



Ontario Energy Board / Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario

## OEB Energy East Consultation



## Community Discussion Guide

March/April 2014

In November 2013, Ontario's Minister of Energy asked the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) to examine and report on TransCanada PipeLines Limited's proposed Energy East Pipeline from an Ontario perspective.

To support the preparation of the report, the Minister asked the OEB to consult with Ontarians. This consultation process will provide a forum for Ontarians to express their views on the proposed Energy East Pipeline. These views will inform the OEB's report to the Minister.

The Government of Ontario intends to participate as an intervenor in the National Energy Board's (NEB) review of the Energy East Pipeline project and the Minister will use the OEB's report to help formulate the Government's position.

The decision to approve the proposed Energy East Pipeline is the responsibility of the NEB and the federal cabinet.

### The OEB Consultation Process

Ontario's Minister of Energy requested that the OEB consider the implications of four areas of potential impact, including:

- The impacts on Ontario natural gas consumers in terms of prices, reliability and access to supply, especially for those consumers living in eastern and northern Ontario
- The impacts on pipeline safety and the natural environment in Ontario
- The impacts on Aboriginal communities in Ontario, in particular how treaty and Aboriginal rights may be affected
- The short and long term economic impacts of the project in Ontario

The OEB consultation process will take place in two parts: Part One – The Impacts Important to Ontarians and Part Two – The OEB's Understanding of the Impacts. In both parts of the consultation process, there will be meetings with the public, First Nations and Métis, and stakeholder organizations. The information and perspectives received during both parts of the consultation process will be used to help inform the OEB's report on the implications of TransCanada's Energy East proposal for Ontario.

**For more information on TransCanada's proposed Energy East Pipeline, visit the Resources page at [ontarioenergyboard.ca/oebenergyeast](http://ontarioenergyboard.ca/oebenergyeast)**

### What's Inside

This Discussion Guide includes:

<b>Information &amp; Expertise</b>	<b>Page 2</b>
<b>Key Considerations</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>Questions for You</b>	<b>Page 4</b>

### Community Discussions Schedule

There will be 7 community discussions in Part One of the consultation process. All of these discussions will take place in communities along the route of the proposed Energy East Pipeline and will take place from 6:30 – 9:00pm. The dates for these meetings are as follows:

<b>Kenora</b>	<b>March 25<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Thunder Bay</b>	<b>March 26<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Kapuskasing</b>	<b>March 31<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Timmins</b>	<b>April 1<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>North Bay</b>	<b>April 2<sup>nd</sup></b>
<b>Stittsville</b>	<b>April 7<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Cornwall</b>	<b>April 8<sup>th</sup></b>

There will also be 7 meetings with First Nation and Métis communities and a province-wide stakeholder forum in Part One of the consultation process. For more information on all the meetings, please visit [ontarioenergyboard.ca/oebenergyeast](http://ontarioenergyboard.ca/oebenergyeast)

## Information and Expertise Available to Ontarians

To better understand the four areas of potential impact, the OEB has retained prominent technical advisors to provide advice to the OEB on the potential risks and benefits of the proposed Energy East Pipeline for Ontario. These technical advisors will work closely together to ensure a full understanding of the areas of potential impact, particularly where they are interrelated (e.g. pipeline safety and environmental considerations). Their reports will be publicly available and will include analysis and input on the following topics:

- P** Pipeline engineering and safety
- E** Environmental and socio-economic considerations
- N** Natural gas pricing and supply

Drawing on their specific areas of expertise, the technical advisors will each write two reports – a Background and a Final Report – outlining the potential positive and negative impacts of the proposed project. These reports together with input received from the public, First Nations and Métis, and stakeholders will be considered by the OEB in preparation of its report to the Minister.

All three Background Reports will provide a preliminary, high-level view of the key considerations and the potential impacts of TransCanada's Energy East proposal in Ontario. Each report will focus on one of the three topics (pipeline engineering and safety; environmental and socio-economic considerations; natural gas pricing and supply).

**Map: Approximate Location of Proposed Energy East Pipeline in Ontario**



The full background reports are available at  
[ontarioenergyboard.ca/oebenergyeast](http://ontarioenergyboard.ca/oebenergyeast)

## Key Considerations

The technical advisors have identified several key considerations for the OEB and Ontarians to consider as they evaluate the opportunities, risks and impacts of the Energy East proposal. These are listed below.

### **P** Pipeline Engineering and Safety

**DNV GL (Det Norske Veritas)** is a global provider of consulting services on pipeline engineering, safety and integrity to the maritime and energy sectors. DNV GL will analyze all engineering and safety aspects of the proposed Energy East Pipeline project.

Key pipeline engineering and safety considerations include:

- Pipeline integrity
- Leak detection
- Emergency Management
- Quality Management (design, manufacture and construction)

### **E** Environmental & Socio-Economic Considerations

**TERA Environmental** is a Canadian-based energy firm that provides analyses of socio-economic and environmental risks and considerations associated with pipeline and powerline projects. TERA Environmental will analyze the proposed Energy East Pipeline in terms of its potential impacts on Ontario's natural environment as well as its potential socio-economic benefits to Ontario.

Key environmental and socio-economic considerations include:

- physical environment (landscape and morphology)
- soil and soil productivity
- vegetation (e.g., rare plants, old growth forests)
- water quality and quantity (surface water and groundwater resources)
- wetlands
- fish and fish habitat
- wildlife and wildlife habitat
- atmospheric environment (air quality)
- acoustic environment (noise)
- human occupancy and resource use (land use)
- heritage resources (*i.e.*, historical, archaeological or palaeontological resources)
- traditional land and resource use
- social and cultural well-being
- human health
- infrastructure and services
- employment and economy

### **N** Natural Gas Pricing and Supply

**Ziff Energy** is an international energy consulting firm, providing exploration and production cost benchmarking and North American gas forecasting services to a diverse client base. Their role in the consultation process will be to provide an overview of the potential impact that the proposed Energy East Pipeline project could have on natural gas prices for Ontarians.

Ziff Energy's Background Report will provide information on how gas markets in Ontario react to the pressures of supply and demand. It will also provide:

- An overview of the Ontario natural gas market in the context of the North American market
- A high-level discussion of the potential impacts of the project on forecasted natural gas prices in Ontario

## **We want to hear from you**

**What are the impacts (positive and negative) that you see in connection with TransCanada's proposed Energy East Pipeline: In your community? Province-wide?**

**What are the impacts that you think the Ontario Energy Board should focus on most closely in its report to Ontario's Minister of Energy?**

**Please send us your completed Discussion Guide by April 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Send your completed Discussion Guide to the third-party facilitator by:**

**Email [energyeast@swerhun.com](mailto:energyeast@swerhun.com) Mail 720 Bathurst St. Suite 500B, Toronto, ON, M5S 2R4 Fax 416-572-3736**