






PIPELINE SAFETY

Priority	Action	Elements of a strong and effective pipeline safety system	From	To
Prevention 	Inspections	Increase in the number of annual oil and gas pipeline inspections	100	150
	Audits	Increase in the number of annual comprehensive audits	3	6
	Guidance	National Energy Board (NEB) study on the application of “best available technology” for pipeline projects	In practice	NEB guidance
	Enforcement	NEB issuance of administrative monetary penalties for individuals and companies that violate the <i>National Energy Board Act</i>	None	\$25,000 to \$100,000 per day
	Inspection authorities	Inspection powers for NEB officers to be strengthened and clarified	Defined	Enhanced
Preparedness & Response 	Minimum financial resources	All companies operating pipelines to demonstrate minimum financial resources to be prepared for an incident (set at \$1 billion for companies operating major oil pipelines)	None	Set amounts
	Accessible cash	All companies to have a minimum amount of financial resources available at all times to respond quickly to incidents	None	Set amounts
	Incident response	NEB authority to take control of incident response, in exceptional circumstances	No	Yes
	Indigenous participation	Develop a strategy with industry and Indigenous organizations to enhance Indigenous participation in pipeline safety	Limited integrated strategy	Increased Indigenous participation in planning, monitoring and response
Liability & Compensation 	Unlimited liability	Unlimited financial liability when companies are at fault or negligent is reinforced	Common law	Explicitly in law
	Absolute liability	Liability established at a set amount irrespective of fault or negligence for all companies operating pipelines	In practice	Set amounts (\$1 billion for major oil pipelines)
	Abandonment	Pipeline operators are responsible for a pipeline during the entire life cycle	In practice	Explicitly in law
	Pipeline claims tribunal	Government may establish a pipeline claims tribunal to examine and adjudicate claims for compensation in the event a company is unable or unwilling to do so	No	Yes
	Financial backstop	Resources to be made available for spill cleanup costs and damages, if a company is unable or unwilling to clean up, and the NEB is authorized to recover all costs from industry	No	Yes
	Arbitration committees	Improved functioning of pipeline arbitration committees for compensation disputes with landowners including mandated timelines for appointments, hearings and decisions	None	Set timelines
	Cleanup costs	NEB has authority to order the repayment of spill cleanup costs incurred by federal, provincial, municipal or Indigenous governments	No	Yes