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National Energy Board
444 Seventh Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0X8

Filed Electronically

Attention: Ms. Sheri Young, Secretary of the Board

Dear Ms. Young:

**Re: Energy East Pipeline Ltd. (Energy East)
Project Description for the Energy East Project (Project)**

Energy East proposes to construct and operate a 4,500 km crude oil pipeline system from Hardisty, Alberta to Saint John, New Brunswick (Project). A Project Description (PD) for the Project is provided to the Board, in both official languages, under cover of this letter.

The Project is proposed to transport crude oil from Hardisty, Alberta and Moosomin, Saskatchewan to delivery points in Québec and New Brunswick. The delivery points include three existing refineries in Eastern Canada and two new marine terminals, one at Cacouna, Québec and the other at Saint John, New Brunswick, to allow for the export of crude oil to international markets.

The Project will require the acquisition of natural gas facilities from TransCanada PipeLines Limited (TransCanada) and the conversion of those facilities to oil service, in addition to new pipeline and facility construction. During and after the proposed conversion, TransCanada will continue to meet its firm service natural gas transportation obligations.

The Project involves the following main components and activities:

- constructing new mainline pipe segments totalling approximately 1,500 km of up to 1067 mm (NPS 42) pipe
- converting approximately 3,000 km of up to 1067 mm (NPS 42) of existing gas pipelines and appurtenances to oil service
- installing laterals and terminal interconnection pipelines totalling approximately 100 km
- constructing related components and facilities such as:
 - oil storage tanks and custody transfer metering
 - pump stations and delivery facilities
 - mainline block valves
 - communications and control systems
 - facilities for marine tanker loading

Work on temporary construction-related infrastructure is anticipated to begin in first quarter 2016. The scheduled in-service date for the Project is in fourth quarter 2018.

Energy East and TransCanada expect to file a comprehensive application with the Board in third quarter 2014, seeking a *Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity* and various other approvals under the *National Energy Board Act* (NEB Act) and *Onshore Pipeline Regulations*. In the interim, Energy East is proceeding with field studies, environmental and socio-economic assessments, engineering design, Aboriginal and stakeholder engagement, regulatory consultation, and other activities needed to support the comprehensive application.

Environmental assessment of the Project will be required under both the NEB Act and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*. Energy East may also engage provincial assessment processes or participate in provincial consultative processes to enhance engagement and facilitate provincial and other stakeholder participation in the NEB process.

The enclosed PD is intended to:

- facilitate an efficient regulatory review of the Project by the Board
- facilitate determination of the scope of the Project, as well as the scope and type of assessment required pursuant to the NEB Act
- provide the Crown with sufficient information to begin consultation with Aboriginal communities that might potentially be affected by the Project
- provide the Board with sufficient information to initiate its Participant Funding Program, Enhanced Aboriginal Engagement, and public consultation activities
- inform other regulatory authorities, Aboriginal communities, landowners, and stakeholders

Accordingly, in addition to providing the enclosed PD for consideration by the Board, Energy East also requests that the Crown commence any necessary consultation with Aboriginal communities as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

Original Signed By

Robert Tarvydas
Vice-President, Regulatory Affairs

Enclosures

cc. Notification List
Director General, MPMO Operations