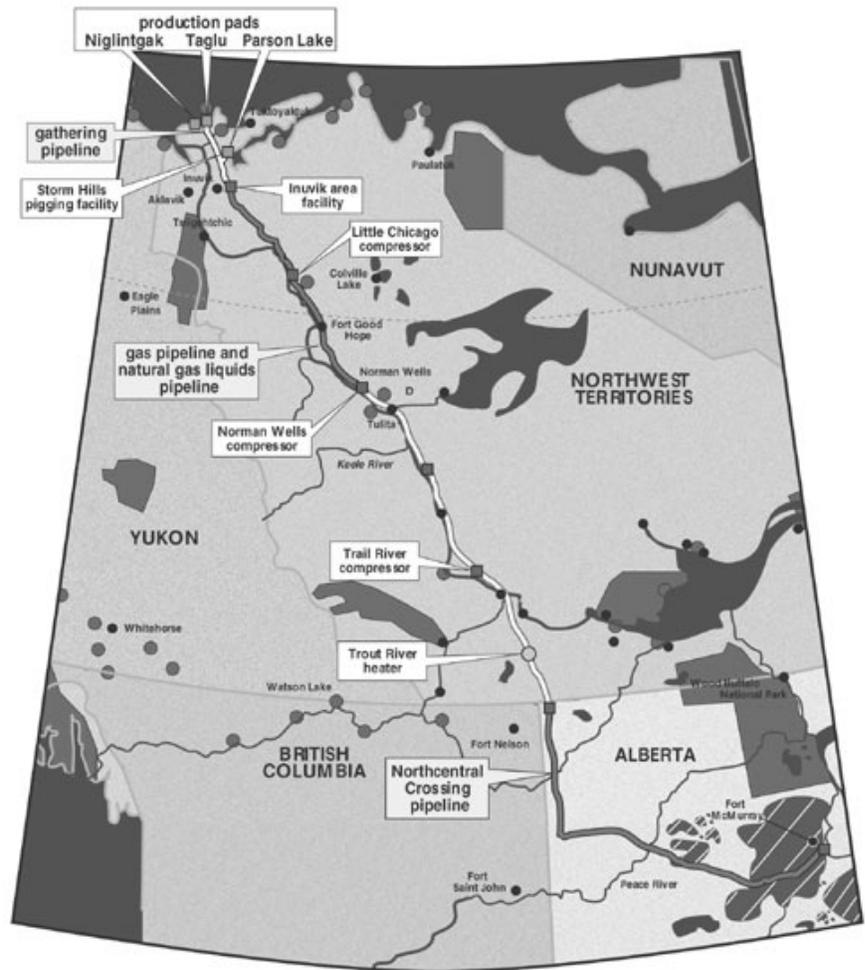
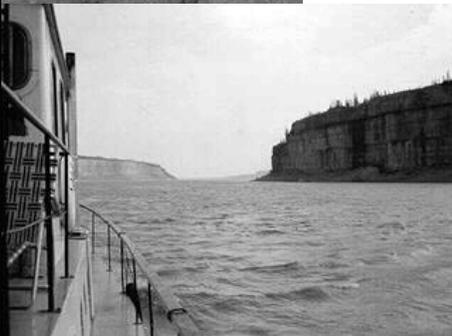
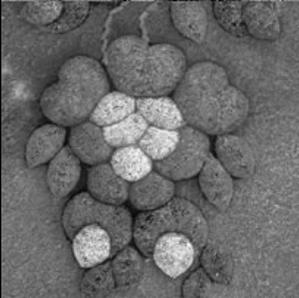


Protect the Environment

What needs to change to deal with the impacts of the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP)?



Some ideas from an independent review



Alternatives North asked some questions about how to deal with MGP environmental impacts

- 1) How well does the current environmental management system protect the environment and deal with impacts?
 - 2) What do oil and gas companies need to do to properly restore the land?
 - 3) Do we need environmental agreements to deal with impacts of the MGP?
-

What is the environmental management system?

Right now governments use various tools to help protect the environment:

- Land use planning.
- Environmental assessment.
- Land permits and water licenses.
- Studying cumulative effects: combined effects of past, present, and future development.

This system has some serious gaps and problems.

We recommend the MGP not go ahead unless the system improves.

How could the system work better for the MGP?

- Complete Sahtu and Dehcho land use plans **before** we build the MGP.
- Create and enforce air quality standards for all MGP activities.
- Make and enforce plans to protect wildlife and their habitat.
- Assess impacts on climate change; make sure industry uses best practices to reduce greenhouse gases.
- Plan and fund long-term studies of cumulative effects.
- Provide better public information that people can understand and use.
- Open a National Energy Board (NEB) office in the NWT. The NEB regulates all oil and gas activity.



MGP needs plans to restore the land

MGP companies need to:

- 1) Make clear plans to restore the land after the pipeline and other oil and gas work is done. Do this **before** the project goes ahead.
- 2) Provide money up front to carry out the plans to restore the land.

Regulators and governments need to:

- 1) Develop and enforce standards so the land stays healthy for future generations.
 - 2) Ask for public input to develop the standards.
 - 3) Identify who does what to enforce the standards and the companies' plans.
 - 4) Decide how much money companies need to set aside to restore the land.
-

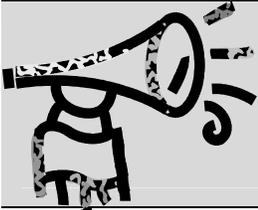
MGP needs environmental agreements

Environmental agreements describe plans to watch for and deal with environmental impacts. Aboriginal and public governments and MGP companies develop and sign the agreements. We recommend two agreements. One for the pipeline. One for the anchor fields, gathering systems, and related activities.

- MGP companies provide the money to carry out the agreements.
 - The agreements set up an independent watchdog body. This body oversees all the work people do to carry out the agreements.
 - Northern residents have input to help develop the agreements.
 - The agreements are public, so people know what commitments industry and governments make to protect the environment.
 - We need agreements in place before we build the pipeline.
 - The agreements need to last until MGP companies complete their work to restore the land.
-



We recommend: No MGP unless we have better tools to deal with the environmental impacts. What do you think?



Talk to your government leaders.
Speak up at Joint Review Panel hearings.

- ? What environmental agreements, plans, and tools need to be in place **before** the MGP goes ahead?
- ? What are the best ways to deal with impacts of the MGP, to keep the land healthy for future generations?
- ? How do environmental agreements help deal with the impacts of the MGP?
- ? How should oil and gas companies help deal with climate change?
- ? What standards do we expect from oil and gas companies when they restore the land?
- ? What roles should the public, government, and industry have to help protect the environment?



Alternatives North

Phone: 867-920-2765

Email: info@alternativesnorth.ca

Website: www.alternativesnorth.ca

Alternatives North is a northern social justice coalition based in Yellowknife. The information in this summary comes from an independent review we did about environmental management issues for the proposed MGP.

This review provides a new way to look at these issues and recommends several things to the Joint Review Panel, governments, and oil and gas companies.

Thanks to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency for funding this important work. Thanks to Kevin O'Reilly, a member of Alternatives North, for doing the review and to Mary McCreddie, NWT Literacy Council, for doing this summary.

Please contact us if you have comments or questions. Look on our website for the full report and other info we have about the MGP.

