Subject: FW: Proposed Project Notification | Groundbirch Connector
Attachments: Groundbirch Connector_Fact Sheet_8.5x11_0320_V7.pdf; Your safety, our integrity.pdf; Engaging with our stakeholders.pdf

From: Heather Desarmia [mailto:heather_desarmia@tcenergy.com]
Sent: April 24, 2020 4:36 PM
Subject: Proposed Project Notification | Groundbirch Connector

Good afternoon,

Coastal GasLink Ltd. (CGL) is proposing to construct, own, and operate the Groundbirch Connector Project (Project). The Project will be developed and operated by TransCanada PipeLines Limited (TCPL), an affiliate of TC Energy Corporation (TC Energy) on behalf of CGL. The Project will be located within the Peace River Regional District.

The proposed Project will be located approximately 40 kilometers (km) west of Dawson Creek, British Columbia. The proposed Project scope will consist of the construction of approximately 3 km of 48-inch pipe, which will provide the Coastal GasLink Pipeline with an additional source of natural gas. The proposed Project begins at a proposed meter station located at NW Section 34, Tp 78, R 19, W6M, and ends at the Wilde Lake Compressor Station, located at SW ¼ of Section 33, Tp 78, R 19, W6M.

CGL anticipates filing an application under the *Oil and Gas Activities Act* with its regulator, the BC Oil and Gas Commission (BC OGC), in the second quarter of 2020. Subject to BC OGC approval, construction of the Project is anticipated to begin in the second quarter of 2021 and completed in fourth quarter of 2021 with an anticipated in-service date of the first quarter of 2022.

If you would like further information regarding the BC OGC's process, please contact Coastal GasLink's Public Affairs department, at the contact information provided below. You may also contact the BC OGC directly at 1-800-663-7867 or access their website at https://www.bcogc.ca/.

Once the Project goes into operation, it will become a component of the Coastal GasLink system which will operate to safely deliver natural gas across northern B.C. to Kitimat, where it will be prepared for global market export.

TC Energy is a leading North American energy infrastructure company with over 65 years of experience and has an industry leading safety record. We are committed to building and operating our natural gas system safely. From design and construction to operation and maintenance, safety is an integral part of everything we do.

We strive to engage stakeholders early and often. We believe engagement is a two-way process and invite communities, landowners, and other interested stakeholders to share their questions and concerns with us so that we can provide information, follow up, and, where possible, incorporate input into our plans. Please do not hesitate to contact TC Energy's Public Affairs department regarding the proposed project.

Enclosures:

- Project Map/fact sheet
- Your Safety, Our Integrity Brochure
- Engaging with our Stakeholders brochure

Sincerely,

Heather Desarmia
Public Affairs Coordinator | British Columbia

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250 263 5299

TC Energy

TCEnergy.com

Proposed Project: Groundbirch Connector

Project details

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Project schedule

Q2 2020 - Commence local community and Indigenous stakeholder engagement

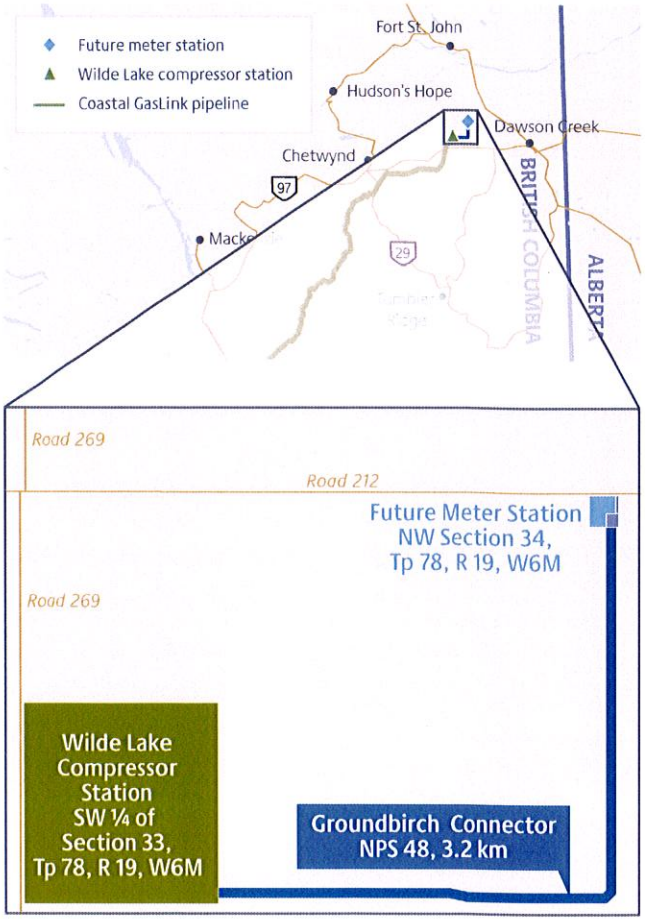
Q2 2020 - Commence survey and field studies

