



# Merrickville-Wolford Community Expansion Project

## Virtual Information Session

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## Virtual Information Session



### Welcome

- Press the next button to navigate to the next slide at any time.
- To return to the previous slide, press the previous button.
- You can mute the audio at any time by pressing the speaker icon.
- The presentation slides, as well as the audio script, are available for download (see the Resources tab in the top right corner).
- Questions and comments can be submitted using the questionnaire found in the Resources tab.
- If you would like to receive future Project updates, please complete the "Contact Information" section of the questionnaire.

### Our Commitment

- Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) is committed to involving Indigenous communities, agencies, interest groups, and community members.
- Enbridge Gas will provide up-to-date information in an open, honest, and respectful manner, and will carefully consider your input.
- Enbridge Gas provides safe and reliable delivery of natural gas to more than 3.9 million residential, commercial, and industrial customers.
- Enbridge Gas is committed to environmental stewardship and conducts its operations in an environmentally responsible manner.



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## Purpose of the Information Sessions

- Consult with Indigenous communities and engage with members of the public and regulatory authorities regarding the proposed pipeline route, potential impacts, and proposed mitigations.
- Provide an opportunity for these individuals and any affected landowners and the general public to review the proposed Project, and to ask any questions and/or provide comments to representatives from Enbridge Gas and Stantec.
- In addition to this Virtual Information Session (VIS), an **In-person Information Session** will be held at the **Merrickville Memorial Community Recreation Centre** (106 Read St, Merrickville, ON K0G 1N0) on **September 6, 2023**, from 5:00 – 8:00 PM.
- Print copies of these Information Session materials are also available for in-person review at:
  - **Village of Merrickville-Wolford Municipal Office** - 317 Brock St. West, Merrickville
  - **Merrickville Public Library** - 446 Main St. West, Merrickville



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### Enbridge Inc.'s Indigenous Peoples Policy

Enbridge Gas recognizes the diversity of Indigenous peoples who live where we work and operate. We understand from history the destructive impacts on the social and economic well-being of Indigenous Peoples. Enbridge Gas recognizes and realizes the importance of reconciliation between Indigenous communities and the broader society. Positive relationships with Indigenous peoples, based on mutual respect and focused on achieving common goals, will create positive outcomes for Indigenous communities. Enbridge Gas commits to pursuing sustainable relationships with Indigenous Nations and groups in proximity to where Enbridge Gas conducts business. To achieve this, Enbridge Gas will govern itself by the following principles:

- We recognize the legal and constitutional rights possessed by Indigenous peoples and the importance of the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional lands and resources. We commit to working with Indigenous communities in a manner that recognizes and respects those legal and constitutional rights and the traditional lands and resources to which they apply. We commit to ensuring that our projects and operations are carried out in an environmentally responsible manner.
- We understand the importance of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the context of existing Canadian law and the commitments that the government has made to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- We engage in forthright and sincere consultation with Indigenous Peoples about Enbridge Gas' projects and operations through processes that seek to achieve early and meaningful engagement. Indigenous engagement help define our projects that may occur on lands traditionally occupied by Indigenous Peoples.
- We commit to working with Indigenous Peoples to achieve benefits for them resulting from Enbridge Gas' projects and operations, including opportunities in training and education, employment, procurement, business development, and community development.
- We foster understanding of the history and culture of Indigenous Peoples among Enbridge Gas employees and contractors, in order to create better relationships between Enbridge Gas and Indigenous communities.

This commitment is a shared responsibility involving Enbridge Gas and its affiliates, employees and contractors. We will conduct business in a manner that reflects the above principles. Enbridge Gas will provide ongoing leadership and resources to effectively implement the above principles, including the development of implementation strategies and specific action plans. Enbridge Gas commits to periodically review this policy so that it remains relevant and respects Indigenous culture and varied traditions.



