



Trans-Northern

# Operating and deactivated pipelines

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Trans-Northern's pipeline systems in Ontario, Quebec, and Alberta include both operating pipelines, and deactivated pipelines.



### OPERATING PIPELINE

A pipeline that is actively used to transport products, in this case, the refined petroleum products (gasoline, diesel, aviation fuel, heating fuel) used by Canadian businesses and consumers every day.

**To safely deactivate a pipeline or pipeline segment,** a company is required to clean and purge it of product and isolate the segment from operating assets.

The deactivated pipeline or pipeline segment continues to be monitored and maintained so that it could be reactivated at a later date. This means Trans-Northern continues to monitor and patrol the deactivated pipeline's right-of-way; maintain the pipeline markers; monitor the depth of cover over the deactivated pipeline; performs locates and associated permitting and inspection of ground disturbances within the prescribed area (30 metres on either side of the pipeline's centreline).

Under the Canada Energy Regulator (CER), a deactivated pipeline requires an application to the CER for approval. A separate application to and approval from the CER is required if a company chooses to reactivate all or a portion of a deactivated pipeline.

As mentioned, Trans-Northern's pipeline systems include deactivated pipelines in the Toronto area (Toronto Lateral), in Montreal (Mirabel Lateral), and as of this summer, the pipeline segment from Farran's Point, Ontario, to TNPI's North Toronto Station (near Keele and Finch) is being deactivated.

### DEACTIVATED PIPELINE

A pipeline that has been safely taken out of service, but remains in place. Operators often choose deactivation of a pipeline as a safe, non-intrusive way to manage non-operating pipelines.

Similarly, it is important for people who live and work along deactivated pipelines to follow all safe digging and safe crossing requirements – including securing locates and written permission for all ground disturbances within the prescribed area, and all vehicle crossings and building or installation of temporary and permanent structures within the right-of-way.

**! The requirements of the operator and of those who live and work near the deactivated pipeline are the same to those of an operating pipeline.**

As part of the deactivation work this summer, TNPI is purging the pipeline of all product, cleaning the pipeline, isolating it from the operating pipelines and facilities, and filling it with nitrogen.

#### MAP OF TRANS-NORTHERN'S DEACTIVATED PIPELINES AND PIPELINE SEGMENTS.

Whether you live and work near an operating or a deactivated pipeline, it's important to continue to follow all safe digging and safe crossing practices, and contacting Ontario OneCall or Info-Excavation for your free locates well in advance.

# About easements and land titles

## DEFINITIONS

- ✓ **Right-of-way:** a strip of land in which the pipeline is located. The width of the right-of-way may vary, but typically ranges from 1.5 to 20 metres (5 to 65.6 feet).
- ✓ **Easement:** a written agreement between the pipeline operator and the landowner, setting out the rights and obligations of both parties on the use of the lands for the location and maintenance of the pipeline, and any restrictions on the land use. Also known as a right-of-way agreement.
- ✓ **Prescribed area:** 30 metres on either side of the pipeline's centreline where certain activities are restricted or require written authorization from the pipeline operator.

Land titles in Ontario and Quebec contain not only the property's legal description, ownership, and details of retail transactions, it also lists any encumbrances on the property, such as easements, which fall into three main categories: common easements (ex. utility easements for electricity, gas, and water lines); right-of-way easements that grant access to the property, such as for transportation pipelines; and recreational easements (ex. for activities like hunting or fishing). In the first two instances, easements are established to ensure access to infrastructure located on private property for the purpose of maintenance and inspection.

Easements are attached to the property regardless of changes in ownership. Therefore, it's important to understand what easements may be on your property. Land title documents can be obtained online through the Ontario Land Registry and the Quebec Land Register.

\*Note: even if there is no easement on your property, you may still reside within the prescribed area of a pipeline. If there are pipeline markers in proximity to your property, it's best to be safe and inquire with the pipeline operator before beginning any work within proximity of their infrastructure.

## ⚠ IMPORTANT REMINDERS

**CALL OR CLICK BEFORE  
YOU DIG OR CROSS**

We *all* play a role in  
pipeline safety and  
damage prevention.



**Pipelines are recognized as the safest method of transporting refined petroleum products over long distances. Although pipeline leaks are very rare, it's important to know the signs and what to do if you suspect a leak.**

If you suspect a leak due to visible flow or pooling of a petroleum product, an unusual oil stain on land or the appearance of a sheen or bubbles in water, the smell of gasoline or oil, or the appearance of dead or discoloured vegetation on or near the pipeline right-of-way...



**Shut down any operating machinery**  
and move to a safe location



**Call 9-1-1** if required due to fire  
or visible product



**Call our Emergency line at 1-800-361-0608**  
Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Did you  
know...

The Trans-Northern Pipelines  
web site has resources for  
those who live and work near  
our pipeline?

These include:

✉ **EMAIL ADDRESS**

📄 **FEEDBACK SURVEY**

TAP TO LEARN MORE

What do you think of  
TNPI Info?

**SUBMIT CONTENT  
IDEAS HERE**