

Overview of the National Energy Board (NEB)

Mandate

- The National Energy Board (NEB) promotes safety and security, environmental protection and efficient energy infrastructure and markets in the Canadian public interest within the mandate set by Parliament in the regulation of the:
 - construction and operation of oil, natural gas, and commodity pipelines and power lines that are interprovincial or international, including the setting of pipelines tolls and tariffs
 - import and export of natural gas
 - export of oil and electrical power
 - exploration and development of oil and natural gas in frontier areas, including offshore, of Canada not covered by provincial-federal accords (Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia currently have accords) or devolution agreements with territories

Key Responsibilities and Activities

- The NEB approves more than 500 Certificates, Orders, Permits, Licences and Letters annually. For major applications, the NEB holds written or oral public hearings where applicants and interested parties can participate.
- The NEB has environmental responsibilities under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* and the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.
- The NEB can hold inquiries and conduct studies into any aspect of energy matters under its jurisdiction. It also monitors aspects of energy supply, demand, production, development and trade that fall within the jurisdiction of the federal government and provides energy-related information to the public and government.
- Key applications the NEB is currently reviewing are from Kinder Morgan to twin its Trans Mountain Pipeline from Edmonton to Burnaby and from TransCanada for Energy East, a 4,500 km pipeline project from Alberta to New Brunswick.

Legislative Authority

- *National Energy Board Act*

Minister's Role

- The NEB is a quasi-judicial tribunal that acts at arm's length from the Minister and reports to Parliament through the Minister. The Minister is responsible for recommending to the Governor in Council whether the NEB should issue Certificates for major pipelines and power lines, licences for the export and import of gas and the export of oil, and any variances to these certificates and licences. The Minister also recommends appointments of NEB Board members to the Governor in Council. The Minister may ask the NEB for advice on energy matters. The Minister also has obligations to appoint an arbitration committee or negotiator to settle compensation disputes between landowners and pipelines companies for access to land or for damages.

Chair & Chief Executive Officer

- Peter Watson

Board

- The Board consists of nine members. One of the members will be designated as the Chair of the Board and another member, as the Vice-Chair.
- In addition, there may be an unlimited number of temporary members at any one time.

Head Office

- Calgary, Alberta

Budget

- 2016-17 Main Estimates: \$89.4M, including a 14% increase over previous years mainly due to funding to the NEB for safety and environmental protection, as well as enhanced engagement with Canadians in relation to energy transportation infrastructure. Approximately 95% of NEB's funding is cost recovered from industry.

Workforce

- 495 full-time equivalents (FTEs) (expected in 2016-17 as per the NEB 2016-17 - Report on Plans and Priorities)