

14. ALIGNMENT SHEETS

Introduction

The EIS contained environmental alignment sheets for the Mackenzie Gas Project and for the NGTL Dickins Lake Section (see EIS Volume 8). This document provides alignment sheets for the NGTL Vardie River Section and includes those for the Dickins Lake Section. The images in the sheets centre on the 1-km-wide corridor established for the Dickins Lake and Vardie River sections.

Six of the eight environmental setting data bands have been populated. Data for the remaining two, as well as for the bands for potential environmental issues and conceptual protection measures, will be developed by NGTL before construction.

Sheet Content

The alignment sheets were created by mapping features on a photomosaic compiled from orthophotographs that span the alignment of the Dickins Lake and Vardie River sections. Sheet content is the same as described in the EIS (see Volume 8), with the following exceptions:

- orthophotographs were produced from 1:50,000-scale 1999 aerial photographs
- alignment sheets for the Dickins Lake and Vardie River sections are organized from south to north to illustrate the extension of the existing NGTL Northwest Mainline. Kilometre posts increase from south to north for both the Dickins Lake and Vardie River sections.
- the following environmental setting data bands are now fully or partly populated with data developed from fieldwork done in summer and fall 2004:
 - sensitive landforms and soils
 - vegetation, rare plants and weeds, although surveys for rare plants and weeds will be done in the summer before ditching begins
 - sensitive wildlife habitat
 - watercourse crossings and aquatic resources

The right-of-way schematic diagrams for the Dickins Lake and Vardie River sections are at the foot of the photomosaic area. The Vardie River Section contains three schematic diagrams to illustrate the changes in the conceptual right-of-way design along the alignment.

Interpreting Alignment Sheets

Because sheet features and data bands are the same as those in EIS Volume 8, information in the Dickins Lake and Vardie River alignment sheets can be interpreted in the same way as information in the EIS alignment sheets (see EIS Volume 8, Section 1).

Methods

Methods for selecting orthophotographs were the same as those described in the EIS (see EIS Volume 8, Section 1), although the orthophotographs were based on 1:50,000-scale photography obtained in 1999. Datasets developed for the environmental setting portion of the alignment sheets were prepared in the same way as for EIS Volume 8. An exception to this procedure was that the sensitive wildlife dataset was inferred from the vegetation classification and augmented based on published literature, rather than being modelled.

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