



## LETTER DECISION

File OF-Fac-Gas-M182-2017-09  
3 December 2018

Mr. Terry Jordan  
Many Islands Pipe Lines (Canada) Ltd.  
1000 – 1777 Victoria Avenue  
Regina, SK S4P 4K6  
Email: tjordan@saskenergy.com

Dear Mr. Jordan:

**Abandonment Hearing MHW-001-2018  
Many Islands Pipe Lines (Canada) Limited (MIPL(C)L)  
Application for the Abandonment of the Renaissance –  
North Bronson Pipeline and associated facilities (Project)**

The National Energy Board (NEB or Board) has considered the above-referenced application dated 15 December, 2017 (Application). The Application describes activities related to the abandonment of the 30 m, NPS 4, Renaissance - Bronson North pipeline and custody transfer riser (the Project). Pursuant to paragraph 74(1)(d) of the *National Energy Board Act* (NEB Act), and taking into account section 50 of the *National Energy Board Onshore Pipeline Regulations* (OPR), the Board has issued the attached Order ZO-M182-005-2018 (Order), the effect of which is to grant MIPL(C)L leave to abandon the Facilities. The attached Order sets out the conditions the Board has imposed on the Project.

In reaching its decision, the Board considered all of the evidence on the record related to this matter. The regulatory documents on file for the MHW-001-2018 proceeding are available in the [Project file](#) on the Board's website.

MIPL(C)L proposes to abandon the Renaissance – Bronson North Pipeline in place and all associated above ground facilities will be removed. The Project is located primarily in previously disturbed areas within a broader intact forest landscape. Abandonment activities will be limited to previously disturbed areas and will be primarily executed within the existing Right of Way.

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MIPL(C)L indicated that they chose to abandon the pipeline in place because pipeline removal would require the use of heavy machinery and increase construction traffic on local roads. Both of these factors would increase environmental effects and the risk of potential safety issues when compared with the practice of abandoning in place. The Board is of the view that this is appropriate rationale for abandoning this pipeline in place.

The Board identified 15 Indigenous communities with asserted traditional territory in the Project area and served them with a Notice of Abandonment Application, dated 19 March 2018. The Board directed MIPL(C)L to serve a copy of the Notice on all persons potentially impacted by the Project. Under the NEB Act, the Board must hold a public hearing to consider an application for leave to abandon a pipeline. The Board issued a Notice of Abandonment Hearing MHW-001-2018 for the Project (Notice) on 20 March 2018, which set out how the Board would consider the Application. MIPL(C)L served the Notice on potentially interested parties.

On 23 April 2018, the Board received a letter of comment from Lydia Cardinal regarding the importance of the lands in the vicinity of the Elizabeth Métis Settlement, and shared concerns regarding cumulative effects of development on traditional lands and practices. Ms. Cardinal also had some specific requests regarding the reclamation, timing of the abandonment work and requested a site visit. MIPL(C)L filed a response to the letter of comment, indicating that it had contacted Ms. Cardinal on 10 May 2018 to discuss her concerns and explain the activities associated with the abandonment work and reclamation that will occur. MIPL(C)L also noted that in light of the remote location and the limited scale of the work, an information site visit was not planned but MIPL(C)L is open to hearing any further concerns or questions that Ms. Cardinal may have. Finally, MIPL(C)L committed to provide Ms. Cardinal with an updated timeline closer to the construction date. No further concerns were raised by Ms. Cardinal following the 10 May 2018 discussion.

The Board has reviewed MIPL(C)L's activities to engage Indigenous peoples and learn about their concerns and interests. The Board is satisfied with the design and implementation of MIPL(C)L's consultation activities to date, as well as its commitment to continue consultation activities throughout the lifecycle of the Project.

Given the nature and scope of the Project, and the implementation of the Board's conditions, the Board is of the view that any residual environmental effects would be of limited geographic extent (limited to the Project site), medium-term (in the order of months or years), reversible and of low magnitude. The Board has determined that the carrying out of the Project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.

The Board grants MIPL(C)L leave to abandon the Facilities as set out in Schedule A of the attached Order. The Board directs MIPL(C)L to serve a copy of this letter and the attached Order on all interested parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Davies', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

P. Davies  
Member

Attachment