

9.0 CONCLUSION

EOG Resources Canada Inc. is proposing to construct three pipelines in the Waskada to Pierson area from a proposed EOG facility at LSD 4-1-2-28 W1M to an existing EOG oil battery at 16-21-1-25 W1M. The project will include a 6 inch (168.3 mm) O.D. sweet natural gas pipeline, a 8 inch (219.1 mm) O.D. oil pipeline and a 4 inch (114.3 mm) O.D. sour gas pipeline within a common ditch.

The EA of the EOG Pipeline Project indicates that the proposed pipeline route is environmentally satisfactory. The environmental concerns identified through public consultation with government agencies, landowners and interested stakeholders, review of previous projects in the area and through the professional experience of the assessment team, are not extraordinary and most of the associated potential impacts arising from construction of the EOG Pipeline Project can be readily mitigated by standard environmental protection measures. A mitigative strategy has been developed to reduce the extent and reversibility of potential environmental and socio-economic effects (Section 6.0, Appendix 6A of this EA). Contingency measures have been developed in the event that site-specific environmental concerns are identified during the course of the supplemental studies or during construction (Appendix 6B of this EA).

Most of the potential physical, biological and socio-economic residual effects that could arise during construction and operation of the EOG Pipeline Project are considered to be reversible in the short- to medium-term. However, some residual effects are considered to be reversible in the long-term such as alteration of native vegetation along the pipeline route. Nevertheless, there are no situations where there is a high probability of occurrence of a permanent or long-term residual effect of high magnitude that cannot be technically or economically compensated. Consequently, residual effects associated with the EOG Pipeline Project will be not significant.

The Waskada to Pierson Pipeline Project may act cumulatively with past projects, or activities in the vicinity of the EOG Pipeline Project area including agriculture (*e.g.*, ranching, farming, irrigation), transportation (*e.g.*, roads and railways), utilities (*e.g.*, powerlines) and oil and gas development (*e.g.*, pipelines, associated facilities), as well as rural, residential and urban development. Cumulative residual effects associated with the EOG Pipeline Project were evaluated on a worst-case scenario depending on the element in question. Cumulative residual effects of the Project are anticipated to be reversible in the short to long-term and are generally of low magnitude. Additional mitigative measures will be implemented, if warranted, minimizing the potential cumulative effects associated with some elements. There are no situations where there is a high probability of occurrence of a permanent or long-term residual effect of high magnitude that cannot be technically or economically compensated. Consequently, cumulative residual effects associated with the EOG Pipeline Project will be not significant.

EOG has developed several programs to ensure that the recommended protection measures and commitments made in the EA are implemented throughout the construction and operation phases of the pipelines, environmental protection planning, environmental inspection, issue monitoring and post-construction monitoring as well as an Emergency Response Plan. Through the implementation of these programs, it is believed that the Waskada to Pierson Pipeline Project can be constructed and operated at a high level of environmental excellence.