Q2 2020 - Anticipated Project application to the BC Oil and Gas Commission

Q2 2021 - Subject to Project approval, commence construction activities

Q4 2021 - Anticipated Project completion

Q1 2022 - Anticipated in-service date for all applicable Project components



TC Energy

Safety is our number one value

Pipelines are the safest method to transport natural gas. With over 65 years of experience building and operating pipelines, TC Energy is committed to keeping our workers, the environment and your community safe. Here's how we will ensure safety during construction and operation:

During construction

- Top quality steel and welding techniques applied by highly skilled workers with the latest training
- Welds checked by ultrasonic inspection and/or x-ray
- Pipelines coated to protect against corrosion
- Pressure-testing to ensure the pipeline is sealed and ready for operation

During operation

- 24/7 monitoring from a state-of-the-art Gas Control Centre
- Extensive maintenance, aerial patrols, on-the-ground inspection and inline inspection to monitor pipeline conditions
- Comprehensive Emergency Response Program developed in collaboration with local emergency response providers to ensure a coordinated response in the event of an incident

Keep in touch

We want to make sure you have access to the information you need about the project. Here are the many ways you can reach out, and learn more:

Email us: coastalgaslink@tcenergy.com

Sign up to receive our Connector Newsletter: coastalgaslink.com/contact-us

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @coastalgaslink

Visit our website: coastalgaslink.com

Visit our community office:
Prince George Office
760 Kinsmen Place

Engaging with our stakeholders.

With more than 65 years' experience, TC Energy is a leader in the responsible development and reliable operation of North American energy infrastructure including natural gas and liquids pipelines, power generation and gas storage facilities. We safely deliver the energy that millions of North Americans rely on every day to power their lives and fuel industry.

Responsible stakeholder and rightsholder engagement

Guided by our values of safety, responsibility, collaboration and integrity, we are proud of the positive relationships we have built with our neighbours for the last 65 years. We recognize that ensuring Indigenous groups, as rightsholders, and our stakeholders are engaged and respected is critical to TC Energy's success.

We are committed to sharing information and seeking public input which results in better plans – for us, stakeholders, rightsholders and communities as a whole. We document the entire stakeholder engagement process including the issues raised by stakeholders and rightsholders, along with the ways we address these issues.

Commitment to engagement and addressing concerns

Our approach to consultation and engagement with stakeholders, landowners, and Indigenous groups is focused on understanding concerns and addressing issues related to our projects and operations. We engage and consult early and often, invite feedback, provide updates and address concerns throughout the regulatory process and throughout operations.

Our preference for addressing concerns is through direct and respectful discussion. Issues received or identified during these discussions are systematically tracked and followed to promote mutual resolution. If mutual resolution is not achievable, parties may consider use of the Canada Energy Regulator's (CER) collaborative Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process.

Engaging Indigenous groups

Building and maintaining relationships with Indigenous groups near our proposed projects and existing facilities has long been an integral part of our business. We recognize Indigenous groups as rightsholders who have a distinct relationship with the land. We know that our activities have the potential to affect the lives of Indigenous groups in a tangible way.

We work closely with Indigenous groups to understand the potential effects of the project on the exercise of Indigenous rights and any other interests of Indigenous peoples in the project area. The information we work with Indigenous groups to collect is considered in the project planning process and evaluated by provincial and federal authorities, including the CER, as part of their regulatory review.

We aim to conduct our activities in a way that fosters mutual understanding and benefit – this includes working with communities to identify and manage potential effects of our activities and provide enduring economic opportunities. TC Energy also provides business, employment, training opportunities, and supports community-led initiatives of Indigenous groups that focus on safety, community, environment and education.

