

# INTRODUCTION

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Overview

Provident Energy Ltd. (Provident) is proposing to build, own and operate, an approximately 9.8 km long, 8 inch (219.1 mm) O.D. pipeline to transport natural gas liquids (NGL) from a proposed facility in LSD 13-17-10-28 WPM to a proposed Enbridge pump station in LSD 06-20-09-28 WPM. (Figures 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3). The proposed Provident pipeline will have a capacity of 200 m<sup>3</sup>/hr to 300 m<sup>3</sup>/hr.

A proposed new pipeline from the proposed Enbridge pump station in LSD 06-20-09-28 WPM will travel approximately 700 m across cultivated land to an existing Enbridge facility in the SW ¼ of Section 20-09-28 WPM. As per Manitoba Conservation, this proposed 700 m Enbridge pipeline will not require an Environmental Act Licence and therefore is not included within the scope of this Environmental Assessment.

Construction is scheduled to begin as soon as regulatory approvals are obtained (anticipated in mid 2011) and the proposed pipeline is planned to be in-service by the fourth quarter of 2011. Pipeline construction is anticipated to occur during non-frozen soil conditions but Provident has provided for alternative measures should frozen conditions be present.

### 1.2 Project Need

The proposed pipeline will allow Provident to collect NGLs from various producers in the area around Cromer, Manitoba and subsequently ship it via a third party shipper to fractionation facilities in Ontario and eventually on to markets in Canada and the US.

### 1.3 Regulatory Framework

Manitoba Conservation has determined that the Project constitutes a Class 2 development as a pipeline which is greater than 10 km in length and/or in areas sensitive to environmental disturbance as defined by the Classes of Development Regulation under the Manitoba *Environment Act* (MEA). It is Provident's understanding that the filing of an Environment Act Proposal Form (EAPF) under the MEA initiates the formal regulatory review process.

Provident anticipates that the Project may be reviewed under the provisions of the *March 2007 Canada/Manitoba Agreement on Environmental Assessment Cooperation*, and Provident would welcome such a cooperative process. The Environmental Assessment (EA) will outline other regulatory and legislative approvals required for Project implementation.

### 1.4 Purpose of the Document

This EA has been prepared to fulfill the requirements of Manitoba Conservation and Manitoba Energy and Mines. In addition, the commitment to supplemental studies, mitigative measures, contingency plans, and monitoring plans included within the EA will form the foundation for future environmental management activities by Provident, particularly during the construction phase of the Project. The EA is divided into the following sections.

- 1.0 Introduction:** Provides a description of the need and justification for the Project, background information pertaining to the Project, the regulatory framework and the purpose of the document.
- 2.0 Project Description:** Provides a description of the Project components, alternatives to the Project and Project phases.

- 3.0 Public Consultation:** Provides a summary of public involvement activities associated with the preparation of the EA consisting of consultation with provincial and municipal government agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs) and other interested parties, where required. Also identifies key environmental and socio-economic issues raised during the consultation program.
- 4.0 Routing and Siting:** Provides a detailed description of the route and site selection process, as well as a brief description of the route options considered.
- 5.0 Environmental and Socio-Economic Setting:** Provides a description of the current environmental and socio-economic conditions present along the proposed pipeline route.
- 6.0 Environmental and Socio-Economic Effects Assessment:** Describes the effects assessment and identifies the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts, mitigation measures and predicted residual effects as well as an assessment of their significance.
- 7.0 Cumulative Effects Assessment:** Provides a description of the potential cumulative effects as well as an assessment of their significance.
- 8.0 Inspection, Monitoring and Follow-up:** Provides a description of the environmental inspection, and monitoring policies to be applied during the construction and operation of the proposed Project as well as the proposed follow-up program, if warranted.
- 9.0 Supplemental Studies:** Provides a description of the plans to address knowledge gaps and carry out supplementary environmental studies.
- 10.0 Conclusion:** Provides conclusions related to the significance of potential adverse residual environmental and cumulative effects associated with the Project.

## 1.5 Project Team

Personnel involved in the planning of the proposed Provident Pipeline Project are listed in Table 1.1.

**TABLE 1.1 PROJECT CONTACTS**

<b>Company</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Contact Numbers</b>
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