

Proposed project

# 2024 DECOMMISSIONING PROGRAM



## About this program

NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of TransCanada Pipelines Limited, an affiliate of TC Energy Corporation (TC Energy), is proposing to permanently cease operations at seven meter stations and 37 lateral pipelines, loops and/or producer tie-ins (PTIs) on the NGTL System within Alberta, as these facilities are no longer necessary to provide service to customers. Since these facilities are co-located or share a right-of-way with operating facilities, The Canada Energy Regulator (CER) defines this process as decommissioning. NGTL will file a section 45.1 application for the decommissioning of the facilities, pursuant to the Canadian Energy Regulator Onshore Pipeline Regulations, in Q3 2024.

## Life cycle of a pipeline

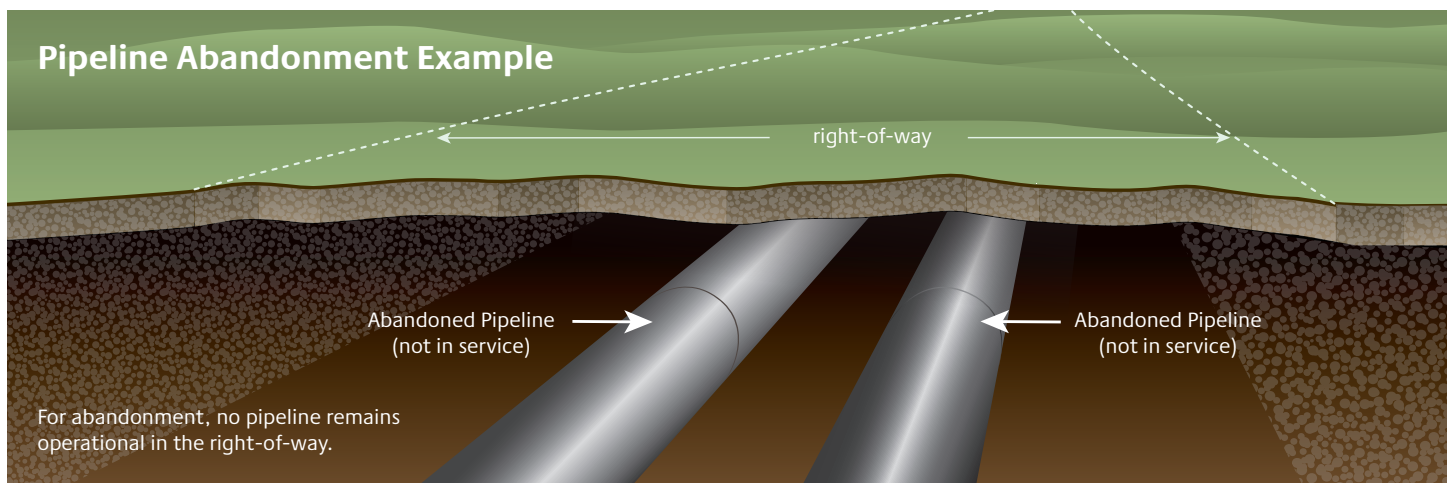
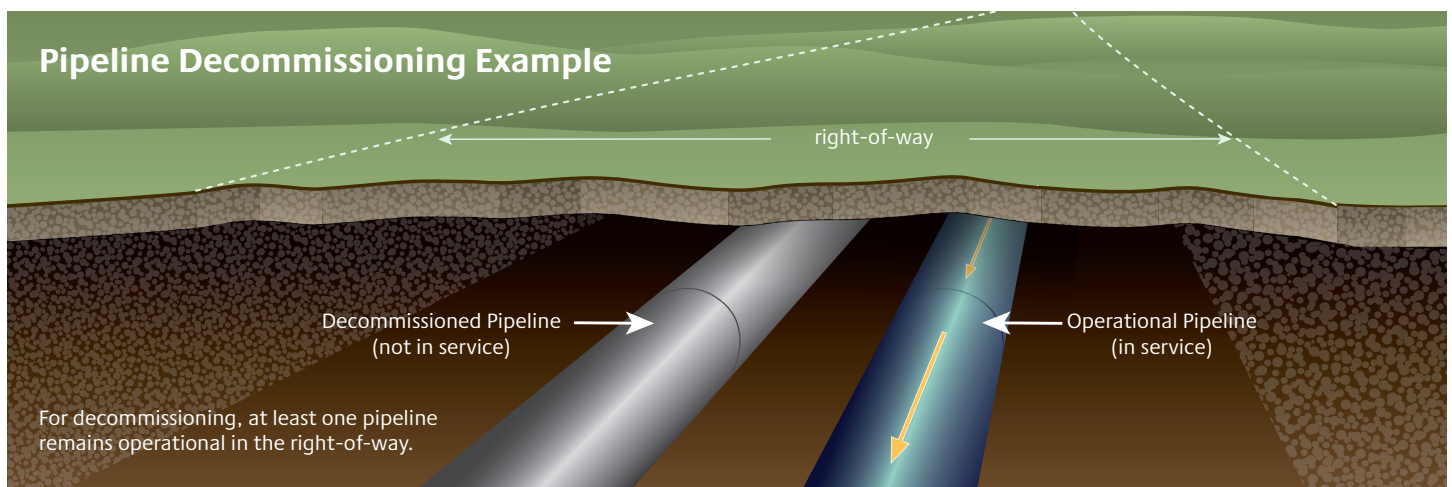
TC Energy has operated pipelines safely and reliably for over 70 years. Today, we operate more than 93,000 kilometres (km) of natural pipelines that transport more than 25 per cent of the natural gas needed in North America every day. TC Energy considers a number of factors when identifying facilities that are no longer required for service (i.e., decommissioned) such as the ability to meet customer requirements, the integrity of the facility and operating costs. All aspects of the life cycle of a pipeline – from design and construction to operation and decommissioning – are regulated

by the CER. When TC Energy wants to decommission a facility, we submit an application or notification to the CER that provides information on topics like safety, environment, stakeholders and Indigenous engagement. The work to decommission a facility only begins after we receive regulatory approval, if required. Decommissioning plans are guided by three key principles, consistent with the CER guidelines:

