



Date: Dec 18 / 2013

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M E S S A G E



December 17, 2013

MAIL ROOM
SALLE DE COURIER
2013 DEC 18 A 10:57
NEB/ONE

Sheri Young, Secretary of the National Energy Board
444- 7th Avenue S.W, Calgary AB., T2P 0X8

Dear Ms. Young:

RE: Notice of Proposed Regulatory Change [NOPRC] 2013-01 – Damage Prevention

The Ontario Pipeline Landowners Association was disappointed upon reading the NEB's Notice of Proposed Regulatory Change for the Damage Prevention Regulations. OPLA has on numerous occasions brought to the Board and Board staff the unfairness and problems that are put on the backs of landowners in crossing of pipelines. I have commented many times that we don't know if the Board hears but does not listen or listens and does not hear!

Section 112 of the Act was an act of expropriation of land from landowners and gives the pipeline companies the ability to shift responsibility of old ageing pipelines from the companies to the landowners. Why is it that the only people threatened with jail and fines are the landowners? Is it not the responsibility of the companies to insure that **their pipes are maintained and buried deep enough** as to not cause landowners concern? I did not hear of any pipeline executives going to jail as a result of the Marshall Michigan release. What about the employees that restarted the pipeline twice after the equipment shut it down? Should they not have spent time in jail to contemplate their actions? Enbridge Line 9 has had hundreds of integrity digs. What does that say about the condition of that pipeline? Line 9 needs to be replaced.

The NEB stated many times that landowners are never to have any responsibility in the costs of pipeline abandonment. The same principal must apply to the operation of the pipelines. Pipeline companies have and are making billions of dollars from the use of our land. In the beginning, landowners were told that pipelines were for the 'good of the country'. Today that is true in a smaller scope as many of the pipelines are for exporting oil for the profit of companies. All landowners ask is that when the pipeline companies and their shareholders leave with their billions of dollars, they do not leave landowners with old pipes that will undoubtedly cause the landowner money and grief. Take their 'junk' with them along with their billions of dollars! I have heard pipeline companies testify that they do not want to bother the landowners or disturb the land. It is ironic that the companies don't mind bothering the landowners and disturbing the land when they want to install a pipeline!

Pipeline should in no way interfere with our farming operations. The regulation that threatens landowners with fines and imprisonment must also be removed. Landowners with pipelines are now at a disadvantage as compared to farmers that have no pipelines. Integrity dig disruption is only one of the

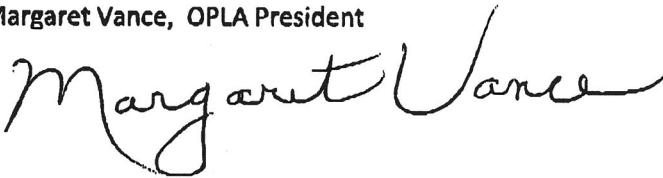
ways this occurs and to be forced by a government to bear liability that belongs to a pipeline company is criminal.

OPLA wholeheartedly supports the February 11, 2013 letter to the Board written by The Joffre Gilby Landowners Committee. It is landowners across Canada that share the burdens that come with having a pipeline on their land, not only in Ontario.

Landowners expect that changes they are seeking will be incorporated into the new regulations.

Yours Truly

Margaret Vance, OPLA President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Vance". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.