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### Project Overview

- The Project consists of the construction of approximately 5 km of steel and polyethylene (PE) natural gas distribution pipeline, ranging from 2-inch to 4-inch. The Project may include the potential construction of a small regulation station.
  - The proposed distribution system intends to connect to the existing system at St. Lawrence Street and Main Street East and will run across the river to serve customers on West Broadway, Mill Street, Rideau Street, William Street, Brock Street, By Street, Water Street, Grenville Way, Amelia Street, Forced Road, Montague Road, and extend along Heritage Drive.
- Route alternatives to supply the northern side of the village are limited due to the existing natural gas infrastructure and the Project's purpose of providing affordable natural gas to the community. These route alternatives are based on potential Rideau River watercourse crossing locations in order to address the presence of the canal, historic sites, and extensive rock formations - a Preliminary Proposed Route (PPR) and three Alternate Routes (AR) are proposed (see the following slide).
- A reinforcement section of 0.8 km of 6 inches would be required along Main Street East from Charlotte Street to St. Lawrence Street if AR1 or AR2 is selected.
- The Project is planned to be mainly located within the existing municipal road Right-of-Way (ROW), with additional Temporary Working Space (TWS) potentially required.



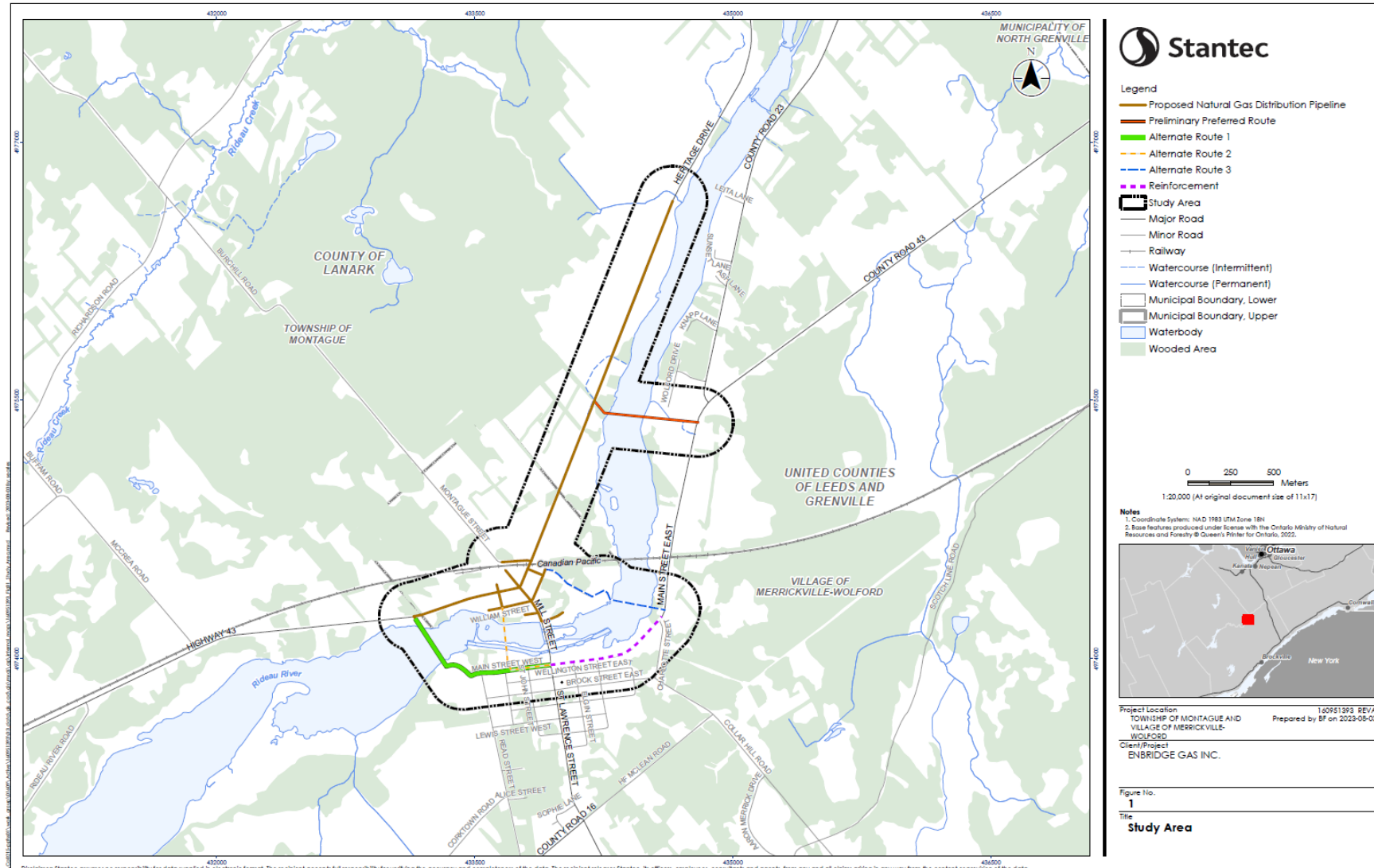
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### Project Distribution System and Route Alternatives

- The distribution system and route alternatives have been developed for the purpose of an assessment of potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts.
- This map does not represent the final project scope/design that will provide access to natural gas to end-use customers.



