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**Province Bringing Jobs and Affordable Heating to Northern Ontario**

*New Liquefied Natural Gas Plant Will Save Business and Residents Money*

January 25, 2019 9:30 A.M.

THUNDER BAY — Today the Ontario government announced support for a new liquefied natural gas plant in Nipigon to help create jobs and make businesses more competitive in Northern Ontario.

"Our Government for the People is investing in the North, creating jobs, making businesses more competitive and making life more affordable for residents," said Infrastructure Minister Monte McNaughton.

Ontario will provide \$27 million towards the plant, which would convert natural gas into a liquid form, so it could be safely and economically trucked to customers. It would replace costlier fuel sources to more than 550 businesses and 5,000 homes - saving residents an estimated \$181.3 million and businesses \$65.3 million on energy bills over 40 years. This project would also create around 700 - 2,800 jobs in the region.

"We are pleased with Ontario's support for this project, which would enable the first natural gas delivery system of its kind in the province," said Joshua Samuel, President and Chief Executive Officer of the General Partner of Northeast Midstream LP. "It would bring significant cost savings to businesses and ultimately, to municipalities and First Nations."

"The Nipigon LNG project would enable northern businesses to cut operating costs, improve their competitiveness and attract more investment to the area - sending a strong signal to the world that Ontario is open for business," said Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines. "It would also assist in expanding Northern Ontario's natural gas distribution network to households, which would make life more affordable for families."

**QUOTES**

" This announcement is so important. Our communities have been severely impacted by high energy costs. Many people in Northern Ontario have had hydro bills over \$1,000 per month in the winter. Today's announcement will do so much to lower our energy costs, making them comparable to the rest of the users in Ontario. It will open up opportunities for other communities, making life more affordable."

- Jody Davis  
Mayor of Terrace Bay

" New options to access natural gas can provide operational savings and reduced emissions, both of which make Ontario mines more competitive. With more than a dozen mining operations currently unable to access natural gas, we look forward to the opportunities this government commitment will bring."

- Chris Hodgson  
President, Ontario Mining Association

" This project will leverage significant public-private investment in the expansion of natural gas to non-pipeline communities that is built off of the innovation and collaboration between neighbouring communities. This type of transformative economic development is critical to our long-term economic sustainability."

- Rick Dumas  
Mayor of Marathon

## **QUICK FACTS**

- The liquefied natural gas plant is the first phase of the project. A planned second phase will extend the benefits of natural gas to five Lake Superior north shore communities including Marathon, Terrace Bay, Schreiber, Manitouwadge and Wawa, as well as additional towns and First Nations communities, where feasible.
- An additional \$3.4-million investment through Ontario's Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation will go towards the second phase of the project, and would support the Lake Superior north shore communities of Manitouwadge, Marathon, Schreiber, Terrace Bay and Wawa in developing the engineering and design plans, and addressing permits, regulatory approvals and licencing requirements needed to bring natural gas to residential, commercial, and institutional users within the region.
- Expanding natural gas access to Manitouwadge, Marathon, Schreiber, Terrace Bay and Wawa would contribute \$73 million towards Ontario's GDP.
- The project is being led by Northeast Midstream, an Ontario-based energy partnership focused on expanding natural gas service to communities and industries not currently served by the traditional pipeline model.
- Expanding access to natural gas is a top priority for the Government of Ontario. The recent passage of Bill 32, the Access to Natural Gas Act, makes it possible to implement a new program that would, once the regulations are in place, be designed to expand natural gas distribution systems to more parts of rural and Northern Ontario, as well as First Nations communities.

## **LEARN MORE**

- [Affordable Heating on the Way: Ontario Passes Legislation to Expand Access to Natural Gas](#)
- [Ford Government to Help Expand Access to Natural Gas](#)
- [Relief on the Way: Ontario Passes Legislation to End Cap and Trade Carbon Tax](#)

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