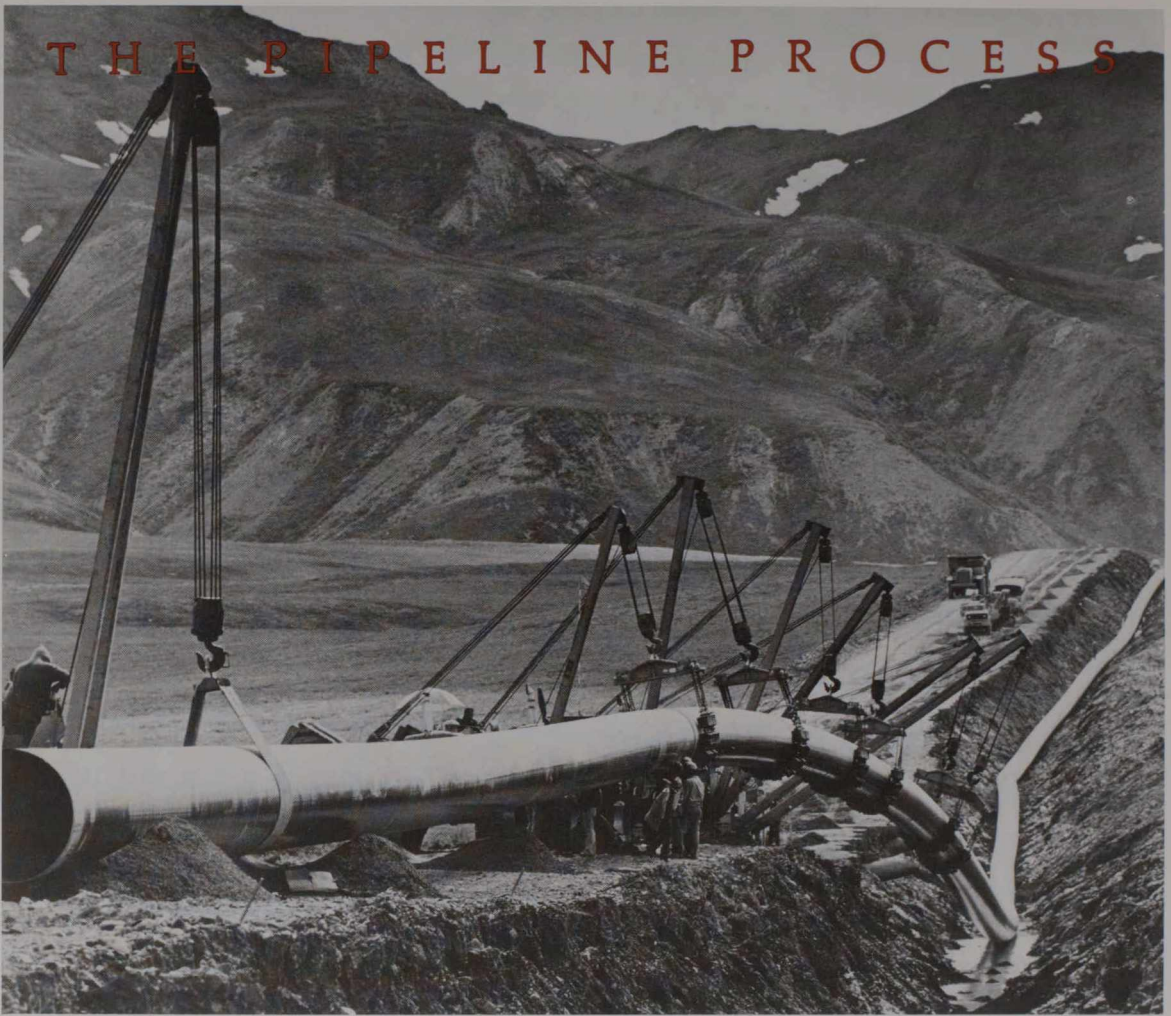


# THE PIPELINE PROCESS



The Canadian government began its consideration of pipeline construction with three basic factors:

Sooner or later Arctic gas and oil would be needed in southern Canada.

The Arctic and sub-Arctic environment would be affected by energy development.

Northern native people had legitimate claims which needed to be resolved.

The royal commission study headed by Justice Berger heard three hundred experts at hearings in Yellowknife and almost a thousand northerners at those in thirty-five communities. In its initial report last spring, it discouraged the immediate building of any Mackenzie Valley pipeline.

The National Energy Board — an independent

regulatory body specifically charged with evaluating interprovincial and international hydrocarbon transportation proposals — reported its findings in July. The board was willing, with qualifications, to certify a pipeline not considered by Berger: one along the Alaska Highway, across the southern Yukon, connecting Alaska and British Columbia. The Hill and Lysyk reports also gave qualified support to this proposal.

All of the inquiries were concerned with the likely results of massive construction north of the sixtieth parallel. To understand the decision-making process, it is necessary to consider the nature of these singular lands.

## Natural Gas Resources in Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF)