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## Environmental Study Process

As part of the planning process, Enbridge Gas has retained Stantec to undertake an Environmental Study for the Project. The Environmental Study will fulfill the requirements of the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) "*Environmental Guidelines for the Location, Construction, and Operation of Hydrocarbon Projects and Facilities in Ontario, 8th Edition (2023)*".

The study will:

- Undertake engagement to understand the views of interested and potentially affected parties.
- Consult with Indigenous communities to understand interests and potential impacts.
- Be conducted during the earliest phase of the Project.
- Identify potential impacts of the Project.
- Develop environmental mitigation and protective measures to avoid or reduce potential impacts.
- Develop an appropriate environmental inspection, monitoring, and follow-up program.



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### OEB Review and Approval Process

It is anticipated that the Environmental Report (ER) for the study will be completed in February 2024, after which Enbridge Gas may file a Leave-to-Construct (LTC) application. The application to the OEB will include the following information on the Project:

- The need for the Project
- ER and mitigation measures
- Project costs and economics
- Pipeline design and construction
- Land requirements
- Consultation with Indigenous Communities

Additional information about the OEB process can be found at:  
[www.oeb.ca](http://www.oeb.ca)

The OEB will then hold a public hearing to review the Project. If the OEB determines that the Project is in the public interest, it will approve the construction of the Project.





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## Consultation and Engagement

- Consultation and engagement are key components of the ER.
- At the outset of the Project, Enbridge Gas submits a Project Description to the Ministry of Energy (MOE); upon review, the MOE determines potential impacts on Aboriginal or treaty rights and identifies Indigenous communities that Enbridge Gas will consult with during the entirety of the Project.
- The consultation and engagement program helps identify and address Indigenous community and stakeholder concerns and issues, provides information about the Project to the stakeholders and allows for participation in the Project review and development process.
- Input during engagement and consultation will be used to help finalize the pipeline route and mitigation plans for the Project.
- Once the LTC application is made to the OEB, any party with an interest in the Project, including members of the public, can participate in the process.



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## Route Selection Process

- Pipeline routing constraints include natural environmental features, topography, and socio-economic features and landscapes. Opportunities to reduce potential impacts include the ability to follow existing linear infrastructure such as road ROW.
- The PPR and ARs follow existing linear infrastructure, such as existing municipal road ROW and avoid, to the extent possible, existing environmental and socio-economic features.

An interactive map that shows these Routing Alternatives can be accessed at:

