

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Purpose

This document provides supplemental information not available when the Mackenzie Gas Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was filed in October 2004. The filed EIS included an assessment of the:

- three anchor fields
- gathering pipelines and associated facilities
- NGL and gas pipelines and associated facilities and infrastructure

### Dickins Lake Section

The assessment also included the NOVA Gas Transmission Limited (NGTL) Northwest Mainline (NWML) (Dickins Lake Section) in northwestern Alberta, referred to as the Dickins Lake Section. This NGTL facility will connect the Mackenzie Valley pipeline with NGTL's existing pipeline system in northwestern Alberta.

### Vardie River Section

The supplemental information in this document includes biophysical and socio-economic baseline data and an environmental impact assessment for the NGTL NWML Loop (Vardie River Section), referred to as the Vardie River Section. This 37-km pipeline loop represents a 3% addition to the length of the previously assessed pipeline.

The Vardie River Section will loop 37 km of NGTL's NWML from the existing NGTL Thunder Creek compressor station north to a point near Bootis Hill. There, the Vardie River Section will join the Dickins Lake Section.

Infrastructure required for the Vardie River Section is minimal:

- a natural gas line heater will be added at the existing NGTL Thunder Creek compressor station. This heater will increase the temperature of the natural gas that was transported in the Mackenzie Valley pipeline, to bring it to NGTL's pipeline specifications.
- existing all-weather roads and winter access roads will be used
- no borrow sites will be developed as no granular resource requirements are expected

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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- construction camp facilities could be located at an existing commercial camp. Alternatively, an existing camp clearing could be expanded to accommodate the construction camp.

**Approach and Scope**

The approach used to assess the Vardie River Section and update information for the Dickins Lake Section is consistent with the approach used in the EIS. Subject areas assessed include:

- air quality
- noise
- groundwater
- hydrology
- water quality
- fish and fish habitat
- soils, landforms and permafrost
- vegetation
- wildlife
- socio-economics
- public participation
- cumulative effects

This document also includes environmental alignment sheets for the Dickins Lake and Vardie River sections.

**Combined Project Effects**

The EIS concluded that no significant effects were associated with the Mackenzie Gas Project in combination with NGTL's Dickins Lake Section.

This assessment for northwestern Alberta concludes that when the Mackenzie Gas Project is combined with NGTL's Dickins Lake and Vardie River sections, no significant effects will occur.