

## NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *Canada Oil and Gas Operations Act* (COGOA), being Chapter O-7 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1985, as amended, and the regulations made thereunder;

AND IN THE MATTER OF the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA), being Chapter 37 of the Statutes of Canada, 1992, as amended, and the regulations made thereunder;

AND IN THE MATTER OF an application by Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited for an authorization pursuant to subsection 5(1)(b) of the COGOA.

TO: Chief Conservation Officer  
National Energy Board  
Calgary, Alberta

### APPLICATION BY IMPERIAL OIL RESOURCES VENTURES LIMITED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 5(1)(b) OF THE COGOA

1. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited hereby applies to the National Energy Board (NEB or Board), pursuant to subsection 5(1)(b) of the COGOA, for the issuance of an authorization with respect to the Mackenzie gathering system.

#### THE APPLICANT AND THE OWNERS

2. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited is a body corporate, incorporated under the *Canada Business Corporations Act*, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1985, Chapter C-44, as amended. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited is a company within the meaning of the NEB Act.
3. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited is making this application on behalf of the owners of the Mackenzie gathering system. The owners are Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited, ConocoPhillips Canada (North) Limited, Shell Canada Limited and ExxonMobil Canada Properties. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited will, on behalf of the owners, construct, operate, and hold legal title to the Mackenzie gathering system.

#### THE MACKENZIE GAS PROJECT

4. The Mackenzie gathering system is part of the Mackenzie Gas Project. The Mackenzie Gas Project also includes the development of three onshore natural gas fields: Taglu, Parsons Lake and Niglintgak, and the transportation of gas to Alberta via the Mackenzie Valley pipeline.
5. Applications are concurrently being submitted by the respective operators to the NEB for authorizations under the COGOA to develop each of the three gas fields, and for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity under the *National Energy Board Act* authorizing the construction and operation of the Mackenzie Valley pipeline.

## THE MACKENZIE GATHERING SYSTEM

6. The Mackenzie gathering system includes:
- (a) about 175 km of NPS 16, 18, 26 and 30 gathering pipelines to transport production from the Taglu, Parsons Lake and Niglintgak gas fields to the Inuvik area facility
  - (b) the Inuvik area facility, which will process production from the three fields into gas and natural gas liquids
  - (c) about 480 km of NPS 10 pipe to transport natural gas liquids from the Inuvik area facility to Norman Wells
  - (d) block valves, pigging facilities, and meter stations for the gathering pipelines and the natural gas liquids pipeline
7. The Mackenzie gathering system will have the capacity to deliver about 30.9 Mm<sup>3</sup>/d of gas to the Mackenzie Valley pipeline, and to transport about 3,200 m<sup>3</sup>/d of natural gas liquids from the Inuvik area facility to Norman Wells. The Mackenzie gathering system has an estimated capital cost of about \$1.6 billion (Q1, 2003\$ Cdn). It is scheduled to be in service in 2009.

## SUPPORTING MATERIAL

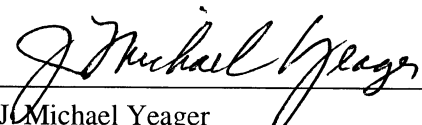
8. By letter dated July 17, 2003, the NEB referred the Mackenzie Gas Project to the Minister of the Environment for consideration by a review panel. In August 2003, the Minister announced his decision to refer the project to a review panel. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited has supplied, in this application and supporting material, the information necessary to enable a review panel to conduct an environmental assessment of the Mackenzie gathering system.
9. To facilitate the review of this application, Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited has prepared an Executive Summary (see the Preface to this volume). Guide to the Application, also found in the Preface, describes how the material contained in the application is organized.

## RELIEF REQUESTED

10. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited respectfully requests that the Board issue an authorization, pursuant to subsection 5(1)(b) of the COGOA, with respect to the Mackenzie gathering system.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

DATED at the City of Calgary in the Province of Alberta, this 7th day of October, 2004.

  
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J. Michael Yeager  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Communications with respect to this matter should be sent to:

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