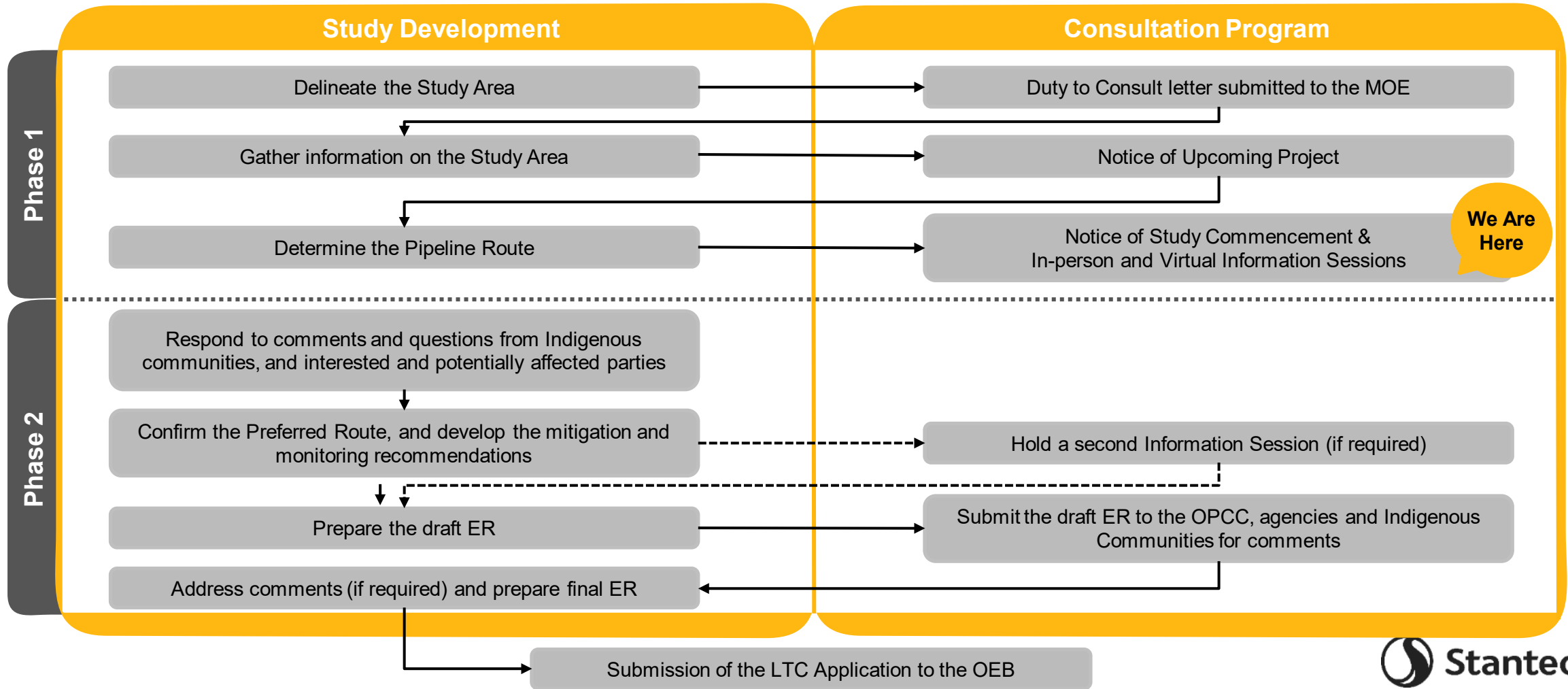
<http://www.solutions.ca/MerrickWolfordEA>



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### Environmental Study Process



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## Environment, Health and Safety Policy

### Our Commitment

- Enbridge Gas is committed to protecting the health and safety of all individuals affected by our activities.
- Enbridge Gas will provide a safe and healthy working environment and will not compromise the health and safety of any individual.
- Our goal is to have no incidents and mitigate impacts on the environment by working with our stakeholders, peers, and others to promote responsible environmental practices and continuous improvement.
- Enbridge Gas is committed to environmental protection and stewardship, and recognizes that pollution prevention, biodiversity, and resource conservation are key to a sustainable environment.
- All employees are responsible and accountable for contributing to a safe working environment, for fostering safe working attitudes, and for operating in an environmentally responsible manner.



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### Access and Land Requirements

While most of the pipeline route will be constructed within municipal road ROW, some circumstances requiring access agreements, permanent easement or temporary working space during construction could result in the need for additional land outside of road ROW.

Enbridge Gas has a comprehensive Landowner Relations Program that uses a dedicated Lands Advisor who would:

