



## Proposed Pictou County Natural Gas Pipeline

### About Us

Heritage Gas Limited (Heritage Gas) is a Nova Scotia-based company formed in 2003 for the purpose of operating a regulated natural gas distribution franchise in Nova Scotia. Heritage Gas is owned by AltaGas Utility Group Inc., an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of AltaGas Ltd. Currently, Heritage Gas services over 20,000 households and businesses in Halifax, Dartmouth, Amherst, Oxford and the Halifax Airport area.

### Background to the Project

On April 5, 2013, Heritage Gas announced plans to expand natural gas distribution into Pictou County. Phase I, the Proposed Pictou County Natural Gas Pipeline, consists of a 19km high pressure steel natural gas pipeline from the existing Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline steel transmission line in Limerock. This new pipeline will distribute natural gas to industrial customers at Abercrombie Point.

Critical to this project was Northern Pulp's commitment to be our first anchor customer. The natural gas pipeline to Northern Pulp will open the door for other industrial, institutional, commercial and residential connections throughout the area.

Phase II of our plan to service Pictou County may entail an extension to New Glasgow, Stellarton, and Trenton in 2014 and beyond. To ensure we can continue our commitment to expand based on sound economic principles, the economic analysis and assessments to determine the level of interest in these areas is underway.

### Project Information (Phase I)

Route Planning and Environmental Constraints:

- Alternative routes were reviewed and a preferred pipeline route was selected based on ecological, social, technical and economic factors.
- To select an optimal route a variety of studies and field programs were completed for wetlands, watercourses, rare plants, archaeological features, and others.
- The preferred pipeline route was selected based on the results of field programs, studies and consultation.

### Pipeline Design and Approvals:

- As part of our commitment to environmental protection, Heritage Gas will develop specific protection measures for natural and cultural features.
- Approximately 75% of the pipeline will be constructed along existing corridors or within previously disturbed land (i.e., existing road, rail or utility corridors or agricultural land).
- Prior to construction, approvals are required from NS Environment, NS Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and NS Utility and Review Board.



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**Or visit our website: [www.heritagegas.com](http://www.heritagegas.com)**

## Construction Activities:

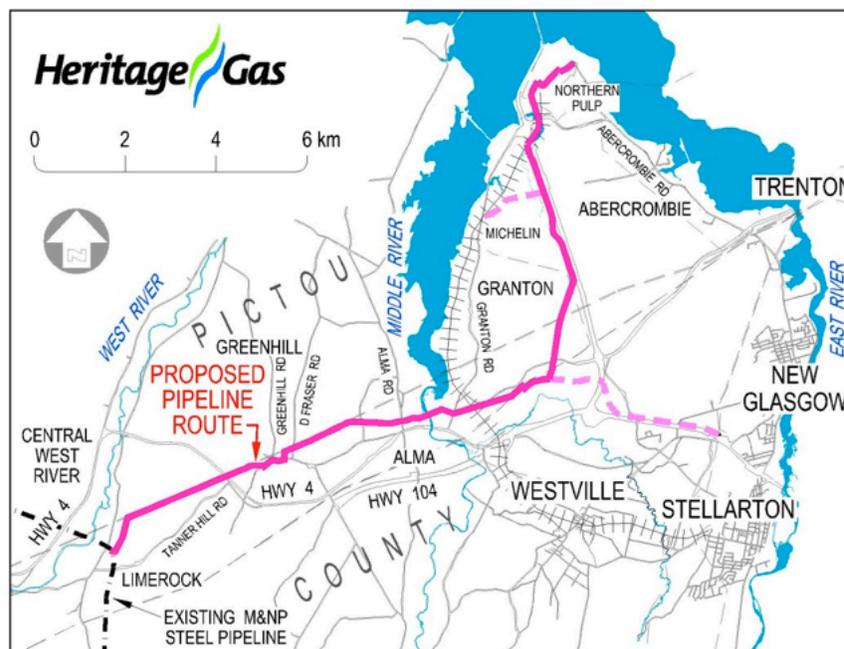
- Construction activities are slated between September through to December 2013.
- Construction is continuous and rapid with restoration occurring as construction progresses.
- The right-of-way is typically a 15 metre (50 feet) easement with a 5 metre (15 feet) wide temporary work room to allow pipe laying and welding alongside trenching.
- Horizontal directional drilling, a trenchless technique, is used for crossing under all water-courses and wetlands, as well as most roadways and railways.

## Operation and Maintenance Activities

- Safety is Heritage Gas' highest priority. Programs in place include system control, inspection and monitoring, corrosion protection, and "Call Before You Dig" program.
- Heritage Gas operates a 24/7 public call system so that questions can be promptly answered, as well as emergency response that is coordinated with local fire departments.

## Preferred Pipeline Route:

- General location and route of the high pressure steel pipeline for Phase I and possible expansion for Phase II are shown on the map below.



If you would like additional information, please contact Heritage Gas at [info@heritagegas.com](mailto:info@heritagegas.com).

Since 2003, Heritage Gas customers have saved between 20%-70% compared to other Nova Scotians using oil, propane or electricity. In 2012 alone, Heritage Gas customers' annual savings were collectively more than \$77 million. Natural gas is the cleanest burning of all fossil fuels with no SO<sub>2</sub> emissions with the lowest NO<sub>x</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (45% less CO<sub>2</sub> than coal, 30% less CO<sub>2</sub> than fuel oil). Heritage Gas customers' cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> reductions at the end of 2012 were over 160,000 tonnes, the equivalent to removing 32,000 vehicles from Nova Scotia's highways.



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