



Bulletin

Vol. 25, No. 35

September 2, 1970

GUIDELINES FOR NORTHERN PIPELINES

Canadian Government guidelines for construction and operation of northern oil and gas pipelines have been announced jointly by Mr. J.J. Greene, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and Mr. Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Knowledge of northern Canada's petroleum potential has been quickly expanding and major companies in the industry have publicly expressed interest in constructing pipelines. Some already have plans and research under way.

It is vital to Canada's economic growth and the protection of its northern environment that the Federal Government's policies relating to this major economic development be made known now to the public and the industry, the ministers said. Government leadership in policy and direction of this potential major economic contribution will be maintained and, if required, new guidelines will be issued, they added.

The guidelines relate to pipelines tapping oil and gas resources north of the 60th degree of latitude

in the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories and from Alaska. They establish requirements ranging from environmental protection, pollution control and Canadian ownership and participation to training and employment of residents of the North. Initially, only one trunk line each for oil and gas will be permitted in the North within a "corridor" to be established at a future date.

Mr. Greene and Mr. Chrétien met in Ottawa recently with the National Advisory Committee on Petroleum to discuss these requirements with its members and to bring the guidelines to the attention of the oil and gas industry as a whole.

GUIDELINES SPELLED OUT

The new guidelines for northern pipelines are as follows:

- (1) The Ministers of Energy, Mines and Resources, and Indian Affairs and Northern Development will function as a point of contact between government and industry, acting as a steering committee from which industry and prospective applicants will receive guidance and direction to those federal departments and agencies concerned with the particular aspects of northern pipelines.
- (2) Initially, only one trunk oil pipeline and one trunk gas pipeline will be permitted to be constructed in the North within a "corridor" to be located and reserved following consultation with industry and other interested groups.
- (3) Each of these lines will provide either "common" carrier service at published tariffs or a "contract" carrier service at a negotiated price for all oil and gas which may be tendered thereto.
- (4) Pipelines in the North, like pipelines elsewhere which are within the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada, will be regulated in accordance with the National Energy Board Act, amended as may be appropriate.
- (5) Means by which Canadians will have a substantial opportunity for participating in the financing, engineering, construction, ownership and manage-

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