



## The Heart of the Alberta NGL System

# The Co-Ed Pipeline System

**The Co-Ed Pipeline System collects Natural Gas Liquids (NGLs), by-products of processed natural gas. This 455-mile (730-km) Alberta system contains two pipes – one carries the NGLs collected along various points from Cochrane to Edmonton. The other pipe transports condensate from the west-central Alberta area to Fort Saskatchewan. Here, BP processes and stores the NGLs before shipping them across Canada and the United States.**

**BP also owns a 388-mile (620-km) pipeline system that connects the Drayton Valley, Mitsue, and Swan Hills areas of Alberta to the Co-Ed system. It is for this reason that many call the Co-Ed system the “heart” of BP’s NGL system in Alberta.**

**NGLs are used as feedstock in the petrochemical industry and as an energy source. For example, propane is the fuel of choice for the everyday barbecue while butane is the energy source for lighters.**

### A Safe Approach

BP works hard to safely maintain the Co-Ed System. Our safety effort began before pipeline installation when we selected high quality, strength-tested steel pipe. After installation and before putting the pipelines into operation, we tested the pipes at a higher pressure than would normally exist in the lines. This told us the pipelines were safe to operate. To minimize impact to agricultural activity and to maximize safety, we installed our pipelines approximately 36-inches (.9 metre) underground.

### Pipeline Maintenance and Monitoring

We have a regular inspection program that ensures the integrity of the Co-Ed System. This includes cathodic protection, a method that uses weak electric current to help prevent corrosion on the pipeline. We also use sophisticated electronic tools called “smart pigs” that travel inside the pipe. They detect dents and metal loss on the pipeline.

We regularly patrol the system with low-flying aircraft. Our experienced pilots look for signs of leaks or construction activity along the right-of-way that may accidentally cause a leak. We also depend on our neighbours who live near the pipeline to report on any leaks or activity near the line.

BP monitors the Co-Ed system on a 24-hour basis from a computer-assisted control system located at Fort Saskatchewan. Trained operators watch the system continually. They identify possible problems in the system by looking for abnormal changes in line pressure or flow.

Should a leak occur, we send maintenance crews, located at strategic points along the pipeline, to the leak site. Once we ensure we can protect the safety of our neighbours, employees and contractors, we repair the leak and any damage to adjacent property.

### Pipeline Markers

To ensure everyone knows the location of the Co-Ed system, we place pipeline markers at high traffic areas such as road and railway crossings. We place them near but not necessarily on top of the pipeline or lines. It is important to remember that markers may not tell you the exact location, route, depth or number of pipelines.



*Pipeline Marker*

## Check Before You Dig

If you plan any operations on or near the Co-Ed System:

1. Identify the precise work location and visit the site. Check records or look for evidence of a pipeline.
2. Call Alberta One-Call @ 1-800-242-3447 two working days prior to the dig. They will locate the line.
3. Call BP and ask us about how to safely do the work and any guidelines we may have.
4. Be on site with us when we locate the line. Hand-expose the pipeline before excavation within 10 feet (three metres) of the pipe.
5. Notify BP one working day before backfilling over the pipe and contact us immediately if you contact the pipe or its coating.

Call us if you plan to grade or bulldoze, use explosives, bore, or dig with machines near the Co-Ed Pipeline System. We will locate the affected line so your work can proceed safely.

**The 24-hour emergency number in Fort Saskatchewan is 1-800-265-6000.**

## Leak Detection

### *If you smell...*

- An unusual odour, it may be NGLs or other hydrocarbons.

### *If you see...*

- A vapour cloud or frosted ground along a pipeline, it may be an NGL leak.
- A wet patch of yellowish liquid (like the colour of ginger ale), it may be condensate.
- Obvious damage, fire or an explosion, it may be a pipeline break.

### *If you hear...*

- A loud hissing or roaring noise, it may mean there is a break in the pipeline.

## What to Do if You Encounter a Leak

- Your first goal is to protect yourself and the safety of those around you.
- Shut off any equipment operating on or near the pipeline.
- Extinguish any tobacco products or any ignited material in the area.
- Shut off cell phones until out of the danger area.
- Walk out of the area immediately and alert others in the immediate area.
- If possible, move to an area that is .5 mile (800 metres) uphill and upwind from the leak.
- As soon as you are safe, call the local police or fire department.
- **Call BP collect at our 24-hour emergency number at 1-800-265-6000. Give your name and location and describe the leak.**



### *The Co-Ed System contact numbers:*

**Fort Saskatchewan**  
1-800-265-6000.

**General Enquiries**  
1-403-233-1677 (call collect)  
grossbdr@bp.com

### **Key Contacts**

**Rick Danilkewich**  
Fort Saskatchewan  
1-800-265-6000