



Overview of the Aboriginal Interests and Use Study (AIUS) on the Enbridge Gateway Pipeline

The Carrier Sekani Tribal Council (CSTC) has advocated for meaningful involvement of the member First Nations in any decision making process on lands & resources within their territories, including the regulatory process for the Gateway pipeline. The AIUS is meant to establish the context for any decision making process on the Gateway pipeline, but it is preliminary in nature.

What is the Enbridge Gateway Pipeline?

Gateway proposes to:

Construct & operate an export oil pipeline & an import condensate pipeline between an inland terminal near Kitimat, BC & Strathcona County, AB.

Construct & operate a marine infrastructure at tidewater to accommodate transfer of oil & condensate to tankers.

Is expected to be in operation for approximately 200 years. The pipeline will not be removed afterwards.

For more information:
www.enbridge.com/gateway

The Pipelines Will:

- ▶ Be under pressure between 6 to 12 feet deep.
- ▶ Require a right of way initially 45 meters wide & 30 meters wide permanently.
- ▶ Require three permanent pump stations to be built in the CSTC territory, 11 in total.
- ▶ Cross 600-700 streams in CSTC territory.

What is an Aboriginal Interest & Use Study?

Provides a preliminary assessment of the potential environmental & socio-economic impacts of the Gateway pipeline;

Provides an overview of the Aboriginal title & rights of the Carrier Sekani that would be impacted or infringed by the Gateway pipeline;

Gives voice to the concerns of the Carrier Sekani community members;

Places the proposed Gateway pipeline in the context of cumulative impacts within the territory & the broader experience of First Nations affected by pipeline and oil & gas development.

Duty to Consult

Under Canadian law, government and industry are required to have "meaningful consultation" with First Nations whose territories may be impacted by development projects. The AIUS was compiled to be entered as part of the government review process, but it is NOT considered consultation.

INSIDE...

Highlights of
the AIUS

**The complete AIUS can be found
online at: www.cstc.bc.ca**

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Soils & Terrain

Areas disturbed by—clearing the right of way (ROW), pipeline construction, road building & upgrading—undergo disruption & alteration of soil properties. This leads to loss of productivity, organic matter loss, structural degradation, soil compaction, excessive runoff/erosion, & contamination. After time, reduced terrain stability along the ROW & access roads may create landslides, impact flora & fauna, & create a possible pipeline rupture.

Vegetation

Trees, shrubs, & ground cover will be removed for the ROW, including old growth forest which is now only 15-20% of the territory. Construction could lead to an increased risk of forest fire, especially in conjunction with the mountain pine beetle epidemic. Other risks include the introduction of noxious weeds.

Wildlife & Wildlife Habitat

Construction of the pipeline could lead to disturbances & contamination of wildlife habitat, travel, & migration routes; hunting & possibly poaching, increased human-wildlife conflicts, & vehicle collisions.

Air & Noise Pollution

During construction, high levels of dust & emissions may impact human health especially in areas close to reserves. Noise from equipment may disturb nearby residents, recreational users, as well as fish & wildlife.

Water Quality

Streams & rivers crossed along the pipeline in CSTC territory could range between 600-700. It will also cross numerous wetlands & run near ponds & lakes. Installation of the pipeline may immediately degrade surface water quality through erosion & sedimentation, increased turbidity, & contamination.

Fish & Fish Habitat

Changes in riparian habitat could negatively affect fish habitat & increase water temperatures. Construction activities could disturb fish during critical spawning periods & the loss of marine plants could impact the food chain.

ACCIDENTS & MALFUNCTIONS

Potential for Occurrence

Enbridge has experienced 8 pipeline failures since 1992, averaging 1.8 million litres per rupture. Data prior to 1992 is unavailable. Gateway includes two pipelines which poses a greater risk than one pipeline would normally present. Both synthetic crude oil & condensate are highly toxic. Oil is not water soluble but components of it may accumulate in organisms & sediment.

Case Study: Pine River Spill in Chetwynd

In 2000, 1 million litres of oil ruptured into the Pine River. Numerous fish, birds, insects, plants, & animals were killed. Only 80% of the oil was able to be cleaned the rest being left to 'natural break-down'. River bottoms were impossible to be cleaned & residual oil remains in the river, soil, & food chain.



Cause of Spills

Excavation, natural forces, "other" outside forces, material or welding failure, equipment failure, corrosion, operations, & "other".

Decommissioning

The pipeline will remain in operation as long as the oil sands of northern Alberta produce & there is a market for oil around the Pacific Rim ~200 years. Above ground infrastructure will be removed but the pipes will remain underground.

The pipeline will ruin our water, get rid of our berry's, kill our trees, Chase our animals away, fish will stop coming to our water and we need the plants for Indian medicine we need our keyoh for our future. We need Ts'itel for canoe's, We need U'tankal for home made jam.

Dominic Prince, Gr. 7 Nak'albun Elementary School, Nak'azdli

SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Projects such as the Gateway Pipeline typically create a boom & bust cycle—short term increases in employment followed by a rapid decline as construction is completed.

Employment

The bulk of the jobs created would be in the construction phase of the project. These are short-term, unsustainable jobs that will occur between 2008 & 2010 if the pipeline is to proceed, with a peak work force of 45 long-term sustainable jobs in B.C. Few, if any, of these jobs are likely to benefit CSTC people.

