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## CEPA responds to B.C. government intentions paper

*March 1, 2018*

Safety and the environment are top priorities for the transmission pipeline industry, which is why CEPA has been diligently working with the B.C. government and other stakeholders for the last five years to further enhance what are already world-leading land based spill preparedness and response practices.

CEPA's members are committed to meeting the highest safety and environmental standards, and are required to have detailed contingency plans, complete incident reporting, and follow a regulated process for remediation.

CEPA is encouraged that the government of B.C. has included a commitment to avoiding regulatory duplication in its policy intentions paper on phase two enhancements to spill management. Transmission pipeline companies already comply with robust federal and provincial regulations with respect to emergency preparedness and response. This includes a requirement for federally-regulated companies to demonstrate that they have financial resources to match at a minimum their level of absolute liability (\$1 billion for pipelines carrying over 250,000 barrels per day). Any new regulations that are put in place in B.C. should recognize that our industry is already heavily regulated and well-positioned to respond in an effective and efficient manner in the unlikely event of a spill.

Some examples of the regulations that CEPA's members already adhere to, along with additional non-mandatory measures they have implemented to further protect the environment, include:

- All companies have an emergency management program that anticipates, prevents, manages and mitigates conditions during an emergency. These plans are made public as required by the National Energy Board (NEB).
- The industry's Mutual Emergency Assistance Agreement (MEAA) was signed in 2014, allowing CEPA's member companies to support each other in emergency situations with personnel, equipment, tools or specialized advice, depending on the circumstances.
- Federal and provincial requirements for training and emergency response exercise programs, including identifying issues before the incidents occur. (In 2016 alone, CEPA members held more than 454 emergency response exercises, ranging in complexity from emergency drills to full-scale exercises.)
- The industry has developed response time guidelines to help companies identify and position people and equipment before an incident occurs.
- Federally-regulated pipelines must comply with the NEB's Remediation Process Guide, which includes reporting, remediation assessment, development of a remedial action plan, and closure of the site.



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Transmission pipelines are the safest, most efficient and environmentally-responsible way to transport large volumes of oil and natural gas across long distances. CEPA and its members are dedicated to continuous improvement and the shared goal of reaching zero incidents.

We are committed to ongoing consultations with the B.C. government and other stakeholders throughout phase two of this process.

*Please attribute this statement to the Canadian Energy Pipeline Association.*

*For more information, please contact:*

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