Community benefits

Our projects offer long-term economic benefits and help strengthen the economy on a local, provincial and national level:

- **Employment and business opportunities** – Construction requires the services of equipment operators, welders, mechanics, truck drivers, labourers, and more, as well as creates demand for local goods and services. Vendors interested in working with us can visit **TCEnergy.com** to register as an interested local service provider. We award contracts to qualified pipeline construction contractors and work with them to provide local employment opportunities.
- **Annual revenue to support local services** – Project construction results in tax payments to all levels of government. When the project is operational, annual tax payments help support schools, hospitals, emergency services and other local programs vital to communities.
- **Investment in local communities and Indigenous groups** – Giving back to the communities where we operate has always been part of our culture. Whether it's partnering with community groups, supporting local initiatives or encouraging our employees to be involved in their neighbourhoods, the goal of our Build Strong community investment program is to build strong and vibrant communities across North America. Visit **TCEnergy.com/BuildStrong** for more information.

Managing our environmental footprint

Whether it's designing, building, or operating energy infrastructure, we are committed to being responsible environmental stewards on the land we share – and our environmental principles of stewardship, protection and performance help guide our decisions. As part of our commitment, and in support of the regulatory process, we assess potential effects that may be associated with construction and operation of a proposed project. Some examples of possible effects associated with meter station, compressor station or pipeline projects include potential effects to soil, water, fish, and wildlife, air quality, and noise.

The Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment prepared for a proposed project considers potential effects on communities and groups whose interests may inform our planning process, including the potential for a project to impact diverse groups of people. We propose mitigation and enhancement measures and evaluate the significance of residual effects once these measures are implemented. An Environmental Protection Plan is also developed to identify the necessary measures to be used during construction, and the best practices we use to guide operations of the assets throughout their life cycle to manage effects and maintain equivalent land capability.

Route selection

TC Energy employs a systematic and thorough route selection process using a variety of considerations, such as:

- desktop studies
- helicopter surveys
- ground verification and on-the-ground field survey
- engineering, geotechnical and environmental field studies
- co-location of the pipeline along existing disturbances and corridors to minimize new footprint

Route selection takes into account the objectives of minimizing the total route length or land requirements, meeting applicable regulatory requirements and reducing the environmental footprint, while carefully assessing overall construction complexity and our ability to meet customer needs.

Feedback received through stakeholder, landowner and Indigenous engagement informs the assessment of proposed routes and sites.

What to expect during and after construction

The planning that goes into the construction and operation of our pipeline projects reflects commitments we've made and conditions we receive during the regulatory review process. We track and report our progress on regulatory conditions with the CER and follow up on the commitments we've made to honour the relationships we've built with Indigenous groups, communities and landowners.

During pipeline construction there is an increase in traffic in and around the project area as well as heavy equipment onsite for earthworks, material handling/hauling, welding and testing. We adhere to construction plans and the Environmental Protection Plan to ensure that the impacts of construction activities on communities are minimized.

Many of our projects include the use of temporary work space and, if required, workforce accommodations are built to support construction. If our plans include these features, we begin the conversation with potentially affected stakeholders early on to hear and understand community interests.

Access to-and-from site is planned based on a number of factors including finding the safest and most efficient routes to our work site, existing infrastructure, new infrastructure required to support construction and municipal planning. Access planning is refined throughout project development and final plans are communicated to communities prior to starting work.

Once construction is completed, the impacted land area – including our temporary work space and workforce accommodation areas – is reclaimed to an equivalent land capability so that it can support various uses such as wildlife habitat or agricultural purposes, similar to the ability that existed previously. Measures are taken to prevent topsoil/surface material loss from wind and water erosion and to establish a vegetative cover native to the surrounding vegetation and land use. After the facilities are constructed, there will be minimal traffic associated with ongoing operations and maintenance.

On freehold lands, landowners have the right to fully use and enjoy the right of way subject to the terms of the right-of-way agreement, and CER and Damage Prevention Regulations. To provide public safety and to protect property and the environment, written consent from TC Energy is required for certain activities on the pipeline right of way and within the 30-metre prescribed area. These activities include but are not limited to: operating motor vehicles or mobile equipment, reducing or adding soil cover and any excavation or ground disturbance. Stakeholders may contact TC Energy with at least 10 working days' notice to apply for written consent at **writtenconsent.transcanada.com**. After written consent has been received, request a locate by visiting **ClickBeforeYouDig.com** or calling the appropriate provincial One-Call Centre.

At the end of a pipeline's lifecycle, the asset is taken out of service with as much thought and care as when it was proposed and constructed. We follow the Canada Energy Regulator's processes for end-of-life planning. More information about pipeline end-of-life is available on our website at **TCEnergy.com/about/energy-101/lifecycle-of-a-pipeline**.

