

**Department of Natural Resources**  
**Use and Availability of 48-inch Pipe in North America**  
**October 31, 2015**

Pipeline with a 48-inch diameter is used frequently all over the world. It is a proven technology and procurement and construction have been done many times for both gas and oil in North America for over 40 years.

- As part of the 48-inch pipe engineering study underway by the AKLNG Project, 48-inch pipe was ordered (5 or 6 miles) for material testing and is on its way.
- The Project has found only one mill in the US that can make the 42-inch pipe in the wall thickness desired.
- No project of this size would ever single source this much pipe from one mill because one mill probably can't produce that amount in the time frame needed. It would present a huge risk factor for an entire project schedule to rely upon a single source.
- The availability of 48-inch pipe is probably no more of an issue than the heavy wall 42-inch pipe.
- Advanced, cold weather specification have been developed and successfully used on numerous TransCanada projects in Canada.
- From recent data gathered on emerging LNG projects in British Columbia, it appears all of these projects are being designed with 48-inch diameter pipe.
- Following is a list of **existing** 48-inch gas pipelines in North America:
  - TransCanada Canadian Mainline – 8,770 miles
  - TransCanada NGTL Mainline Expansions - 20 – 30 mile increments
  - Net Midstream Mexico Pipeline – 120 miles
  - Williams/Transco South Coast Loop – 4.8 miles
  - Williams/Spectra Gulfstream Pipeline – 210 miles
  - North Baja Pipeline Expansion – 80 miles
  - Los Ramos Pipeline System – 1,021 miles
  - Union Gas Dawn to Parkway Corridor – 257 miles
- Following is a list of **planned** 48-inch gas pipelines in North America:
  - TransCanada Merrick Mainline Pipeline – 161 miles
  - TransCanada Coastal Gaslink Pipeline – 415 miles
  - TransCanada Prince Rupert Transmission – 559 miles

- Spectra/BG Group Western Connector- 528 miles
- Cheniere Corpus Christi Pipeline – 23 miles
- **Existing and proposed 48-inch oil and gas pipelines outside of North America:**
  - Abu Dhabi Crude Oil Pipeline – 424 km
  - Haute De France II Gas Pipeline – 174 km
  - Maghreb-Europe Gas Pipeline – 1,306 km
  - Nord Stream Pipeline System – 1,224 km
  - Dutch – Germany North – South Pipeline – 484 km
  - India East – West Gas Pipeline – 1,400 km
  - China’s Second West – East Gas Pipeline – 8,700 km
  - Trans Adriatic – 760 km
  - South Caucasus Pipeline Expansion – 490 km
- Major **North American Pipe Mills** with 48-inch capability
  - Berg Steel Pipe
  - TMK
  - EVRAZ
  - JSW Steel
  - Stupp Corporation
  - Jindal Tubulars
- North American pipe mills are likely to struggle to be competitive with Japanese, Korean, and Indian mills due to their higher costs
- Trans Alaska Pipeline System, built almost 40 years ago across Alaska is 48-inch pipe