Regional Multiplier Effects

Proponents of major projects often claim that multiplier effects will benefit regional economies. While there will be effects associated with the pipeline, these will not significantly benefit CSTC First Nations.

The fact that First Nations' economies are narrow & underdeveloped compared to their non-Aboriginal neighbors results in few if any business opportunities for First Nations to supply goods & services to the project.

Case studies have found that companies often overstate the benefits of pipelines to the local economy. This creates unrealistic expectations in communities, who also suffer when the "boom" of construction is over.

Government Revenue

Annual property taxes in Alberta & BC for the two pipelines are estimated at over \$25 million. While this benefits other governments' coffers, it does not directly assist the people of the CSTC. As treaties have not been settled in the CSTC territories, none of the benefits from the pipeline's land & resource exploitation will flow to CSTC or its member Nations.

**Only 45
long term
sustainable
jobs in B.C.**

IMPACTS ON ABORIGINAL RIGHTS & TITLE

Our oral history represents the values placed on the land, water, & air by our people. Our management objectives are guided by the philosophy that we are part of the land. Our living & our lives come out of the land. The land is part of our family & we a part of the land.

Cultural Impact

Carrier Sekani title is held through clan members where hereditary chiefs hold areas of land, many of which are now restricted by the registered trap line system. This land is called a "keyoh". Keyoh holders are responsible for the management, access, & use on their land. Since this title is currently not respected, keyoh holders find that their lands are being impacted by forestry, mountain pine beetle, hydro lines, a natural gas pipeline, private property, and pollution.

The CSTC people have lived on the land & used the land since time immemorial. Land users, keyoh holders, & Elders have stated that this pipeline & possible spills will have a devastating impact on cultural activities including: hunting, fishing, trapping, berry picking, spiritual activities, traditional village sites, recreation sites, & travel routes.

The pipeline will fragment the land even further than before, by creating artificial boundaries, creating disturbances to the land, wildlife, & fish.

Treaty Rights & Land Title

The pipeline will decrease the amount of land available for land claim settlement due to fragmentation & privatization of the right of way.

"The Carrier Sekani have unextinguished aboriginal title & rights which will be significantly infringed along a substantial part of the proposed pipeline right of way"



CARRIER SEKANI PRINCIPLES ON LAND USE

Take care of the land & the land will take care of you.

All life forms are interconnected & sacred.

Sharing & coexistence are the cornerstones of Carrier Sekani resource use.

Territory is not a commodity to be bought & sold — Dakelh people hold both rights & responsibilities to ensure territorial integrity & ongoing stewardship & use.

Dakelh teachings on land use & ownership are passed from generation to generation.

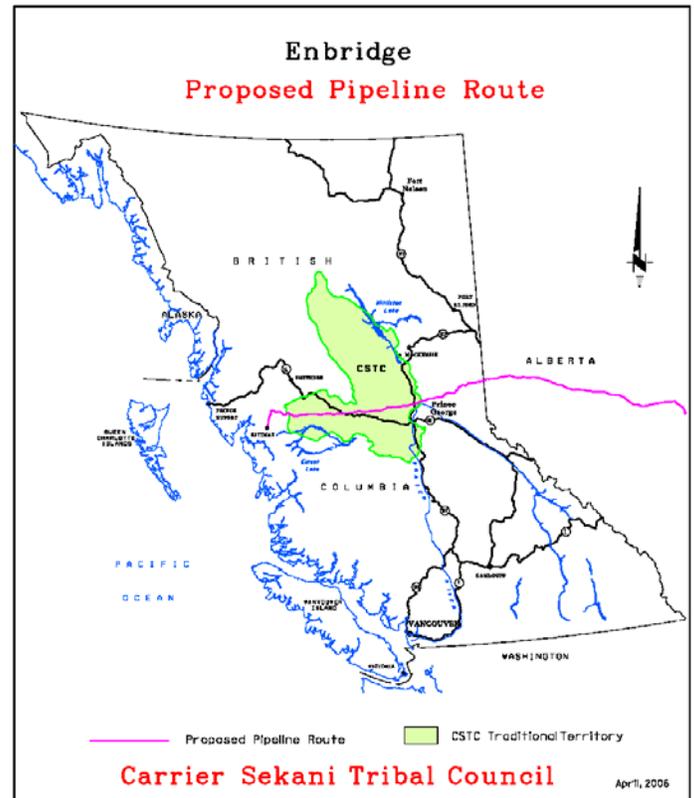
A tremendous amount of work is required in the community to heal the battered body, mind, & spirit from years of social, cultural, political, & economic dislocation.

With healing comes rebuilding of family, language, economic base, political institutions, & control of the territory & resources.

Discussions with government & churches to help our healing process of forgiving & reconciling.

The respective interests of our First Nations, federal, & provincial governments need to be discussed, defined, & resolved through negotiations.

Cover Photo Owen Creek (Wet'suwet'en First Nation territory) on the proposed pipeline corridor.) Wildlife photos: Deer at mineral lick on Stuart River (Nak'azdli territory) on proposed pipeline corridor; moose near Maxan Lake (Wet'suwet'en First Nation territory). Courtesy of Carla Lewis & Vince Prince.



“Regulatory authorities should not proceed further with this project unless free, prior, & informed consent is received from the CSTC & its member communities.”

www.cstc.bc.ca

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***The complete AIUS is available online,
or call CSTC for a hard copy.***