Ensuring our pipelines are safe

Our safety program starts before construction. We use only high-quality materials, the latest proven technologies and industry-leading practices to ensure the integrity of our pipelines before they go in the ground. We are a leader in North America in the use of automatic welding and ultrasonic testing technologies to construct pipelines. These technologies ensure high quality welds are made and every weld is inspected by qualified independent inspectors during construction. Prior to placing a pipeline in service, it is hydrostatically tested with water at a higher pressure than it will see during operations. In addition, pipeline inspection tools with high resolution sensors are run through the pipeline to check for any other irregularities prior to flowing natural gas.

Once operational, we use state-of-the-art leak detection systems, safety features such as shut-off valves and provide highly specialized training for people working on our assets. Our pipeline systems are monitored 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by trained operators in our Operations Control Centres who manage the most sophisticated pipeline monitoring equipment and technology available. Our industry-leading asset integrity programs manage our pipeline and facilities for their entire life cycle to ensure they provide safe and reliable energy to consumers throughout North America.

Emergency preparedness and response

Our goal is to ensure that our pipeline and energy facilities operate safely every day and that the public, our employees, and the environment are protected during the unlikely event of incident involving our assets. All TC Energy safety initiatives are designed to advance one goal: Zero is Real. We are proud to have an industry leading safety record and continue to work towards our goal of zero safety incidents. Being prepared for the rare cases when something does go wrong is part of the commitment to ensuring the safety of the communities where we live and operate.

At the first sign of any potential issue on our pipeline systems, our control centre operators can stop the flow of product through the pipeline in minutes and investigate. If an irregular condition is detected, pipeline operators immediately dispatch emergency personnel to the scene to investigate. The pipeline is not restarted until it has been confirmed on site by qualified personnel that it is safe to do so.

In the unlikely event of an incident, all our assets have specific Emergency Response Plans that outlines the steps we'll take to respond. Our Emergency Preparedness and Response team is focused on quickly and effectively responding to emergencies and mitigating any impacts that may have occurred to public safety, property or the environment in a timely manner.

If there is an incident, we work closely with authorities, emergency responders and the media to ensure local residents are safe and aware of the situation.

In the event of an emergency, please contact TC Energy's 24-hour emergency line at 1-888-982-7222.

Find out more by visiting **TCEnergy.com**.

Contact us

Contact us with any questions:

Phone 1-855-895-8754
Email public_affairs_ca@tcenergy.com
Web TCEnergy.com

Or write to us:

TC Energy
450 – 1 Street S.W. Calgary, Alberta
Canada, T2P 5H1

For further information regarding the CER's processes, please contact us or contact the regulator directly:

Canada Energy Regulator
Suite 210, 517 – 10 Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta
Canada, T2R 0A8
Phone 1-800-899-1265
Web www.cer-rec.gc.ca
Email info@cer-rec.gc.ca

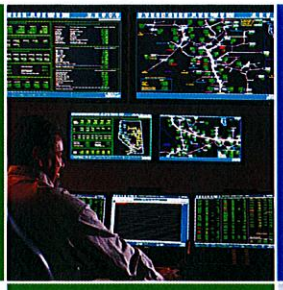
Vendors
Vendors interested in working with us can visit TCEnergy.com to register as an interested local service provider.

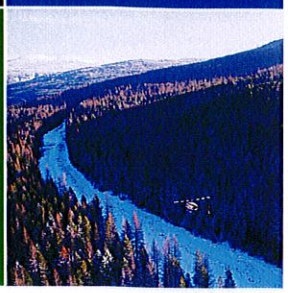
TCEnergy.com/operations/vendors/

TC Energy periodically provides information beginning at the early stages of project development including prospecting, continuing throughout the life of assets. The information provided is intended to give people the opportunity for meaningful input and inform stakeholders of our proposed activities. Please be aware that as planning progresses, new information becomes available and details may change from the time of this printing. Please contact TC Energy any questions. TC Energy follows the Official Languages Act and respects your choice to receive relevant information from us in English or in French. Please contact us if you prefer to receive French-language materials and updates.

November 2019

your **safety,** our **integrity**
Oil & Natural Gas





TransCanada is committed to building and operating our natural gas and oil transportation systems safely. From design and construction to operation and maintenance, safety is an integral part of everything we do.

