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Electronic Notification

Notice

NOTICE OF APPLICATION APPLICATION NO. 1401403 NOVA GAS TRANSMISSION LTD. TOLLS, TARIFF, FACILITIES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE RESOLUTION T2004-07 – BORDER QUEUE REVIEW PROCESS

Take Notice that NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL) has filed an application with the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB or the Board) under Part 4 of the *Gas Utilities Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c. G-5, as amended, by letter dated May 18, 2005, for approval amendments to NGTL's Gas Transportation Tariff (Tariff) which will enable Alberta Shippers to acquire available capacity at export delivery points through an open season process. Shippers currently access capacity at export delivery points through a border queue process.

Nature of the Application

On December 14, 2004, the Tolls, Tariffs, Facilities & Procedures Committee (TTFP) adopted Issue T2004-07 for the purpose of reviewing and potentially updating the Alberta System Firm Transportation – Delivery (FT-D) queue process for allocating capacity. NGTL filed a request to commence negotiations on Issue T2004-07 on December 16, 2004 submitting that these discussions could result in a change to NGTL's Gas Transportation Tariff. The Board approved NGTL's request on December 21, 2004.

NGTL submitted that the TTFP met five times to review the current border queue process and to discuss an open season process. NGTL further submitted that the current process does not allow for timely access to available capacity as NGTL is required to offer any available capacity to shippers in the queue. This can potentially result in shippers leaving requests in the queue as place holders for future capacity when they may not require such capacity.

According to Resolution T2004-07, a number of concerns and suggestions were made by TTFP members during the discussions which resulted in the current proposal. Major attributes of the new open season process include the following:

- Existing capacity at each border will be made available on a daily basis unless it is included as part of a process in coordination with downstream pipeline operator(s).
- Expansion capacity will be made available through a bid process.
- Available capacity will be bid by customers and awarded based on a combination of toll multiplied by term.
- Minimum term will be one year for existing available capacity and ten years for expansion capacity.
- Customers will have an option to condition their bids on being awarded downstream capacity for existing and expansion capacity but not for the daily open season.
- A deposit is required on existing and expansion capacity bids to be refunded if the customer is awarded capacity.

In the Application, NGTL submitted that on May 10, 2005, the TTFP supported amendments to the Tariff related to the implementation of an open season process through an unopposed vote on Resolution T2004-07. The TTFP agreed that NGTL would initiate an open season in respect of available capacity at all export delivery points in August 2005 with a minimum of one month's notice to Alberta System shippers and the TTFP.

The Board acknowledges NGTL's submission that if NGTL's current postage stamp FT-D toll were to change in the future, the access to border transportation process may need to be reviewed to ensure its continued appropriateness.

Additional Information

To obtain additional information or a copy of the Application contact:

NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. c/o Carolyn Shaw Regulatory Services 450 – 1st Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 5H1 Telephone: (403) 920-7172 Facsimile: (403) 920-2347 Email: <u>carolyn_shaw@transcanada.com</u> <u>alberta_system@transcanada.com</u>

Copies of the Application are available for viewing through the IAR Query link on the Applications page of the EUB website <u>EUB View Application - 1401403</u>.

In addition, the Board directs NGTL to post the Notice of Application on its website for the availability of all interested parties.

To File an Objection

As NGTL has requested an expedited process for this Application, the Board directs parties that want to file a submission to state your reasons for objecting to or supporting the Application, and include this with your submission by **May 30, 2005**. If necessary, NGTL should reply to the submissions by June 2, 2005. If no submissions are received from parties opposed to the Application, the Board may continue to process the Application without further notice.

Send one copy to NGTL, c/o Carolyn Shaw, at the address indicated above and to the EUB via electronic mail at <u>EUB.UTL@gov.ab.ca</u> referencing Application No. 1401403.

The Board will establish further process following the deadline for filing objections if required. If you have any questions or concerns with respect to EUB procedures, please contact Andrea Laroiya, at <u>andrea.laroiya@gov.ab.ca</u> or by telephone at (403) 297-2426.

Issued at Calgary, Alberta on May 25, 2005.

ALBERTA ENERGY AND UTILITIES BOARD Douglas A. Larder, General Counsel