proposed Pipeline.....	2.3
Figure 5.1 Route Evaluation Methodology	5.1

Table of Contents

List of Appendices

Appendix A Report Figures
Appendix B Public Consultation
Appendix B1 Summary of Stakeholder Communication
Appendix B2 Agency Contact List and Notice of Commencement
Appendix B3 Agency Correspondence
Appendix B4 Landowner Correspondence
Appendix B5 Public Information Session Notifications and Newsletters
Appendix B6 Public Information Session Exit Questionnaire Summaries
Appendix C Environmental and Socio-Economic Features
Appendix C1 Features Mapping
Appendix C2 Environmental and Socio-Economic Setting Text
Appendix D Photomosaics
Appendix E Archaeological Assessment

List of Figures

Appendix A

Figure A-1 Study Area Location
Figure A-2 Preliminary Preferred Route and Alternative Routes
Figure A-3 Original Preferred Route
Figure A-4 Preferred Route

Appendix C-1

Figure C1-1 Soils of the Study Area
Figure C1-2 Existing Natural and Socio-Economic Features
Figure C1-3 Land Use Designations