

Enbridge Northern Gateway Project

Joint Review Panel

Procedural Direction #5 Community Hearings for Oral Statements

This procedural direction provides additional guidance to participants who have registered to make an oral statement to the Joint Review Panel during the community hearings. This direction supplements the information provided previously in Procedural Direction #3.

What is an oral statement?

An oral statement is an opportunity for registered participants to provide their personal knowledge, views and concerns regarding the proposed Project to the Panel in their own words during the community hearings. Oral statements are brief and limited to a maximum of 10 minutes. Your oral statement should describe the nature of your interest in the application and provide any relevant information that explains or supports your statement.

Who can provide an oral statement?

Individuals who registered by the 6 October 2011 deadline and who are not Intervenor are able to make an oral statement. The Panel wants to hear directly from registered participants; therefore, participants cannot use a representative to speak on their behalf. All registered participants must have scheduled their oral statements in advance (see question “How will I know when and where my oral statement is scheduled to occur?” below). “Walk-in” registrants will not be allowed to make an oral statement at the community hearings.

If you did not register by the deadline but would still like to share your personal knowledge, views or concerns with the Panel, you can submit a Letter of Comment by 31 August 2012.

Where will the community hearings for oral statements be held?

The oral statement community hearing locations are listed below:

- Bella Bella, BC
- Bella Coola, BC
- Burns Lake, BC
- Calgary, AB
- Comox, BC
- Edmonton, AB
- Fort St. James, BC
- Grande Prairie, AB
- Hartley Bay, BC
- Hazelton, BC
- Kelowna, BC
- Kitimaat Village, BC
- Klenmu, BC
- Old Massett, BC
- Port Hardy, BC
- Prince George, BC
- Prince Rupert, BC
- Skidegate, BC
- Smithers, BC
- Terrace, BC
- Vancouver, BC
- Victoria, BC

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The detailed schedule with the dates and venues for each of these locations will be announced as soon as they are known and may be released in stages.

How will I know when and where my oral statement is scheduled to occur?

The dates and venues for the community hearings to hear oral statements will be announced when they are known. You will be notified by email, or if you did not provide an email address in your registration, by telephone or mail about how the schedule will be developed for the location nearest you.

An online scheduling tool will be used to schedule the oral statement presentations in some locations. Detailed directions on the scheduling process will be provided in the near future.

What type of information does the Panel expect to hear in my oral statement?

The Panel is interested in hearing your personal knowledge, views or concerns about the proposed Project and its potential effects. You can include:

- who you are and how the Project will impact or benefit you;
- your views on whether the Project is in the public interest;
- your position on the decisions the Panel should make;
- recommendations on whether or not the Panel should approve the Project or terms and conditions that should be applied if the Project were to proceed; and
- any other information that supports your position.

Can I use visual aids during my oral statement?

The focus of your oral statement should be on sharing your personal knowledge, views and concerns about the Project. Therefore, the use of visual aids is not encouraged. In order to allow as much time as possible to hear oral statements, electronic forms of visual aids (such as PowerPoint presentations, videos, digital photos or maps, or other media) will not be allowed. Further direction regarding visual aids will be provided in the future.

How long do I have to make my oral statement?

In order to be fair to all registered participants, your oral statement can take no more than 10 minutes. Please plan your time accordingly so that all registered participants have an opportunity to make their oral statement to the Panel.

I'm really nervous about making an oral statement. What should I do?

Not everyone is comfortable speaking in public. You may be nervous about public speaking or concerned that your views about the Project will be unpopular in your community. Rather than making an oral statement, you can choose to submit a letter of comment. A letter of comment is very similar to an oral statement, except it is provided in writing. In this case, your oral statement registration would be withdrawn.

The Panel reads every letter of comment it receives. Information about providing a letter of comment is available on the Panel's website at www.gatewaypanel.review.gc.ca. The deadline to submit a letter of comment is 31 August 2012.

The Process Advisory Team is available to answer any questions regarding the community hearings in order to help make you more comfortable. You can contact the Process Advisory Team via email at GatewayProcessAdvisor@ceaa-acee.gc.ca, or toll free at 1-866-582-1884.

What will happen when I arrive at the venue to give my scheduled oral statement?

Upon arrival at the venue, you must check in with a member of the Panel Secretariat who will explain the process for that venue to help you feel at ease. This will allow the Secretariat staff to confirm your attendance and answer any questions. You will be asked to present photo identification.

Will I be 'sworn in' prior to my presentation at the community hearings?

Yes. Before you make your oral statement you will be asked to swear or affirm that the information you are presenting is accurate and truthful to the best of your knowledge and belief.

If you prefer to be sworn in, you will be asked to place your hand on a Bible or another sacred item. If you want to swear on a sacred item other than a Bible, you will need to bring that item with you.

If you prefer to be affirmed, you will be asked to make a statement that the information you are presenting is accurate to the best of your knowledge and belief.

Can I make an oral statement in a language other than English?

Yes. If you will be speaking a language other than English, please contact Louise Niro, Regulatory Officer at 403-299-3987 or toll free at 1-800-899-1265 to discuss arrangements for an interpreter.

Further information regarding interpretation into other languages can be found in section 11 of the Hearing Order on the Panel's website at www.gatewaypanel.review.gc.ca.

Will anyone ask me questions during my oral statement?

Given the large number of individuals who have registered to participate in the community hearings, the Panel has decided that questions arising from any oral statement, other than questions of clarification by the Panel, will not be permitted.

How should I conduct myself at the community hearing?

Anyone attending the community hearings is expected to conduct themselves with appropriate decorum and respect for all those participating.

What happens if I can't make it to a Community Hearing?

If you can't make it to the hearing session you selected, please notify the Process Advisory Team via email at GatewayProcessAdvisor@ceaa-acee.gc.ca or toll free at 1-866-582-1884. You can still submit your personal knowledge, views or concerns in writing as a letter of comment prior to 31 August 2012.

How will I know what is being said at the Community Hearings?

The community hearings are open for anyone to attend.

Also a live audio broadcast of the community hearings will be available through the Panel's website at www.gatewaypanel.review.gc.ca. The audio broadcast is available in English. If another language is being used by a presenter, including French or an Aboriginal language, English interpretation will be provided.

A written record of what is said each day at the community hearings, known as a daily transcript, will continue to be prepared. The transcripts will be posted on the public registry as soon as possible after each day of the community hearings.

Where do I go to get more information?

Further information on the joint review process, including information on the mandate of the Panel and frequently asked questions, can be found on the Panel's website at www.gatewaypanel.review.gc.ca.

The Process Advisory Team will be conducting information sessions in each location where oral statements will be heard. These information sessions will be held the day or evening before the community hearing begins in each community. They will also be conducting information sessions online at various times while the community hearings are underway. Further information about these sessions will be provided at a later date.

The Process Advisory Team is available to answer any questions regarding the process. They may be contacted by email at GatewayProcessAdvisor@ceaa-acee.gc.ca, by toll free telephone at 1-866-582-1884, or toll free fax at 1-877-288-8803.

Yours truly,



L. George
Acting Secretary to the Joint Review Panel

c.c. Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency Project Mailing List
All participants registered to make oral statements