- Safety – minimize risk to the public, employees and contractors
- Environmental Protection – minimize long-term, environmental effects
- Cost Effectiveness – the safety and environmental protection objectives are met in a cost-effective manner

## What is the difference between decommissioning and abandonment of a pipeline?

Many of our rights-of-way have more than one pipeline transporting natural gas. Decommissioning typically occurs when a pipeline located in the same right-of-way as another operational pipeline permanently stops operating while the other line continues to operate and service remains in the area. Abandonment occurs when a single pipeline or the last operational pipeline in a shared right-of-way permanently stops and is no longer required to provide service to an area.





## What if I'm concerned about my natural gas service being impacted?

Please contact your natural gas utility service provider for further information.

## What steps will TC Energy take to protect the land and environment?

TC Energy collects, analyzes and evaluates site-specific environmental information in an effort to minimize any potential environmental effects. The assessment considers but is not limited to, soil, vegetation, wildlife, infrastructure and services, communities and their economies. Decommissioning activities will include personnel, vehicles and equipment on site. Appropriate measures to mitigate potential environmental effects related to decommissioning activities will be implemented. Physical decommissioning activities typically generate a certain amount of noise, however; all noise from decommissioning activities will meet applicable limits set by the applicable regulator.

## What happens to pipeline that is below the ground?

To minimize any potential environmental impacts, the decommissioned below-ground pipeline will remain undisturbed in the ground after the pipe is cut, cleaned and capped. Cathodic protection will be maintained along the pipeline while the facilities are in a decommissioned state. This will ensure that the structural integrity of the pipeline is maintained for all road, canal and rail crossings.

## What happens to above ground facilities?

During decommissioning, the pipeline and associated meter stations will be physically disconnected from all upstream and downstream facilities. Above-ground facilities, such as meter stations and yard-piping, will be removed or modified, as required.



## What happens to the right-of-way (ROW) after the decommissioning work is complete?

TC Energy remains responsible for the ROW after the pipe is decommissioned as there is typically an operational pipeline within the same ROW. Our operations group will continue to monitor the pipeline ROW.

## How does TC Energy engage with stakeholders?

TC Energy engages regularly with our stakeholders and communities. We share information about our plans and activities while listening to your views. We gain valuable insight from these discussions and use this information in our planning, development and operations activities. Engagement may involve providing written materials such as emails, fact sheets, brochures and website addresses, or one-on-one discussions, public presentations and open houses.

## How does TC Energy engage with Indigenous groups?

Building and maintaining relationships with Indigenous groups near our proposed projects and existing facilities has long been an integral part of our business. TC Energy works with groups to identify potential effects of company activities and to find mutually satisfactory solutions and benefits.

## What is TC Energy's dispute resolution process?

Our approach to consultation and engagement with stakeholders including landowners and Indigenous groups is designed to inform and address issues or disputes to reach a mutual resolution or mitigate effects. We work hard to address questions and resolve issues raised by those who are potentially impacted by our projects. We consult early and often, invite feedback, and continue to provide updates and mitigate concerns throughout the regulatory process and the life cycle of the program. TC Energy's preferred method for addressing the concerns of stakeholders, including landowners and Indigenous groups, is direct and respectful discussion. Issues received or identified during these discussions are systematically tracked and followed up on to promote mutual resolution and positive interest-based outcomes. In the event that mutual resolution through this approach is not achievable, the parties may consider use of the CER's collaborative Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Process.

## How does TC Energy prepare for and respond to an emergency?

The program will be carried out in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. In the unlikely event of an emergency, our comprehensive Emergency Response Program would be activated. We train our workforce to know what to do in the event of an emergency. We also collaborate with area emergency responders to ensure a coordinated response in the event of an incident.

**In the event of an emergency, please contact TC Energy's 24-hour emergency line at 1-888-982-7222.**

## How can I contact TC Energy about this program?

There are several ways for you to contact us about this program. Here's our contact information:

### Community Relations:

Email: [public\\_affairs\\_ca@tcenergy.com](mailto:public_affairs_ca@tcenergy.com)  
Phone: 1-855-895-8754

### Indigenous Relations:

Email: [indigenous\\_relations@tcenergy.com](mailto:indigenous_relations@tcenergy.com)

### Write to TC Energy at:

TC Energy  
450 – 1st Street S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 5H1  
[www.tcenergy.com](http://www.tcenergy.com)

### Or reach out to the Canada Energy Regulator directly at:

Canada Energy Regulator  
Suite 210, 517 10th Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta T2R 0A8  
Phone: 1-800-899-1265  
Email: [info@cer-rec.gc.ca](mailto:info@cer-rec.gc.ca)  
Canada Energy Regulator ([cer-rec.gc.ca](http://cer-rec.gc.ca))

*TC Energy periodically provides information beginning at the early stages of project development, including prospecting, continuing throughout the life of assets. The information provided is intended to give people the opportunity for meaningful input and inform stakeholders of our proposed activities. Please be aware that as planning progresses, new information becomes available and details may change from the time of this printing.*