



Request for Proposals

PARSC 015

Review of Previous Pipeline Abandonment Programs, Phase 3 – Abandonment on Farmland

Date: August 28, 2017

Purpose

On behalf of the Pipeline Abandonment Research Steering Committee (PARSC), PTAC wishes to retain the services of a research organization or consulting firm (the Contractor) to provide the services described in this document (the Project). Interested parties are invited to submit full proposals according to the specification provided herein.

Background

Pipeline abandonment¹ refers to the permanent removal from service of a pipeline. Pipelines have previously been abandoned in Canada and other jurisdictions. A review of the approved abandonment plans would result in a general understanding of the approaches taken. In addition, the analysis of available information, supplemented by site visits would provide an assessment of abandonment outcomes and valuable information would be obtained on post-abandonment conditions and performance of the abandonment procedures that were used.

This issue was reviewed in the prior DNV Scoping Study found on the website of the National Energy Board (<http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/prtcptn/pplnbndnmnt/pplnbndnmntscpngstd.pdf>). Applicants are expected to read relevant sections of the Study, as this project was informed by it and information is not repeated herein.

In 2016, PARSC commissioned a similar study about an abandoned pipeline in the Peace River region of northern Alberta. This purpose of this RFP is to commission a second study with a similar scope, but about a pipeline abandoned on farmland.

Project Objective

The objective of this Project is to review the present-day state of pipelines that were abandoned more than 10 years ago and to evaluate outcomes achieved by the abandonment program. The results will provide a better understanding of the actual results of the abandonment procedures that were used.

¹ In the context of the present technical topic, pipeline abandonment and pipeline decommissioning are considered similar as they both imply permanent removal from service.



Project Scope

The Project will investigate segments of the Enbridge Line 3 between Edmonton and Hardisty that were abandoned in the 1978-1980 timeframe. Pipe diameter is 34 inches, and the abandoned sections are from 0km-51.1km and 116km to 139km, with a section that was completely removed from 136.7km to 139.9km along Enbridge's main ROW. For information, these sections are not included in the present Line 3 decommissioning project which addresses the section between Hardisty to the U.S. border.

Information about pipeline history and the abandonment program will be made available to the Contractor. The Project will review the abandonment program that was implemented at the time and acquire and compile information necessary to assess the outcome of the abandonment program. The Project will work with Enbridge teams (R&D, Land Services, and Western Region) and include site visits to accessible sites in order to evaluate present day surface conditions. It will recommend a second phase scope of future evaluation and testing that may be needed to fully evaluate outcomes.

The Project includes the following tasks:

1. Review of the abandonment program. The initial task will be to review the abandonment program that was implemented at the time of abandonment and compile present-day information available from public and private sources to form a preliminary assessment of abandonment outcomes. The methodology for site visits and surface assessments will be finalized in this task.
2. Site visits and surface assessments. A number of sites along the abandoned pipeline will be visited to evaluate present day surface conditions in order to gain a deeper understanding of abandonment outcomes. The Project will not include excavation or digging out abandoned pipes. The task will detail the approaches taken for each site and will include the study of the current ground surface condition for pipelines that are abandoned in place and pipelines that were removed.
3. Proposed future program for additional observations and testing. The Contractor will design a future second phase project for a more thorough evaluation of abandonment outcomes which may include digs, coring, or other methods to cost-effectively assess the condition of the buried pipe as well as other critical post-abandonment values.

The final report will detail the approaches taken and results achieved in each task.

Reporting and Payment Milestones

The Contractor will provide short monthly status reports and will be available to teleconference with PARSC during its meetings, which are generally held every six weeks. The applicant will also propose major project milestones when the Contractor will provide a progress report about deliverables and PTAC will make progress payments.



Deliverables

1. Evaluation of the past abandonment programs
2. Site visits of abandoned pipeline sites
3. Status and progress reviews with PARSC
4. Draft reports at each project milestone
5. Final report and presentation to PARSC

Budget

The applicant will indicate the cash budget and any other resources required to complete the Project.

The implementation of the proposed future program is entirely separate from this Project and may be the object of a future Request for Proposal. This Project is only concerned with planning and scoping the proposed future program.

