



BP's In-Line Inspection  
Program:

**Smart Technology,  
Safe Pipelines**





*Surveying*

### **Our Inspection Program**

Pipelines are the safest method of transporting our products from producing areas to market. BP's pipelines meet or do better than the safety, material quality and reliability requirements specified by government and regulators across the country.

We regularly monitor the condition of our lines using in-line inspection ("ILI") tools commonly called "smart pigs." The tools are called "pigs" because early models squealed as they moved through the pipe. Various types of pigs test the condition of the pipe and detect dents and metal loss on the pipeline.

Since the ILI tools cannot "see" the line, we also physically inspect the pipe at certain locations to ensure our monitoring tools are correct. To do this, we must excavate along the pipeline at various points.

We record the results of our inspection program in our maintenance database. This helps us adequately maintain the line and gives us a systemized look at the short- and long- term health of our pipelines.



*Construction*

### **Above Ground Markers**

The first part of the process involves placement of electronic above-ground markers (AGMs). Since the inspection tool cannot be seen from the surface, we use AGMs to match locations inside the pipeline to surface features. We place these temporary, portable markers on the ground directly above the pipeline (typically near an easily accessible area such as a road). The AGMs send a signal to the inspection tool as it passes below the marker. The signal enables BP's technicians to exactly match the surface and below-surface coordinates.

### **Survey Permission**

If the ILLI tool indicates possible problems with the pipeline, BP will ask landowners for their permission to survey the affected area. The survey will pinpoint the area where excavation will occur along with the proposed access to the excavation. Once we complete the survey and delineate the affected area, BP's land agent will meet with landowners to negotiate a "temporary work space agreement" that allows BP to do its excavation. This agreement includes compensation for entry on the land and crop damage and inconvenience.



*Exposing Pipeline*

### **Assigning Priorities**

We assign excavation priorities based on what our ILI tools tell us. When we receive the data, we check to ensure the ILI tool functioned correctly and then look for features of significant size. These features may be categorized as “immediate action” while most are of the “routine” nature.

For safety reasons, if our excavation requires immediate action, we kindly ask your cooperation to allow access to the site. This could also mean that you may be approached a short time later for permission to excavate a “routine” indication nearby. In most routine cases, BP will try to schedule excavations at times that cause the least impact to you and your operations.

It is important to remember that excavation of the pipe does not mean the pipeline is in poor condition. It does mean, however, that BP takes its goal of “no accidents, no harm to people and no damage to the environment” very seriously. We believe a diligent safety program is in everyone’s best interest.



*Reclamation*

## **Excavation**

The excavation site is usually small with an average excavation area of 15 metres (50 feet) along the width of the right-of-way. In a typical program, BP digs several sites along the length of the pipeline to help field representatives evaluate the pipeline's condition and "fine-tune" the ILI tool data. This gives us more accurate information about the condition of the line.

Since BP strives to minimize the disturbance to property and land owners, we try to limit the number of "digs." We are careful to separate topsoil and subsoil when we do the work. We also fence unattended excavations for safety reasons. In most cases, our program involves minor issues such as re-coating of the pipeline. Occasionally, however, we may replace portions of pipe.

If we must leave the site open longer than normal for analysis reasons, we will compensate the landowner for any inconvenience caused.

## **Clean-Up**

Once we complete our excavation program, our goal is to leave the affected area in its pre-excavation condition. We will re-seed the site if requested by the landowner or tenant.

## **BP's Overall Maintenance Program**

In addition to the In-Line Inspection Program, BP uses other methods to ensure the integrity of all our pipelines. This includes meeting the safety and reliability requirements specified by government and regulators across Canada in the areas of design, construction, operations, pipeline maintenance and abandonment.

Our safety processes also include cathodic protection, a method that uses weak electric current to help prevent corrosion on our pipelines.

## **Computer Monitoring**

We use sophisticated leak-detection computer systems to monitor the flow of products in and out of our pipeline systems. Low-flying aircraft also regularly patrol the major pipelines.

Experienced pilots look for signs of leaks or construction activity that may accidentally cause a leak. In addition, BP conducts ground surveys at regular intervals in key areas.

## Pipeline Markers

To ensure everyone knows the locations of our pipelines, we place pipeline markers at regular intervals along the line. These include high-priority areas such as roads, ditches, railways and other areas along the right-of-way. The markers are near but not necessarily on top of the pipeline or lines. It is important to remember that the markers may not tell you the exact location, route, depth or number of pipelines.



*Pipeline Marker*

## **BP Contact Numbers**

General Enquiries

(Right-of-way issues, compensation,  
restricted activities)

1.403.233.1677 (call collect)

grossbdr@bp.com

## **Pipeline System Contact Numbers**

### **Cochin Pipeline West (includes Saskatchewan)**

1-800-265-6000

### **Co-Ed Pipeline System**

1-800-840-1221

### **Empress Kerrobert Pipeline System**

1-403-838-3783 (call collect)

### **Steelman Facility/Gathering System**

1-306-634-4111 (call collect)

### **Kemp River Pipeline System**

1-780-836-3364 ext.25

### **Fort Saskatchewan Area Pipeline System**

1-800-265-6000

## **Call Before You Dig!**

### **Alberta One-Call:**

1-800-242-3447

### **Sask 1st Call:**

1-866-828-4888