Open house Overview

The Enbridge operations and Sunrise open house was held at the Seabird Island community gym on February 12th from 4 PM to 8 PM. The open house provided information on various aspects of Enbridge's operations and maintenance activities, particularly in relation to the existing pipelines in Seabird Island. Representatives from different fields were present to engage with community members, provide information, and answer questions.

Key Topics Covered

Operations and Maintenance

- Maintaining and Operating Existing Lines: Information on the operating pressure of the existing lines and how compressor stations work.
- Gas Transportation: Explanation of how gas is transported through the system.

Emergency Management

- Emergency Procedures: Steps to take in the event of an emergency, including the emergency planning zone for Seabird Island and the notification process.
- Previous Emergencies: Details on past emergencies involving Enbridge pipelines.

Damage Prevention

- Pipeline Safety: Guidelines on the depth of cover over pipelines, building up to the right-of-way, and safety measures for digging and working near pipelines.

Pipeline Integrity

- Integrity Maintenance Program: How Enbridge conducts integrity inspections and maintenance digs.
- Safety Measures: Field surveillance, monitoring, and inspections to ensure pipeline safety.

Sunrise Expansion Program

- Proposed Pipeline Loop: Information on the proposed pipeline loop through Seabird Island reserve land, including project specifics, the need for more natural gas, and construction timelines starting in 2026.

Event Highlights

- Representatives: Experts from various fields including operations and maintenance, emergency management, damage prevention, pipeline integrity, and the Sunrise expansion program were present to provide information and answer questions.
- Demonstrations: A functioning pipeline model was presented to demonstrate how the BC pipeline system works.

- Community Engagement: Representatives connected with community members, providing information and addressing their concerns.

Q&A Section

Location and Pipeline Cover

- **Q:** Where is the exact location of the new pipeline?
  - A: The new proposed pipeline will follow the existing right-of-way through Seabird Island.
- **Q:** Is there enough cover over the pipelines for the farming that happens over them?
  - **A:** For deep tilling greater than 45 cm or any ground disturbance activities, Enbridge will send someone to locate the pipelines and determine the depth of cover.

Technical Details

- **Q:** How hot does the gas get heated through the compression?
  - **A:** The processed gas is heated approximately 50°F across the compression process.
- **Q:** How do you detect leaks and how do you stop the pipeline in that event?
  - **A:** Smart tools are used to detect leaks, and integrity measures are in place to address them.

Expansion and Demand

- **Q:** Why do you need another gas pipeline when you already have one here?
  - **A:** The growth in energy demand necessitates another pipeline.
- **Q:** How many gas turbines do you need to run the system?
  - **A:** Gas turbines are essential for operating the system, with each station needing them to keep the gas moving.

Safety and Incidents

- **Q:** Has there ever been a pipeline failure in Enbridge (i.e., Westcoast)?
  - **A:** There have been pipeline failures, including a significant one in 2018 and another in the Coquihalla in 2000. Pin hole leaks are treated as emergencies.
- **Q:** Can an ignition travel back through the pipe?
  - **A:** The environment inside the pipe is too rich to ignite, but care is needed to avoid introducing air into the pipeline.

- **Q:** How do earthquakes impact the pipelines and how do we protect our pipeline from seismic activity?
    - **A:** Depending on the type of earthquake, our physical system may experience varying degrees of impact, ranging from negligible to severe. The flexibility of the system over its length allows it to accommodate seismic waves, which is advantageous. However, a slip or thrust fault at the pipeline could potentially sever the line, posing a significant risk. In such an event, we would address it as we would any other line break.

Pipeline integrity

- **Q:** How many leaks do we have/how often do we have leaks?
    - **A:** Leak is not a common occurrence on our system as we have a very robust integrity/maintenance program to manage our system.
- **Q:** How often do we run the inspection tool or carry out inspection? How many digs?
    - **A:** The inspection frequency depends on the type of threat & specific condition on each pipeline system; however, we carry out inspection regularly.
- **Q:** When would a feature become a problem?
    - **A:** Our integrity problem would identify and investigate any features that might be of concern before it can become a problem.
- **Q:** Why do we need to do a maintenance dig?
    - **A:** To maintain the safety and reliability of our system, we carry out field inspection on features of interest.