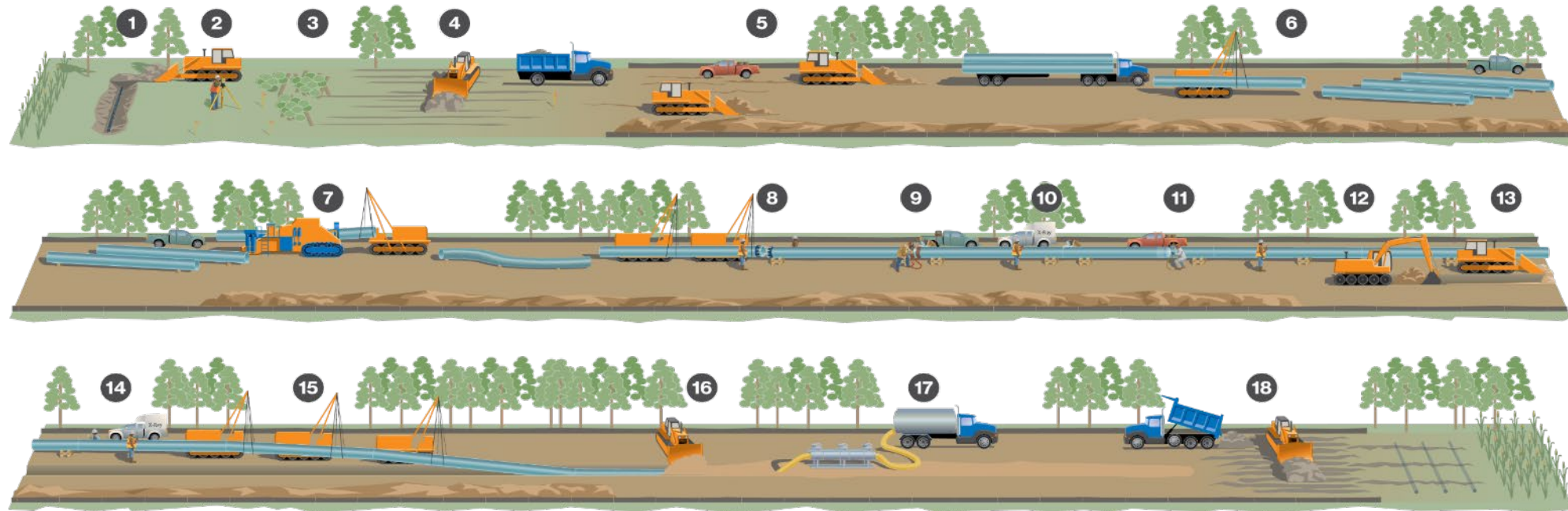
- Provide direct contact & liaison between landowners and Enbridge Gas.
- Be available to the landowner during the length of the Project and throughout construction activities.
- Address the concerns and questions of the landowner.
- Act as a singular point of contact for all landowners.
- Address any landowner questions and any legal matters relating to the temporary use of property, access agreements, permanent easements, and impacts or remedies to property.



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## Constructing an Enbridge Gas Pipeline



- 1. Pre-construction tiling
- 2. Surveying and staking
- 3. Clearing

- 4. Right-of-way topsoil stripping
- 5. Front-end grading
- 6. Stringing pipe

- 7. Field bending pipe
- 8. Lining-up pipe
- 9. Welding process

- 10. X-ray or ultrasonic inspection, weld repair
- 11. Field coating
- 12. Digging the trench

- 13. Padding trench bottom
- 14. Final inspection and coating repair
- 15. Lowering pipe

- 16. Backfilling
- 17. Hydrostatic testing
- 18. Site restoration and post-construction tiling

*Note: The construction infographic is specifically for open-cut steel pipe installation and serves for reference purposes only.*



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## Constructing an Enbridge Gas Pipeline (Continued)

