

NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF the *National Energy Board Act* (NEB Act), being Chapter N-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 pursuant to Part III of the NEB Act for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and pursuant to Part IV of the NEB Act for an order respecting tolls and tariffs.

TO: Secretary
National Energy Board
Calgary, Alberta

APPLICATION BY IMPERIAL OIL RESOURCES VENTURES LIMITED PURSUANT TO PARTS III AND IV OF THE NEB ACT

1. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited hereby applies to the National Energy Board (NEB or Board) for:
 - (a) a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, pursuant to Section 52 of the NEB Act, authorizing the construction and operation of the Mackenzie Valley pipeline
 - (b) an order, pursuant to Part IV of the NEB Act, approving the toll and tariff principles that are to apply to service on the Mackenzie Valley pipeline

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 Valley pipeline. The owners are Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited, the Mackenzie Valley Aboriginal Pipeline Limited Partnership, 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 Valley pipeline.

THE MACKENZIE GAS PROJECT

4. The Mackenzie Valley pipeline is part of the Mackenzie Gas Project. The Mackenzie Gas Project includes:

- (a) three onshore natural gas fields: Taglu, Parsons Lake and Niglintgak
 - (b) the Mackenzie gathering system, which includes:
 - gathering pipelines to transport production from the three fields to the Inuvik area facility
 - the Inuvik area facility, which will process production from the three fields into gas and natural gas liquids
 - a pipeline to transport natural gas liquids from the Inuvik area facility to Norman Wells
 - (c) the Mackenzie Valley pipeline, which will transport gas from the Inuvik area facility to an interconnection with the NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. system in Alberta
5. Applications are concurrently being submitted by the respective operators to the NEB for authorizations, under the Canada Oil and Gas Operations Act, to develop each of the three gas fields and to construct the Mackenzie gathering system.

THE MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE

6. The Mackenzie Valley pipeline includes:
- (a) about 1,220 km of NPS 30 pipe
 - (b) four compressor stations: Little Chicago, Norman Wells, Blackwater River and Trail River
 - (c) the Trout Lake heater station
 - (d) a meter station located at the Inuvik area facility
 - (e) a pig receiver and block valve just south of the Alberta–Northwest Territories boundary
7. The Mackenzie Valley pipeline will have an initial design capacity of about 34 Mm³ (1.2 Bcf) of natural gas per day. It has an estimated capital cost of approximately \$4.5 billion (2003\$ Cdn), inclusive of an allowance for funds used during construction (AFUDC). The pipeline is scheduled to be in service in 2009.

SUPPORTING MATERIAL

8. This application is being filed in compliance with the requirements of the NEB Act and the regulations made thereunder. In preparing the application, Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited has followed the Board's *Filing Manual*.
9. 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 panel review. 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 Valley pipeline.

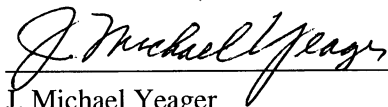
10. To facilitate the review of this application, Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited has prepared an Executive Summary (see the Preface to this volume) which summarizes the evidence filed in support of the application.
11. The Preface also contains a description of how the material contained in the application is organized (see Guide to the Application). For ease of reference, the Guide to the Application also includes checklists from the NEB *Filing Manual* to show where each requirement in the Board's *Filing Manual* is addressed in the application.

RELIEF REQUESTED

12. Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited respectfully requests that the Board:
 - (a) recommend that the Governor in Council approve the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, pursuant to Section 52 of the NEB Act, authorizing the construction and operation of the Mackenzie Valley pipeline
 - (b) make an order, pursuant to Part IV of the NEB Act, approving the toll and tariff principles that are to apply to service on the Mackenzie Valley pipeline
 - (c) grant such further and other relief as Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited may request or as the Board may deem appropriate pursuant to Section 20 of the NEB Act

ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

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



J. Michael Yeager
President and Chief Executive Officer

Communications with respect to this matter should be sent to:

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