

450 – 1st Street S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P 5H1 Direct Phone: (403) 920-7184 Fax: (403) 920-2347

Email:celine belanger@transcanada.com

December 1, 2004

Alberta Energy and Utilities Board 640 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P 3G4

Filed Electronically

Attention: Mr. Wade Vienneau

Manager – Calgary Office, Utilities Branch

Dear Sir:

**Re:** NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL)

**Tolls, Tariff, Facilities and Procedures Committee (TTFP)** 

Resolution T2004-03 – Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) Management Service Price Review

**Informational Filing** 

A provision of the CO<sub>2</sub> Management Service (the Service) application, approved by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (Board) in Decision 2002-084, stipulated that NGTL initiate a review of the Service to evaluate the appropriateness of the rates and rate calculation methodology prior to establishing rates for the sixth year of the Service. This review would have normally taken place in 2007 with any changes effective January 1, 2008. However, the TTFP adopted Issue T2004-03 on May 20, 2004 for the purpose of reviewing the pricing of the Service.

On May 20, 2004, NGTL requested Board approval to commence negotiations on Issue T2004-03 in accordance with Board Informational Letter IL 98-4 Revised Negotiated Settlement Guidelines (*Revised Guidelines*) and the Board's letter dated August 28, 2003 regarding the application of the *Revised Guidelines* to NGTL. The Board approved NGTL's request on June 15, 2004.

Based on its review of the Service, the TTFP determined that no changes are required to the pricing of the Service at this time. The TTFP supported this recommendation through an unopposed vote on Resolution T2004-03 on October 13, 2004. Attached to this letter is a copy of Resolution T2004-03.

December 1, 2004 Page 2 Mr. W. Vienneau

NGTL is notifying its shippers and members of the TTFP of the availability of this letter on TransCanada's Alberta System website at:

http://www.transcanada.com/Alberta/regulatory\_info/active\_rates\_services\_filings.html.

Please direct all notices and communications regarding this matter to Carolyn Shaw by e-mail at carolyn\_shaw@transcanada.com and alberta\_system@transcanada.com, or by phone at 920-7172.

Yours truly,

### **NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd.**

Cilini belanger

A wholly owned subsidiary of TransCanada PipeLines Limited

Céline Bélanger

Vice President, Regulatory Services

Attachment

cc: Tolls, Tariff, Facilities and Procedures Committee

Alberta System Shippers



# Tolls, Tariff, Facilities & Procedures Committee

# Resolution

T2004-03: CO<sub>2</sub> Management Service Price Review

#### Resolution

The Tolls, Tariff, Facilities & Procedures Committee (TTFP) agrees that no change is required at this time to the Service Cap and pricing for excess CO<sub>2</sub> under the existing CO<sub>2</sub> Management Service (the Service).

## Background

In Decision 2002-084, the Alberta Energy & Utilities Board (EUB) approved the Service after an unopposed vote on July 26, 2002 by the Tolls, Tariff & Procedures Committee (predecessor to the TTFP).

This Service continues to provide broad industry benefits by:

- 1. Providing producers an alternative to installing CO<sub>2</sub> removal equipment upstream of receipt points. There are over 300 NGTL CO<sub>2</sub> service contracts at some 100 receipt points.
- 2. Ensuring revenue being generated is greater than costs. It has provided approximately \$15 million in 2003 and \$13 million in 2004 net after costs.
- 3. The receipt point  $CO_2$  level greater than 2% has been significantly reduced which has contributed to an overall reduction in system  $CO_2$  levels. In July 2004, the level of excess  $CO_2$  at receipt points was at 106.6  $10^3 M^3$ /day compared to 386  $10^3 M^3$ /day before the Service, and the overall system  $CO_2$  level is 0.78% compared to 0.93% before the Service.
- 4. The overall pipeline system integrity has been maintained. Water content has been reduced at the receipt points subscribing to the Service and no CO<sub>2</sub> corrosion has been detected within the system.

The Service application has a provision to review the price five years after implementation. That review would normally take place in 2007 to be effective on January 1, 2008. However, it was thought that a price decrease at this time may enable additional production onto the System. The Service has a provision to reduce the Service Cap from 155  $10^3 M^3$ /day to 125  $10^3 M^3$ /day of excess  $CO_2$  on January 1, 2008.

A review of the Service Cap and price was undertaken by TransCanada, which included input from industry. The recommendation based on this review is to stay with the current Service Cap and pricing proxy. The rationale is that excess  $CO_2$  coming onto the system is expected to be above the current Service Cap by the end of 2006 and that NGTL's rates are competitive.

#### **Next Steps**

Remain status quo, no action required. As a Request to Negotiate was made, NGTL will inform the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board that this issue is closed.

T2004-03: CO<sub>2</sub> Price Review Page 1/1