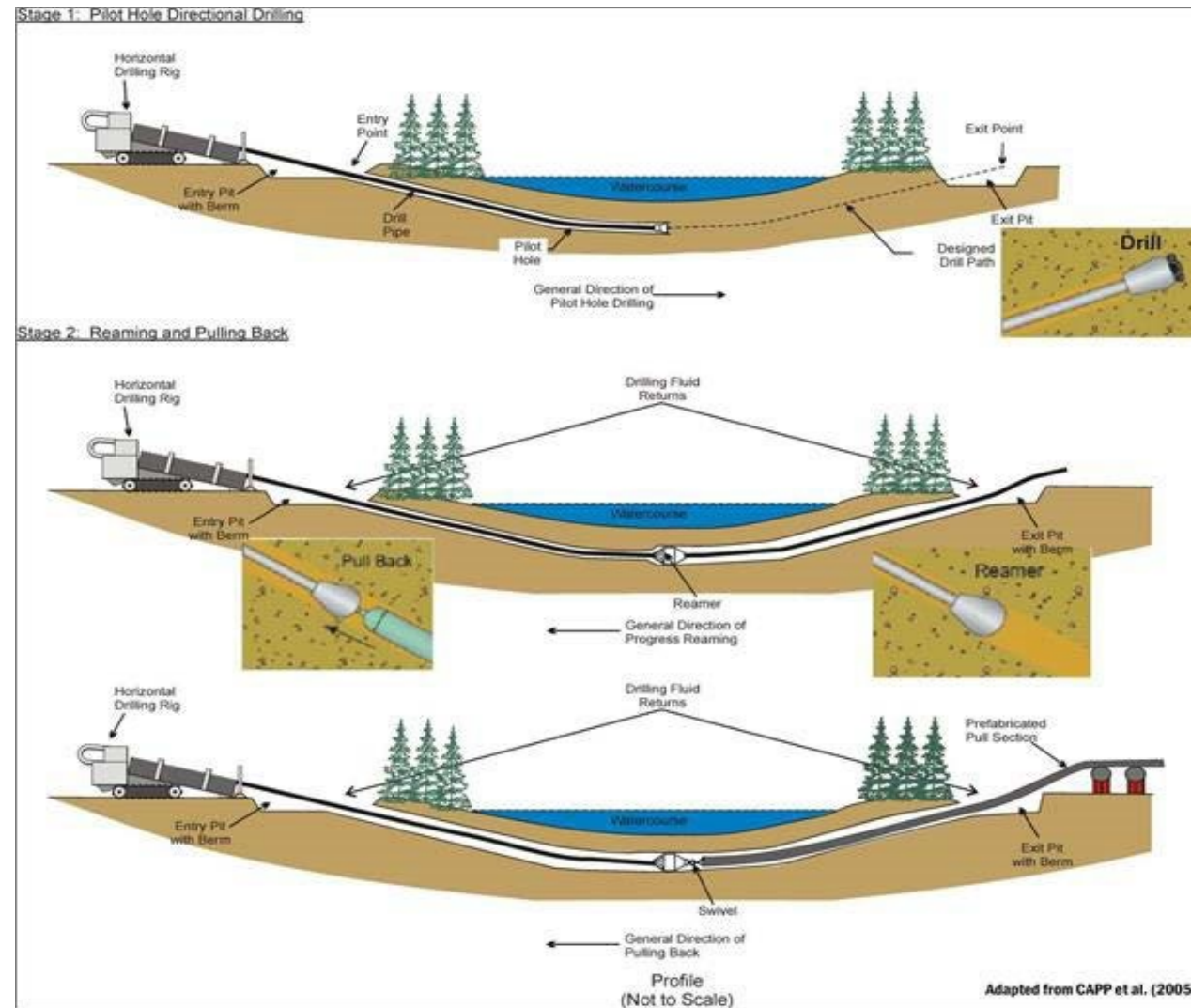
The pipeline construction process includes various procedures, as described in the previous slide.

- **Photo 1:** Shows a typical Enbridge Gas natural gas pipeline. The Merrickville-Wolford Community Expansion Project will involve the installation of a PE pipeline ranging from 2 to 6 inches and will be smaller than the pipeline shown in Photo 1.
- **Photo 2:** Represents a typical trench that is created during the installation process.
- **Photo 3:** Represents the process of backfilling a trench.
- **Photo 4:** Represents final clean-up and restoration. Once the pipeline has been installed, clean-up will involve the restoration of the ROW and other work areas. In natural areas, clean-up will involve restoring the environment (i.e., re-seeding of the ROW), and restoring ditch banks and watercourse crossings.



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## Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) Procedures





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### Socio-economic Features

The Project will mainly be constructed in existing municipal road ROW. As a result of construction, private businesses, agricultural operations, and residential land, as well as Rideau Valley Conservation Authority regulated lands along the pipeline route may be impacted.

#### Potential Effects

- Temporary increases in noise, dust, and air emissions.
- Increased construction traffic volumes.
- Temporary impairment of the use and enjoyment of residential and/or cottage property.
- Vegetation clearing along the pipeline route.

#### Example Mitigation Measures

- Provide access across the construction area.
- Restrict construction to daylight hours and adhere to applicable noise by-laws.
- Develop and implement a Traffic Control Plan.
- Place fencing at appropriate locations for safety.
- Implement a water well monitoring program.
- Making contact information for a designated Enbridge Gas representative available prior to and throughout construction.
- Implement dust control measures.
- Re-vegetation of cleared areas (seeding/planting).



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### Aquatic Resources

Enbridge Gas understands the importance of protecting watercourses, wetlands, and associated wildlife during construction and, therefore, will implement recognized mitigation measures to reduce potential environmental effects.

#### Potential Effects

- Disruption and alteration to aquatic species and habitat and/or nuisance effects.
- Increased erosion, sedimentation, and turbidity resulting from the removal of vegetation.

