

The monthly [Northern Gas Project Secretariat](#) newsletter is designed to update the public on the various developments related to the environmental assessment and regulatory review of the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project.

Joint Review Panel begins its hearings in Inuvik on Feb. 14

The Joint Review Panel for the Mackenzie Gas Project will begin the public hearing phase of its environmental review in Inuvik, Northwest Territories on Feb. 14, 2006.

The seven-member Panel examining the possible environmental, social and cultural changes from the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project expects to complete its public hearings by mid-November.

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↑ The National Energy Board Panel looks on during the opening of public hearings on the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project.

The Board meets in Inuvik until Feb 2. (Photo by Annette Bourgeois-Bent, NGPS)

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National Energy Board continues hearing in Inuvik

The National Energy Board opened its hearing in Inuvik, Northwest Territories on Jan. 25, 2006. For transcripts or to listen live to the hearings as they proceed, visit the Northern Gas Project Secretariat website home page for links – www.ngps.nt.ca. ☐



↑ Peter Enderwick (right) of the National Energy Board, speaks with Richard Gordon before a public hearing in Inuvik Jan 28. (Photo by Annette Bourgeois-Bent, NGPS)

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During that time, the Panel will visit 27 communities in the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Alberta.

The Panel has indicated it will hold three types of hearings and all hearings are open to the public, although for Technical Hearings participants must be Interveners.

General Hearings and Community Hearings will be part of the first series of public hearings. The first Technical Hearing will be held in March in Inuvik. The Panel is scheduled to be in Inuvik for five days, before and after visits to Fort McPherson on Feb. 17th and Tsiigehtchic on the 20th.

The General Hearings will cover topics on the project description (Feb. 15-16) and approaches to evaluating information in the environmental impact statement (Feb. 21-22). There will also be an Open General Hearing on the afternoon of Feb. 16 in Inuvik. Presenters have been asked to notify the Panel Manager of their intention to participate during these sessions. General Hearings will generally be held in the morning and afternoon.

The Community Hearings will give priority to residents of the community where the hearing is being held. Community Hearings will generally be held in the afternoon and evening.

For more information on the different types of hearings, visit the Joint Review Panel website (www.jointreviewpanel.ca).

For a copy of the coordinated schedule for public hearings for the Joint Review Panel and the National Energy Board, contact the Northern Gas Project Secretariat (www.ngps.nt.ca). ☐



Public welcome to speak to National Energy Board



(Photo by Annette Bourgeois-Bent, NGPS)

← Gordon Daw (left) of the National Energy Board speaks with Alex Elanik of Inuvik. Mr. Elanik was one of three members of the public who made an oral statement to the National Energy Board Panel on Saturday, Jan 28.

The Board also set aside Tuesday, Jan. 31 to hear from the public. The Board examines issues related to the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project such as economics, markets and supply and the development plans in the Beaufort Delta.

For more information, contact the National Energy Board toll-free at 1-800-899-1265. ☐

The Northern Gas Project Secretariat in the community

➔ Residents of K'atlodeeche look on during a presentation to the community about the review of the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project.

Staff from the Northern Gas Project Secretariat, Joint Review Panel and National Energy Board were in K'atlodeeche in January to share information about the environmental and regulatory review of the proposed project.

Staff explained how residents can participate in the review, particularly during the public hearing phase which is currently underway. (Photo by Marcy MacDougall, NGPS)



← Marie Anick Elie, Community Relations and Logistics Manager for the Northern Gas Project Secretariat, makes a presentation to the Francophone community in Yellowknife.

Staff provide information to the public about the review of the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project. If you're interested in having staff make a presentation to your community or organization, please contact us. (See contact information on page 4.) (Photo by Annette Bourgeois-Bent, NGPS)



↑ Staff from the Secretariat talk with Inuvialuktun and Gwich'in interpreters about any concerns they may have before public hearings resume for the National Energy Board in Inuvik. Interpreters are a vital link to communication between the Board and the public. (Photo by Annette Bourgeois-Bent, NGPS)



WHO WE ARE

BRIAN CHAMBERS

Executive Director
(867) 766-8600

ANNETTE BOURGEOIS-BENT

Manager, Communications
(867) 766-8602

BOB TURNER

Manager, Community Relations and Logistics
(Yellowknife)
(867) 766-8603

SUZANE WATKINS

Assistant to the Executive Director
(867) 766-8600

MARIE-ANICK ELIE

Manager, Community Relations and Logistics (Inuvik)
(867) 678-8608

CAROLYN BLAKE

Administrative Assistant (Inuvik)
(867) 678-8600

HOW TO CONTACT US

IN INUVIK

SUITE 302, 125 MACKENZIE ROAD
P.O. Box 2412, INUVIK, NT, X0E 0T0
PHONE: (867) 678-8600 FAX: (867) 678-8624

IN YELLOWKNIFE

5114-49TH STREET
YELLOWKNIFE, NT, X1A 1P8
PHONE: (867) 766-8600 FAX: (867) 766-8624

IN NORMAN WELLS

CONTACT: JUNE POPE
Box 299
NORMAN WELLS, NT, X0E 0V0
PHONE: (867) 587-4600

IN FORT SIMPSON

CONTACT: SARAH TSETSO
P.O. Box 120
FORT SIMPSON, NT, X0E 0N0
PHONE: (867) 695-8600

TOLL- FREE: 1-866-372-8600

National Energy Board sets deadline
for evidence on "adequacy of
Aboriginal consultation"

Sept. 8, 2006

All Intervenors, including the Government of Canada, will have until noon (Mountain Time) on Sept 8, 2006 to file and serve their evidence on the adequacy of Aboriginal consultation (Issue 8 of Hearing Order GH-1-2004 as amended).

Aboriginal peoples who wish to address this issue should provide evidence of the specific nature of the rights which they assert, the potential infringement which may result from any approval of the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project and any concerns with the consultation process.

However, to the extent that the potential infringement relates to either environmental or socio-economic impacts of the project, the National Energy Board expects that evidence to be provided through the Joint Review Panel process. The Joint Review Panel has a mandate to assess the environmental, socio-economic and cultural impacts of the project.

To the extent that a potential infringement may be related to an issue the National Energy Board is considering in its hearing process, participants should file that evidence with the National Energy Board.

Questioning of Intervenor witnesses on the adequacy of Aboriginal consultation will start in Fort Simpson during the week of October 4, 2006. Applicants and Intervenors will have the opportunity to provide final argument on this issue, based on the evidence presented during the hearing, sometime in 2007.

For more information, contact the National Energy Board toll-free at 1-800-899-1265. ☐