



August 26, 2009

INFORMATION LETTER # OGC 09-15

Subject: Pipeline Approval Timelines

To: Industry Clients

Effective Date: October 1, 2009

Requirement:

As the next step in updating pipeline records, the BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) intends to vary all certificates for pipeline projects and associated segments by limiting the time in which the company must construct and complete the line.

Certificates Issued Prior to November 1, 2007:

All certificates for pipeline projects and associated segments on Crown land with expired section 14 permits, and where a notice of construction start has not been received by the Commission, will expire effective November 1, 2009 unless the holder of the certificate, by September 30, 2009, applies for a new section 14 permit and provides valid reasons why the certificate should extend beyond that date. The certificate and the Section 14 permit will be issued for one additional year only.

Certificates Issued on or After November 1, 2007:

All certificates for pipeline projects and associated segments on Crown land issued on or after November 1, 2007 and for which no notice of construction start has been received, will expire two years from the date of issuance unless, at least 30 days prior to expiry, the holder of the certificate requests an extension. An extension of up to one year will be granted along with a new Section 14 permit.

Certificates with a Notice of Construction Start:

If a company has submitted a notice of construction start but has not completed construction within the two year period covered by the section 14 permit, the Commission will automatically extend the certificate and replace the Section 14 permit for one additional year.

Certificates on Private Land:

Pipeline projects and associated segments located on private land do not require a permit under section 14 of the *Land Act*; however, certificates will expire on the same timelines described above where a notice of construction start has not been submitted.

If a company has submitted a notice of construction start but has not completed construction, the Commission will automatically extend the certificate.

Each company affected by this policy change will be notified in writing, and a list of subsisting pipeline certificates currently in the Commission's records will be forwarded.

For further information, please contact:

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BC Oil and Gas Commission