### Example Mitigation Measures

- Implement measures to avoid harmful alteration, disruption and destruction to fish and fish habitat, as required by the DFO.
- Install erosion and sediment control measures.
- Abide by all agency permits and approvals.
- Conform to fish timing window guidelines.
- HDD and/or trenchless drill within or near environmentally sensitive features (i.e., watercourses, wetlands etc.)
- For in-channel construction, protect aquatic species through methods such as flow diversion/dewatering, fish rescue planning etc., and management of sedimentation and turbidity.
- Restore and seed disturbed areas to establish habitat and reduce erosion, if necessary.
- Replant vegetation along waterways.



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## Terrestrial Resources

During construction, natural environmental features such as wildlife habitat and vegetated/wooded areas will need to be crossed.

### Potential Effects

- Damage or removal of vegetation and wildlife habitat in the construction area.
- Disturbance and/or mortality to local wildlife.

### Example Mitigation Measures

- Conduct surveys (which may include Species at Risk surveys) in advance of construction to determine opportunities for wildlife habitat to exist.
- Complete tree removal outside of migratory bird windows (typically from April 1 – August 31), to the extent possible.
- Clearly mark the construction area to avoid accidental damage.
- Secure any necessary permits and follow any conditions of approval.



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## Cultural Heritage Resources

During construction, cultural heritage features such as archaeological finds, and heritage buildings, fences, and landscapes may be encountered.

Detailed field surveys will be conducted by independent, third-party archaeologists and cultural heritage professionals prior to construction, if required.

### Potential Effects

- Damage or destruction of archaeological or historical resources.

### Example Mitigation Measures

- Archaeological assessment of the construction footprint, with review and acceptance from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM).
- Cultural heritage assessment (for built heritage features and cultural heritage landscapes) of the construction ROW, with review and comment from MCM.
- Reporting of any previously unknown archaeological or historical resources uncovered or suspected of being uncovered during excavation.



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### **Pipeline Design**

The steel and polyethylene pipeline is designed to meet and/or exceed the regulations of the Canadian Standards Association (Z662 Oil and Gas Pipeline Systems) and the applicable regulations of the Technical Standards & Safety Authority (TSSA).

### **Pipeline Safety and Integrity**

Enbridge Gas takes many steps to ensure the safe, reliable operation of our network of natural gas pipelines, such as:

- Design, construct, and test our pipelines to meet or exceed requirements set by industry standards and regulatory authorities;
- Continuously monitor the entire network; and
- Perform regular field surveys to detect leaks and confirm that corrosion prevention methods are working as intended.

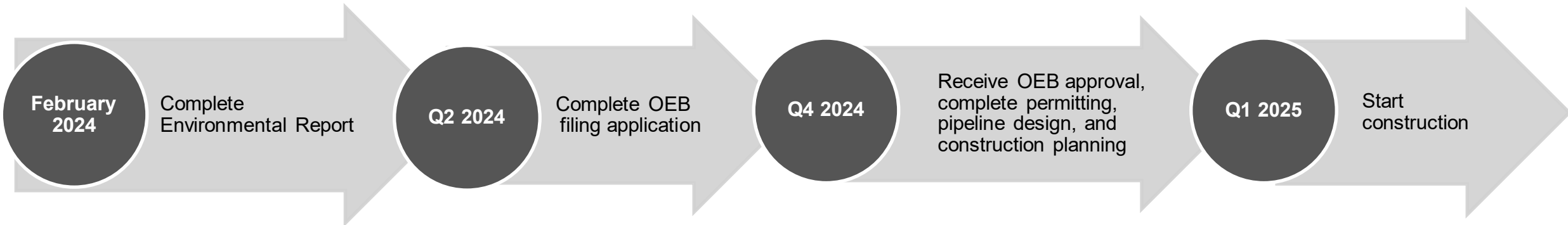


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## Next Steps

After this Virtual Information Session, Enbridge Gas intends to pursue the following schedule of activities:



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## Thank You!

On behalf of the Project team, thank you for listening to the VIS presentation. Please complete a Questionnaire (located in the Resources Tab) by **October 3, 2023**, for your comments to be considered as part of the Environmental Report.

**Fernando Gomez-Sanchez**  
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For more information about the proposed project, please visit our project website at:  
<https://www.enbridgegas.com/merrickvillewolford>

