

Canadian Regulatory applications

For all deactivation, decommissioning and abandonment applications, we will submit a plan to the NEB that gathers input from interested parties. This will help determine the appropriate approach for the facilities that minimizes the impact to landowners, communities and the environment.



While the NEB calls it an “abandonment” application, it does not mean we are leaving you behind. TransCanada must file a Section 74 Abandonment Application with the NEB describing how the techniques the company plans to use are the most appropriate, safe and least impactful to landowners, communities and the surrounding environment. Only after regulatory approval can we begin our work.

Properly constructed and maintained pipelines can provide safe reliable service almost indefinitely. Older pipelines are tested and maintained to today’s standards to ensure safe reliable operation.

TransCanada’s process to retire a pipeline or a facility*

1. Environmental and socio-economic assessment
2. Indigenous and stakeholder engagement
3. Regulatory applications
4. Regulatory approval
5. Clean, cut and cap the line
6. Removal of above ground facilities and concrete foundations to below grade
7. Site remediation and reclamation
8. Post abandonment 24/7 monitoring

Funding

If a company wants to remove a facility from service, it must submit an application to the regulator which includes details on the safety, environment, and discussions with affected landowners. In Canada, the National Energy Board holds companies responsible for having the funds available to address any issues during and after abandonment.

TransCanada has a program in place to set aside money for the eventual abandonment of pipelines and facilities when they are no longer required. We established abandonment trusts for all our NEB-regulated pipelines, where funds are deposited to provide funding for the costs associated with abandonment.

The trusts are part of TransCanada’s overall commitment to landowners and communities to ensure the safe, responsible retirement of our assets. With NEB oversight and approval, TransCanada manages these trusts and regularly reports on their status.

*For NEB regulated infrastructures only

Learn more at the End of Life cycle section of our website.