

Questions and Answers

Pipeline Damage Prevention Framework Update

Q1. Why is the National Energy Board (NEB) amending its regulations for pipeline damage prevention?

The *Pipeline Safety Act* (PSA) amends the NEB Act. The NEB must update its regulations for pipeline damage prevention by June 2016 as a result of these amendments.

Q2. What are the updates that are being proposed?

There are three main updates being proposed. In general terms, they are:

- Modernizing the language used in the pipeline damage prevention regulations while maintaining the current intent of the regulations. This will include modern sentence structure, syntax and positive structure.
- Amending the regulations to reflect the legislative changes made to the *National Energy Board Act* by the *Pipeline Safety Act*. This includes:
 - a. defining the term ‘prescribed area’;
 - b. identifying the measures required to perform ‘ground disturbance’ activities within the prescribed area; and
 - c. identifying the measures required to cross a pipeline by vehicle or mobile equipment.
- Amending the regulations to reflect the results of the last public consultation period that was conducted in September 2014. This will include:
 - a. mandatory membership in one-call centres by NEB-regulated pipeline companies;
 - b. the requirement for third parties to initiate a locate request through their nearest one-call centre, where one exists;
 - c. moving the intent of *MO-21-2010 An Exemption Order Respecting Crossings by Agricultural Vehicles or Mobile Equipment* into the regulations; and
 - d. for NEB-regulated pipeline companies to have a damage prevention program within their management system.

Q3. What will be carried forward from the NEB's 2014 proposed amendments?

See bullet #3 in Question #2 for the answer.

Q4. Are the current damage prevention regulatory requirements still in force?

Yes. The current damage prevention regulations are:

National Energy Board [Pipeline Crossing Regulations, Part I](#)

National Energy Board [Pipeline Crossing Regulations, Part II](#)

National Energy Board [Onshore Pipeline Regulations](#)

National Energy Board [Administrative Monetary Penalties Regulations](#)

Q5. How can I provide input on the update?

- The closing date for input is Friday 13 November 2015. Please see the 'Letter to Interested Parties' for more information.