Confidentiality and Indemnity

The proposal should only contain non-confidential information. Information deemed proprietary should not be included in the proposal.

The Contractor will be required to sign an agreement related to the project, which agreement will include confidentiality obligations. Disclosure of any project information will be at the discretion of PARSC. PARSC intends that key results and outcomes will eventually be made public. As PTAC will only facilitate Steering Committee decisions, the agreement will also contain an indemnity in favor of PTAC.

Intellectual Property

All intellectual property rights and publication rights for the deliverables and reports produced by the Contractor in this project (but not including Contractor models and tools) will be the property of the funding organizations in PARSC.

RFP Schedule

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| September 11, 2017 | RFP issued |
| October 6 2017 | Deadline for receipt of full proposals by PTAC |
| October 25, 2017 | Invitation to a short list of applicants to present and discuss their full proposal with PARSC |



Between October 30 and November 10, 2017 Meeting of shortlisted applicants with PARSC

November 24, 2017 Selection of the best value proposal by PARSC

Contents of Full Proposals

The requested full proposal should contain a detailed Project description, budget, and schedule which would be used as the basis of a contract. A 5 to 10-page document addressing the following elements must be delivered electronically or by mail to PTAC by the deadline stated above:

- Scope of work
- Methodology
- Deliverables
- Schedule
- Personnel assigned to the project
- Qualifications
- Budget and costs, including information on breakdown by major scope element and allocation of personnel and applicable rates
- Milestone payment information

The page count does not include any attachment such as CVs, company description or literature references that the applicant may wish to include.

Qualifications

The Contractor will have the following qualifications:

- At least ten years relevant to pipeline engineering, environmental assessment or regulatory reviews; experience in pipeline abandonment will be an asset.
- Demonstrated experience and skills in project management and report writing.

Selection Process

PARSC is composed of industry stakeholders with relevant expertise pertaining to pipeline technical and environmental considerations. PTAC will facilitate PARSC proceedings but will not be a decision-maker.



All submitted proposals will be provided to PARSC for review. PARSC will determine if proposals meet the requirements herein and provide an overall ranking based on proposal quality and Contractor qualifications. PARSC will make the final decision.

Once a selection of the best proposal has been made, all submission contacts will be notified by email regarding the outcome of their proposal.

Contact Information

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Attachment 1 - PARSC Program Background

Pipeline abandonment refers to the permanent removal from service of a pipeline. Depending on a number of factors, sections of pipeline may be abandoned in place or removed.

CEPA, the National Energy Board (NEB), the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (AEUB) and the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) have collaborated on technical and environmental issues associated with pipeline abandonment, which issues were discussed in the documents referenced below. In 1996, the NEB published a review document titled "[Pipeline Abandonment – A Discussion Paper on Technical and Environmental Issues](#)". In 2007, CEPA published a report titled "[Pipeline Abandonment Assumptions](#)" which discussed technical and environmental considerations for development of pipeline abandonment strategies. A comprehensive review was undertaken by the NEB as part of the Land Matters Consultation Initiative (LMCI) which involved four discussion papers on the different topic areas, 45 meetings and workshops in 25 communities across Canada, and written submissions from 13 parties. The [final LMCI report](#)², published in 2009 recommended that knowledge gaps on the physical issues of pipeline abandonment be addressed. Thus, Det Norske Veritas (DNV) was commissioned to conduct a literature review regarding the current understanding worldwide with respect to the physical and technical issues associated with onshore pipeline abandonment and use the results of the literature review to critically analyze and identify gaps in current knowledge, and make recommendations as to potential future research projects that could help to fill those gaps. DNV published this [Scoping Study](#) in November 2010.

CEPA and PTAC have established the Pipeline Abandonment Research Steering Committee (PARSC) as a framework for collaboration to guide and direct innovation and applied research, technology development, demonstration, and deployment in order to address knowledge gaps summarized in the DNV Scoping Study.

Research findings from the PARSC projects will be shared on a broad scale throughout the pipeline industry, the oil and gas industry, as well as with regulators, government agencies, and other stakeholders.

² Online at http://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2010/one-neb/NE23-152-2009-eng.pdf