



# DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

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Sent via email

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Submitted to: [shannon.neufeld@neb-one.gc.ca](mailto:shannon.neufeld@neb-one.gc.ca)

April 18, 2016

## **RE: Proposed amendments to the NEB Regulations for Pipeline Damage Prevention**

DFN understands that the proposed NEB regulations for Pipeline Damage Prevention include amendments to aspects of the damage prevention framework that were previously developed. These amendments relate to formalizing the requirement for a pipeline company to have a damage prevention program and one-call centre requirements for both companies and anyone planning an activity near a pipeline.

In the NEB Guidance for Safe Crossing of NEB Regulated Pipelines using Agricultural vehicles and Mobile equipment, it states:

*When all of the following conditions are met, the landowner/user is not required to notify and obtain agreement from the pipeline operator prior to conducting agricultural activities involving the crossing of a buried pipeline:*

- *The agricultural activity does not disturb more than 30 centimetres (12 inches) of soil cover.*
- *When in operating mode, the agricultural vehicle or mobile equipment is not removing or adding soil cover.*
- *Soil conditions are such that they ensure minimal rutting when agricultural vehicles or mobile equipment are driven over the pipeline.*
- *Loaded axle weight and tire pressures are within the manufacturer's approved limits and operating guidelines (except for the equipment listed in the next section).*

DFN members frequently use pipeline corridors for access to the land for traditional harvest or travel. It is DFN's understanding that when low-risk pipeline conditions exist, land users do not require notification to use recreational motorized vehicles to travel along pipeline corridors

(when the conditions listed above are met). DFN wants to ensure that these regulations are incorporated into any changes made to the NEB's Proposed Damage Prevention guidelines.

DFN wants to ensure that under low-risk pipeline conditions, DFN members continue to have access to pipeline corridors for travel without being required to notify and obtain agreement from the pipeline operator.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our comments. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Dahti Tsetso at 867-695-2355 or [dahti\\_tsetso@dehcho.org](mailto:dahti_tsetso@dehcho.org).

Mahsi cho,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carrie Breneman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C".

Carrie Breneman

Environmental Consultant for Dehcho First Nation