Enbridge Pipelines Inc. 10201 Jasper Avenue Edmonton, AB T5J 3N7 Canada www.enbridge.com

Steve Irving, P.Eng. Director, System Integrity & Compliance Tel (780) 420-8888

Tel (780) 420-8888 Fax (780) 420-8801 steve.irving@enbridge.com



January 15, 2008

Ms. Claudine Dutil-Berry Secretary National Energy Board 444 – 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W. Calgary, AB T2P 0X8

Dear Ms. Dutil-Berry:

Re: National Energy Board ("NEB") Draft Guidance Notes and Exemption Order for Decommissioning Projects under the Onshore Pipeline Regulations, 1999 and National Energy Board Processing Plant Regulations

In response to the NEB's letter of November 16, 2007, in which it invited comments on the draft decommissioning Guidance Notes and Exemption Order, Enbridge Pipelines Inc. ("Enbridge") makes the following submissions.

- The definitions of "decommission" and "abandon" need to be clarified so that it is explicitly stated whether the choice of decommissioning/abandoning facilities in place and removing them rests with the company, or whether these facilities must always be demolished in order to be considered properly decommissioned or abandoned
- Clarification is required with respect to the relationship between the scope of the proposed Exemption Order for Decommissioning Projects and that of existing regulatory instruments such as section 58 of the NEB Act, the section 58 Streamlining Order and the Operations and Maintenance Requirements and Guidance Notes. For example, if a proponent were to replace part of an existing pipeline as an Operations and Maintenance activity, it is unclear whether the removal from service of the existing component must also proceed under the Exemption Order for Decommissioning Projects. In other words, it must be clarified whether the NEB intends the proposed Decommissioning Exemption Order to operate on a mutually exclusive basis with the various existing Exemption Orders and Guidelines that allow the replacement of pipeline components.
- The NEB should provide some direction on how facilities that were decommissioned prior
  to the introduction of the Guidance Notes and the Exemption Order are to be handled. The
  inclusion of transitional provisions in the Guidance Notes might assist in this task.

We thank the NEB for the opportunity to provide comments with respect to the proposed decommissioning amendments. Should the NEB wish to discuss these points further, please contact Donna Tribe by telephone at 780-420-8426 or by e-mail at donna.tribe@enbridge.com.

Sincerely,

Steve Irving

Director, System Integrity & Compliance

C¢:

Shaun Kavajecz Donna Tribe

Ramona Salamucha