



TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 76 - 91 - (1) TABLED ON MAR 21 1991

March 17th 1991

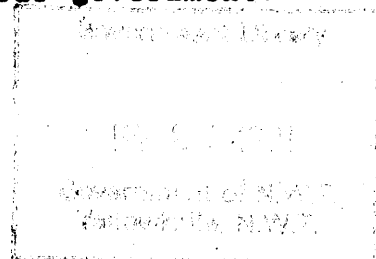
Ms. N. Cournoyea
Minister
Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
Government of the N.W.T.
Box 1920
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Minister,

In keeping with the DIZ Committee mandate of providing a flow of information on oil and gas issues, I am pleased to inform you of a recent visit three of our DIZ Committee members made to Northern Ontario to view a large diameter gas pipeline under construction.

We were escorted by representatives of Polar/Delta Gas who took the group to the Trans-Canada Pipelines 42" pipeline construction project, on a section between Geraldton and Longlac, Ontario. Our group viewed such activities as pipe bending, excavation and backfill, pipe being lowered in to the trench and of much interest the environmental protection precautions taken. Our group saw that much of the construction in that area of Ontario was through rocky terrain where blasting was required, other areas were through muskeg and conditions similar to what may be expected on a Mackenzie Valley project. It was our opinion that construction properly done in our region will be easier than in the conditions we viewed.


The highlight of the trip was a visit with three of the northerners employed on the project as "Pipeline Inspectors". We were pleased to assist in the recruitment of six northerners for this work, all six have been on the job since the first week of January, and expect to work until the end of April. Initially all six were hired for a short winter work season, however, because of the high standard of their work ethic, excellent personalities and all round meshing in to the project, these six northern aboriginal people have been asked if they would return to work after break-up on another section of the pipeline construction, these young workers are now "Pipeliners" and will be an asset to the north should a project take place in the valley in this decade. I would like to suggest that the efforts of these young northerners be recognised by your government.



For your information the six northerners are, Donna Shear from Fort Franklin, Norman Harris from Norman Wells, Shane Heiner from Rae/Edzo, Darryl Field from Fort Providence along with Leonard Kikoak and Jackie Jacobson from Tuktoyaktuk. It is the intention of our DIZ group to promote again this year our working relationship with Polar/Delta Gas to take high school students south for summer employment with Trans-Canada Pipelines working in compressor stations from Alberta east to Ontario, that is our joint initiative to keep students in school, while working during the summer.

I am most pleased to submit this information to you, and should further information be required, please contact the writer.

Sincerely



Frank Pope
General Manager
DIZ Committee