



File Ad-GA-RG-GFR 0104
17 October 2017

To: All Companies Operating Oil or Gas Pipelines under the Jurisdiction of the National Energy Board (NEB or Board) and Interested Parties

Comments on Proposed Changes to Guide E of the Board's *Filing Manual* – Change of Class Location

The Board is updating Guide E of the [Filing Manual](#) to clarify its expectations for changes in class location¹ for existing pipelines. The proposed amendments provide additional clarity for regulated companies on the information required by the Board when there is a need for a class location change. In addition, the Board believes these changes will allow for greater efficiency in its review of these types of applications and greater efficiency in eventual implementation by the company of any measures required to enhance public safety and environmental protection.

The proposed changes to Guide E are based on learnings from prior reviews of filings relating to changes in class location. They address the need for companies to provide the Board with a timely and complete assessment of the increase in risk following a change in class location, and a plan with proposed measures to reduce the risk, with associated timelines.

How to Comment on the Draft Filing Manual Changes

The Board is now inviting written comments on the draft changes to be submitted by **17 November 2017**. Comments must include a reference to this letter, the commenter's name, mailing address, phone number, and email address, and the comments on the proposed changes.

Comments may be provided electronically, in hard copy by mail, or by fax and sent to the contact information below.

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¹ Every section of pipeline is associated with a class location. A class location refers to a geographical area around the pipeline that is classified according to its approximate population density and other factors (e.g. environmental considerations) that are considered when designing, pressure testing, and operating pipelines to be located in the area. That is, a pipeline in a higher class location is located in an area of higher population density and potential consequences than a pipeline located in a lower class location.

Proposed Changes to Guide E of the Board's *Filing Manual*
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National Energy Board
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Email filingmanual@neb-one.gc.ca

After the close of the comment period, comments will be posted on the NEB website.

While the Board will consider all comments received and will revise the *Filing Manual* accordingly, ongoing input and feedback are always welcome as the NEB works to continually improve its regulatory framework.

The Board anticipates release of an updated Guide E in the winter of 2017/2018.

If you have any questions or would like to arrange a meeting to discuss the changes, please contact Jenny Been, Technical Leader, Pipeline Integrity, Field Operations at 403-671-3519 or via email at Jenny.Been@neb-one.gc.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Sheri Young
Secretary of the Board

Attachment