

### 2015 Update to HRM Environment and Sustainability Committee

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## **Working Together**

- HRM's Community Energy Plan Objectives
  - **1.** Residents to have increased energy choices
  - 2. Businesses to reduce cost of business
- Heritage Gas' Efforts to Improve Access to Residents, Businesses and Institutions
  - Residential Retrofit Assistance Plan starting to see results (399 homes in 2014 / 25% sign up, 385 homes in 2015)
  - Portfolio / EOI aids all customer expansions
    Joint Project on Penhorn / Sarnia, Dartmouth
  - Working together to minimize disruption



## Heritage Gas Update - 2014

- In 2014, activated 391 residential customers and 343 commercial/institutional customers
- In 2014, installed 26 km of new main and 675 services
- / Total 415 km of pipe since 2003 in the province
- Approaching 6,000 customers since 2003
- Serving ~20,000 HRM homes, businesses, and institutions



## Heritage Gas Update - 2015

- Total 25 km of new mains planned for 2015 in HRM
- 2015 target activate over 600 new customers
- HRSB 9 schools will provide access for neighbouring residents in 2015 as a follow up to the 9 in 2014.
- Web page shows current plans for specific main extensions



## **Working Together**

Community Energy Plan

"HRM to demonstrate community leadership" through potential policy reviews

- Advocate for increased natural gas availability
  - Councillor communication
  - Inclusion in a program similar to Solar Energy Plan
- Construction efficiencies to minimize disruption to residents through traffic management plans



## **Working Together**

- Review policy of meter set installations along streets set by EUGS committee in 2009
- Inclusion in parameters around the new historic districts (Schmidtville & Old South Suburb)





Heritage Gas

# **GAS SUPPLY & PRICING**



## **Historic Gas Supply Pricing Environment**

### Gas Supply Pricing HGL COG, NYMEX, Day Market (AGT)





## **Maritime Supply Outlook**

- Market has been characterized by falling supply and increasing demand – leading to price volatility in the winter
- Deep Panuke
  - Water ingress leading Encana to announce a 70% drop in reserves in February. Original lifespan was expected to reach to beyond 2020. Announcement indicated 2018/2019 end of life.
  - Production is being shut-off in the summer
- Sable
  - Continuing decline in production with a 2016-2018 shut down anticipated in the industry



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## **Gas Supply Strategy**

- Secure long-term transportation contracts to allow Heritage Gas to access stable, low cost gas supplies
- Utilize local storage to provide customers with security of supply while lowering costs and pricing volatility
- Maintain Supply flexibility to allow for customer's to source their own supply of natural gas



## Action By Heritage to Secure a Stable, Secure Supply of Natural Gas

- Heritage Gas has:
  - Secured the majority of its average daily gas
    requirements for this coming winter (2015/2016)
  - Entered into pipeline agreements that will allow the company to source gas from Central and Western Canada starting in 2016.
  - Entered into pipeline agreements that will allow the company to source gas from the United States starting in 2017
    - Provide access to abundant and stable gas supplies
  - Entered into an agreement with Alton Natural Gas Storage

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## **Alton Natural Gas Storage**

Natural gas storage will provide the following benefits to Heritage Gas ratepayers:

- Supply Security
  - Will enable Heritage Gas to acquire ~40% of customers' current annual demand and store it 60 km north of HRM
- Price Stability
  - Store less expensive summer gas, withdraw in winter when prices are higher
- Cost Savings
  - Expect ~\$17 million in annual benefit for Heritage Gas
    Customers
    - **/** Savings in cost of gas and on transportation contracts
- Expected in-service date: Spring 2019

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## Summary

- Atlantic Canadian gas market needs storage and transportation infra-structure to provide a low-cost energy alternative to Nova Scotians
- Heritage Gas is in a unique position in Atlantic Canada in making investments in these assets
- Natural Gas has been a competitive energy choice for Nova Scotians delivering substantial saving relative to other energy options
- With the transportation and storage agreements that Heritage Gas has entered into, we expect that natural gas will continue to be an economic choice for Nova Scotians

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