

- **Major applications filed in October**
 - process to proceed from filing to approvals is laid out in the Cooperation Plan and the Joint Review Panel (JRP) agreement
- **Joint Review Panel/NEB process**
 - initial EIS review (four months)
 - technical analysis, public notice period for public hearings, information requests.
 - JRP and NEB hearings to consider the EIS and applications
 - public hearings could begin in early 2005
- **Public hearing process**
 - hearings coordinated through Cooperation Plan and JRP agreement
 - NEB and JRP determine timing, location of hearings



9

Key Points

- This chart provides some further detail on the formal regulatory process.
- You probably know that the process to proceed from filing to approvals is laid out in the Cooperation Plan and the Joint Review Panel (JRP) agreement.
- Once the applications are filed, the JRP and the NEB will conduct their formal evaluations of the applications received in accordance with their respective mandates. They may request additional information from us, and when they are satisfied that the information received from the co-venturers is sufficient to proceed, both the JRP and the NEB will conduct public hearings to consider the EIS and the applications respectively.
- We anticipate that the hearings, which provide ample opportunity for public participation, will begin in early 2005. The NEB and the JRP will determine the location and timing of the hearings, and the Northern Gas Project Secretariat is coordinating this work.
- We anticipate that, after the JRP report is issued, the NEB could then issue its findings starting in 2006, as will the northern regulatory agencies.
- The MGP project co-venturers have provided funding to members of communities and non-government organizations invited to participate in the EIS preparation process through scheduled workshops.
- The federal government has also committed to providing up to about \$1.5 million to qualified recipients to facilitate their participation in the environmental assessment of the Mackenzie Gas Project.