Our operations extend across North America and we have established offices in many communities. Each region is fully staffed with qualified employees who ensure the safe and efficient operation of our facilities in the area.

Design

TransCanada uses top quality steel and welding techniques throughout our natural gas and oil pipeline systems. We take additional safety precautions where pipelines cross roads, railway tracks, waterways and in areas of higher population.

Construction

During construction, all welds are checked by an x-ray or ultrasonic process to ensure the welds are sound. To protect against corrosion, the external surface of the pipeline is coated.

Operation

During operations, a very low-voltage electrical current – called cathodic protection – is applied to the pipe. The applied current protects the pipe from corrosion in areas where coatings may have been compromised. The cathodic protection system is monitored on a monthly basis to ensure proper operation.

The entire transmission system is monitored 24 hours a day by highly trained TransCanada employees from a computerized control center. From here, we are able to detect changes in pressure along our pipelines and ensure that all facilities are operating properly.

Safety

If work is required on your land, a TransCanada representative will make all reasonable efforts to contact you prior to any work being conducted. At that time, we will arrange for land access and discuss any environmental and safety considerations with you.

In order to ensure your safety, there are a couple of things you should know: when work is being done, a portion of the pipeline right-of-way may need to be excavated and large equipment mobilized on site. You will be restricted from using the area for the duration of the activities. Temporary fences will be set up along the perimeter of the excavation site if required.

In the event of a pipeline emergency call TransCanada's toll-free Emergency number at 1.888.982.7222.

TransCanada
In business to deliver

your **safety**, our **integrity**

Maintenance

Regular maintenance is performed on all portions of the pipeline system. All compressor and meter stations also undergo routine maintenance in accordance with industry and government standards.

TransCanada has an extensive Pipeline Maintenance Program (PMP) to monitor, inspect and repair our pipeline facilities. Regular maintenance activities include:

- **Aerial Patrol** – We regularly inspect the pipeline route from lowflying helicopters and airplanes. The pilots look for hazards to the pipeline from outside sources (e.g. unauthorized activity, soil disturbances) that could affect the integrity of our pipeline system.
- **Leak Detection -** We regularly use sensitive leak detection equipment on aerial patrols of our natural gas pipelines to detect leaks. We use sophisticated computational leak detection systems in addition to visual aerial patrols to identify leaks on our oil pipelines.
- **Cover Surveys** – TransCanada investigates areas where we suspect wind or water erosion may have reduced the depth of ground cover over our pipelines so we can maintain the integrity of the pipe.
- **Geotechnical Monitoring** – TransCanada's pipelines cross thousands of bodies of water and significant slopes. All of these are monitored for erosion and movement during aerial patrol. More active slopes and streams are monitored more thoroughly through a variety of survey techniques.
- **Hydrostatic Testing** – We can verify the integrity of our pipeline by removing natural gas from the pipeline, replacing the gas with water and then pressurizing the pipeline to a level far greater than it experiences during normal operation. If a leak occurs during testing, TransCanada will repair or replace the affected section of pipe.
- **In-line Inspection** – In-line inspection, also referred to as 'pigging,' looks for any locations where corrosion may have occurred. Specialized internal inspection devices called 'smart pigs' travel through the pipeline collecting data. The data is then analyzed to determine if there are areas of concern requiring further investigation.
- **Investigative Digs** – TransCanada conducts investigative digs based on the data analysis from pigging and other information. Sections of pipeline are excavated to investigate their condition and to ensure integrity. Detailed engineering assessments are used to determine if and when repairs are required.
- **Valve Maintenance**

  Natural Gas – Pipeline mainline valves are located approximately every 30 kilometres along the pipeline. If pipeline pressure drops due to a leak, the valves automatically stop the flow of gas. Each of these valves requires specific routine maintenance depending on function and valve condition.

  Oil – Pipeline valves are located at pump stations and at regular intervals along the pipeline between pump stations to limit spill volumes. The placement of these valves is influenced by local needs. For instance, valves are placed on either side of major water crossings or where necessary to protect other sensitive resources. Additionally, elevation changes will influence the location of these valves.

We continuously improve our pipeline integrity programs using new technology, innovations and applications.

Environmental Practices

Prior to any ground disturbance, TransCanada ensures that site-specific environmental protection measures are incorporated to ensure equivalent land capability is maintained. At TransCanada, this includes minimizing and mitigating effects on soil, water, wildlife and vegetation.

TransCanada
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Calgary (Alberta) T2P 5H1
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