

Joint Review Panel

The Joint Review Panel (JRP) is an independent body, ordered by the Minister of the Environment and the National Energy Board (NEB). The JRP will decide if the Northern Gateway Project (NGP) will be approved and under what conditions. In making its decision, the JRP will consider all information that is relevant to the question of whether or not the application for the Project should be approved, including:

- safety and security matters;
- environmental and socio-economic issues;
- Northern Gateway's public and Aboriginal consultation process;
- the project's proposed route and land matters;
- supply, markets and the economic feasibility for the project; and
- commercial aspects including tolls and tariffs.

Regulatory Process

The JRP will assess the environmental effects of the proposed project and review the application under both the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act and the National Energy Board Act.

Panel members will conduct a public hearing process where they will receive and consider information submitted by Northern Gateway and other participants, including the public and Aboriginal groups.

Based on the information they receive, the JRP will issue an environmental assessment report with conclusions and recommendations. The report will include mitigation measures, follow-up programs, a summary of comments received from participants and reasons for their decisions. The report will be submitted to the government for a response.

Once the government responds, the JRP will make a final decision on whether or not to approve the project under the *National Energy Board Act*.

Steps of the Regulatory Process

- An application is filed by a company with the NEB. (The application for the Northern Gateway Project was filed on May 27, 2010).
- A Hearing Order is issued once the JRP decides that the application is complete. A Hearing Order gives a brief description of the proposed project, the list of issues that will be considered during the hearing process, as well as details on the steps in the hearing process and the schedule for the various steps, including the date, location and time of the hearing(s) if it is known.
- The public is notified about the application through the Hearing Order and public hearing notices.
- Written evidence is filed by the company and registered interveners taking part in the hearing.
- Information requests are submitted and answered based on the evidence that is filed. People who don't wish to fully participate in the hearing may submit a letter of comment explaining their position on the project.

REGULATORY PROCESS

FACT SHEET



- An oral hearing is held where participants gather on a specific date in a specific location to ask oral questions of witnesses and to provide final argument. Once the hearing is completed, the JRP makes a decision on the application and releases the decision to the public.

The regulatory process, from the time the application was submitted until a decision is made, is expected to take about 18 months.

Methods of Involvement in the Public Hearing

Persons interested in communicating their views about the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway Project will have many opportunities to do so. When issued, the Hearing Order will provide the details of all available options. In the meantime, the Joint Review Panel is accepting Letters of Comment.

A Letter of Comment is a written statement that expresses your views on the project. A Letter of Comment should include any information that will help explain or support your comments as well as the reason why you are interested in this proposed project.

A Letter of Comment is separate from any comments you have provided in response to the Panel's earlier request for input concerning the draft List of Issues, additional information the applicant should be required to file and suggested locations for hearings.

Letters of Comment must include personal contact information such as full name and mailing address. Panel members will read and consider all Letters of Comment throughout the review process.

Once submitted, Letters of Comment become public documents. Your contact information and the Letter of Comment will be available on this website in the Public Registry.

If you would like to submit a Letter of Comment, please use the electronic form on this website or send your own letter to the address or fax number below:

Joint Review Panel – Enbridge Northern Gateway Project
444 Seventh Avenue S.W.
Calgary, AB T2P 0X8
Fax: 403-292-5503
Toll free: 1-877-288-8803

Where can I get a copy of the Application?

The Northern Gateway Project application can be found on the public registry at www.gatewaypanel.review-examen.gc.ca and on Northern Gateway's website www.northerngateway.ca. Northern Gateway has also sent hard copies of the application to some public libraries in locations along the proposed route including Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Prince George and Kitimat.

Where can I go to get more information on the hearing process?

There are a number of ways people can access information:

- a. **NEB website** - The NEB website contains information on NEB activities, regulatory documents and general energy information. The website can be accessed at: www.neb-one.gc.ca.
- b. **E-mail** - You can submit your question to info@neb-one.gc.ca and your question will be responded to in two working days. If your question is more complicated, more time may be needed to respond.
- c. **Telephone/Fax** - Please contact the NEB at 403-292-4800 or toll free at 1-800-899-1265. To send a fax, dial 403-292-5503 or toll free 1-877-288-8803.
- d. **Mail** - If you do not have access to the Internet and wish to submit your question or comments in writing, you can also send a letter. The mailing address is:

National Energy Board
444 Seventh Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0X8