

SAFETY ALERT

SHOT HOLE DRILLING NEAR PIPELINE

INCIDENT DATE:

July 28 2007

INCIDENT LOCATION:

Northwest Saskatchewan



DESCRIPTION OF THE INCIDENT:

- 3 shot holes drilled inside the 32 meter set back from high pressure pipelines
- Pipelines were located by an independent locating company July 22, 2007
- Surveyors were surveying the line and noticed, markers were knocked down and scattered by cattle no secondary markings, for pipelines were found
- The line was then drilled before confirmation of the high pressure pipeline by pipeline company
- Pipeline Company was then notified of infraction and incident reports were filed with them.

OUTCOME:

- Pipeline locating company failed to adequately mark pipeline
- Lack of communication between advanceman & drill push
- Available pipeline co-ordinates were not applied
- Pipeline crossing was not confirmed by Pipeline Company

A joint decision was made between project coordinator and the pipeline company to abandon shot holes as per CAGC Best Practices.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Pipeline locating company should mark pipeline(s) with an additional marking system(s)
- Have standard procedures in place when employees switch out
- Supervisors have to signoff that they have received co-ordinates for buried facilities
- Survey company has to signoff that they received the information from the pipeline locating company
- Pipeline company has to confirm pipeline crossing before drilling commences
- All field supervisors should take the Level II Ground Disturbance course

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

We urge the industry to adopt specific pipeline policies and procedures for locating buried facilities.

NEB-regulated pipelines have different set back distance requirements; please see attached NEB brochure for more information.

Please contact the CAGC for any additional information.

The provisions governing seismic exploration under the National Energy Board Act and provincial regulations differ.

	Provincially regulated pipelines	NEB-regulated pipelines
Seismic activities near pipelines regulated by:	<p>Alberta: Geophysical Exploration Act</p> <p>Saskatchewan: Mines & Minerals Act</p> <p>British Columbia: Petroleum and Natural Gas Act – Geophysical Exploration Regulation</p>	Section 81 of the National Energy Board (NEB) Act
Setback distance for type of geophysical activity is provided by:	<p>BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan</p> <p>Regulations provide details on setbacks for various geophysical activities which are measured from the pipeline</p>	<p>All seismic activity within 40 metres of a NEB-regulated pipeline must receive prior approval by the NEB.</p> <p>The 40 metre distance is measured from the edge of the easement.</p>
Approval process for geophysical activities:	<p>BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan</p> <p>Geophysical Crossing Notification Form and program map is forwarded to the pipeline company for acknowledgement</p>	<p>Submit an application to the NEB pursuant to s.81 of the NEB Act OR</p> <p>Stay outside of the 40 metre zone and notify the pipeline company for locates</p>
Mobile equipment crossings governed by:	<p>Alberta – Pipeline Act – Section 22.1</p> <p>No person shall operate a vehicle or equipment across a pipeline at a point that is not within the traveled portion of a highway or public road unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) approval is obtained from the permittee or licensee of the pipeline, or (b) the vehicle or equipment is used for agricultural purposes. <p>Saskatchewan & British Columbia:</p> <p>Regulations do not include specific provisions for mobile crossings over pipelines</p>	<p>Subsection 112.(2) of the NEB Act:</p> <p>No person shall operate a vehicle or mobile equipment across a pipeline unless leave is first obtained from the company or the vehicle is operated within the traveled portion of a highway or public road.</p>
Approval process for mobile equipment crossing requests:	Forward a Geophysical Crossing Notification Form and detailed map to the pipeline company	Forward a Geophysical Crossing Notification Form and map to the NEB-regulated company for approval

Always contact pipeline company 3 days before you begin your work.

This publication is a joint effort by:



COMMON GROUND

Seismic Activity Near NEB-Regulated Pipelines



Common ground

Positive results of seismic exploration will eventually flow through pipelines to markets that support our economy and way of life. Mutual cooperation as industries will ensure that seismic exploration and pipelines safely co-exist, and that is vital to each of us.

Seismic activity near NEB-regulated pipelines

Prospecting, which includes seismic exploration, (drilling shot holes or vibroseis for the purpose of prospecting) within 40 metres of NEB-regulated pipelines, is governed by Section 81 of the National Energy Board Act, which states in part that any person/company planning to conduct seismic activity within 40 metres of a NEB-regulated pipeline must first obtain approval from the NEB.

- ▶ If your geophysical program is carried out within 40 metres of a NEB-regulated pipeline, it will require an environmental screening. *For more information on obtaining NEB approval and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) environmental screening process, please contact the National Energy Board at (403) 292-4800.*
- ▶ Keeping your seismic program outside of the 40 metre zone will remove it from the requirements of the NEB and CEAA.

Mobile Equipment Crossings s.112.(2) of the NEB Act

- ▶ NEB legislation requires that vehicles and mobile equipment (such as vibroseis trucks and other vehicles used as part of a seismic program) traveling across or along the pipeline right-of-way must receive prior written permission from the pipeline company. This is normally accomplished by forwarding a Geophysical Crossing Notification Form and detailed map to the NEB-regulated company. **Company specific procedures may vary.** Consult with the pipeline company early to avoid delays. Their numbers are listed at the back of this document.

For your safety

Once you have obtained written permission from the NEB and the pipeline company to carry out your seismic program within 40 metres of the right-of-way, you must then contact the pipeline company at least three working days before your program begins. Alternatively, if you have chosen to keep your program outside of NEB jurisdiction (outside the 40 metre setback) but you will be crossing or accessing the right-of-way with mobile equipment, **you must:**

- ▶ **obtain permission for vehicle access** from the pipeline company
- ▶ once permission has been granted, contact the pipeline company at least three working days before your program begins.

The pipeline company will:

- ▶ make arrangements to locate and mark the pipeline, the boundaries of its right-of-way and the limits of the 40 metre zone free of charge. (a valid locate is: one that has been completed or verified accurate by an authorized pipeline company representative);
- ▶ ensure adequate cover exists over the pipeline to accommodate mobile crossings where no road exists.

Contact Information

National Energy Board
(403) 292-4800

Alliance Pipeline Ltd.
(403) 517-6416

Aurora Pipe Line Company
(403) 627-3324

BP Canada Energy Company Ltd.
(403) 233-1677

Cochin Pipe Lines Ltd.
(403) 509-8376

Dome Kerrobert Pipeline Ltd.
(403) 509-8376

Duke Energy Gas Transmission
(604) 691-5640

Enbridge Pipelines Inc.
(780) 420-5381

Enbridge Pipelines (NW) Inc.
(780) 420-5381

Foothills Pipe Lines (Atta.) Ltd.
(403) 294-4413

TransCanada Pipelines Ltd.
(403) 920-2000

Terasen Pipelines Inc.
(780) 449-5939