

Historical Highlights

Alaska Pipeline Project

The project we now call the Alaska Pipeline Project began in the 1970s. Over the years, the project has realized many milestones in both Canada and the United States. Following is a chronology of some of these key highlights.

1970s

- U.S. passes the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Act.
- Several projects develop potential options for moving Alaska natural gas.
- National Energy Board (NEB) holds a competitive hearing in Canada for more than 200 days.
- NEB accepts Alaska Highway project, rejects other proposal.
- Canadian and U.S. governments sign a treaty that specifically names Foothills Pipe Lines Ltd. as the owner of the Canadian section of the Alaska Highway project.
- NPA designates Foothills Pipe Lines Ltd. as the owner of the Canadian section of the Alaska Highway project, and designates in general terms, the route through Canada.
- Preliminary studies and work completed for the project.

1980s

NEB approves pre-build phase of the project under the NPA in Canada. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approves in U.S.

- Western leg of pre-build construction completed using NPA. Latest in environmental standards met or exceeded and latest technology applied to the project.
- Eastern leg of pre-build construction completed. Latest in environmental standards met or exceeded and latest technology applied to the project.
- U.S. President reaffirms unique regulatory treatment of pre-build.
- Ongoing discussions with key stakeholders – including producers, governments, and communities in the Yukon and northern B.C.

1990s

- The Yukon Easement Agreement extended.
- Pre-build of the Alaska Highway project expanded under the NPA. Most recent expansion in 1998. Latest in environmental standards met or exceeded and latest technology applied to the project.
- Purchase of Alberta Natural Gas Ltd. (ANG) and merger of TransCanada and NOVA increased our Foothills ownership.
- Ongoing discussions with key stakeholders –including producers, governments and communities in the Yukon and northern B.C.

2000s

Ongoing discussions with key stakeholders –including producers, governments, gas buyers, pipe companies and communities.

- TransCanada achieved 100 per cent ownership of Foothills after purchasing remaining share from Duke.
- The Government of Canada, in a letter from Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, reaffirmed its support for the project and its preference for using the NPA to transport Alaska gas through Canada.
- TransCanada signed Traditional Knowledge Protocol agreement with Kaska Nation in 2005.
- Nov. 30, 2007 – TransCanada Alaska Company LLC and Foothills Pipe Lines Ltd. jointly applied for a license under the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act (AGIA).
- Jan. 4, 2008 – TransCanada's AGIA application deemed compliant with requirements.
- May 22, 2008 – Governor Sarah Palin, Natural Resources Commissioner Tom Irwin and Revenue Commissioner Patrick Galvin released the AGIA Findings and Determination, which concluded that TransCanada's proposed Alaska Pipeline Project will maximize the benefits to Alaskans and merits issuance of the AGIA license.
- Aug. 1, 2008 – TransCanada received the support of the Alaska Legislature to award the company a license for the Alaska Pipeline Project under AGIA.

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