

Postal Address:

205 Beaver Road, Suite 1
Smithers, BC
V0J 2N1



Location Address:

3873 – 1st Avenue
Smithers, BC
Canada

Telephone: (250) 847-3630

Facsimile: (250) 847-5381

www.wetsuweten.com

May 22, 2012

Delivered by E-File

National Energy Board
444 Seventh Ave. SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0X8

Attention: Sheri Young, Secretariat to the Joint Review Panel

Dear Sirs/Madam

**RE: Northern Gateway Pipelines Inc. (Northern Gateway) Enbridge
Northern Gateway Project (Project) Hearing Order OH-4-2011
Registration for May 30, 2012 Procedural Conference filed May 22, 2012**

The Office of the Wet'suwet'en wish to register and will participate in the Procedural Conference tentatively stated for May 30, 2012 via remotely by video-conferencing link.

- 1) Location of Hearings: The Office of the Wet'suwet'en request and recommend for more hearing locations especially in the areas of the proposed route to address those most affected. The Office of the Wet'suwet'en (OW) is localized in Smithers, BC, our territory is 22,000km² and 170 km is proposed to be crossed by NGP prior to crossing the coastal mountain range. The OW requests that hearings be held in Smithers or Burns Lake for full days rather than half days to reduce travel and accommodation costs for intervenors.
- 2) The establishment of this regulatory process is insufficient to afford meaningful consultation to the Wet'suwet'en. We are hard pressed to try and prepare our hereditary leaders and clan speakers in such short notice, especially with a long weekend within the timeframe, some of our leaders and speakers are out on the territories preparing themselves for their summer traditional food gathering, and cultural activities. There is insufficient time given to the Wet'suwet'en for this process.

"We are proud, progressive Wet'suwet'en, dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of our culture, traditions and territories, working as one for the betterment of all."

- 3) Witnesses: The deadline for written comments is not until August 31, 2012, there is a continuous supply of new comments and issues that arise. The replies by both the JRP and Enbridge to questions that are raised have not all been answered. Until such time that all information regarding or addressing issues have been dealt with, and comments have been received, we, the Office of the Wet'suwet'en cannot consciously submit a list of witnesses to be questioned due to the uncertainty of evidence, comments, and issues given to date. This should to be a point of discussion on May 30, 2012 conference.
- 4) Anticipated Issues: As above, we will need all information gathered to come to a decision on issues to be questioned. First Nations communities are throughout the entire proposed route; therefore, must be allowed to address not only Aboriginal concerns, all issues such as Land Use and Need for the project must be addressed at all hearings.
- 5) Request on Time per issue
This will be related to the previous answers, discussions with hereditary leaders and elders must take place, as per our custom before giving this answer.

We acknowledge the Panel for allowing interveners the opportunity to provide input in a procedural conference.

Sincerely,



David de Wit
Natural Resource Manager
Office of the Wet'suwet'en

"We are proud, progressive Wet'suwet'en, dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of our culture, traditions and territories, working as one for the betterment of all."