



OF-Fac-Gas-N081-2015-16 02
23 December 2015

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Environment and Climate Change Canada
Environmental Assessment Division
Prairie and Northern Region, EA South
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**NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL)
Towerbirch Expansion Project (the Project) Application of 2 September 2015
Potential Effect on Species Listed Under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA)**

Pursuant to the SARA, the National Energy Board (the Board or NEB) hereby advises the Minister of Environment and Climate Change that the above-noted Project, if approved and constructed, is likely to affect four species listed on Schedule 1 of the SARA and/or their habitat.

The listed wildlife species that are likely to be affected include:

- Canada warbler - Schedule 1 - threatened
- Olive-sided flycatcher - Schedule 1 - threatened
- Yellow rail - Schedule 1 - special concern
- Western toad - Schedule 1 - special concern

On 2 September 2015, NGTL applied to the NEB to construct and operate 87 km of new gas pipelines and associated facilities in northwest Alberta and northeast British Columbia including:

- Tower Lake Section (32 km of 762 mm OD pipe)
- Groundbirch Mainline Loop (55 km of 914 mm OD pipe)
- additional associated facilities, including meter stations, valves sites and pipeline tie-ins.

More information on the Project can be found on the Board's website at <http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/towerbirchexpansion>.

The Project is subject to an environmental assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*. Additional information about the environmental assessment is available through the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry using reference number [80106](#).

The Board notes that Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) applied for, and was granted, Commenter standing in the GH-003-2015 Hearing. Should ECCC have specific advice related to the above matter, it may be provided in a Letter of Comment. The Board refers ECCC to [Hearing Order GH-003-2015](#) for the steps and deadlines in the hearing process.

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Further enquiries can be directed to Ms. Nancy MacWhirter, Process Advisor at 403-292-5503 or toll free at 1-800-899-1265.

Yours truly,

Original signed by L. George for

Sheri Young
Secretary of the Board