



Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Three more Northern communities to begin receiving natural gas this year

SaskEnergy continues to make substantial progress extending natural gas service to Highway #2 communities north of Waskesieu. New natural gas customers were connected in Weyakwin and Ramsey Bay last fall, the first communities to be served under SaskEnergy's northern pipeline project. The Town of Air Ronge, portions of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band and some businesses in La Ronge will begin receiving gas service this fall, allowing customers to make equipment conversions in time for the winter heating season.

"The extension of natural gas service to these additional northern communities was made possible by the completion of 150 kilometres of high pressure transmission pipeline from Montreal Lake to La Ronge - work through some of the most challenging terrain our crews have ever encountered," said Ken Cheveldayoff, Minister Responsible for SaskEnergy. "This project reflects our government's commitment to ensure that the North has improved access to Saskatchewan's energy resources to secure continued economic growth."

More than 850 residential, business and institutional customers have committed to natural gas service in the region. Service to residential areas in the communities of La Ronge, Air Ronge and the Lac La Ronge Indian Band will continue over the next several years. Homeowners and businesses can still sign up for SaskEnergy service by calling toll free at **1-877-664-8324** or receive more information online at www.saskenergy.com.

"Natural gas is going to make a real difference in our community," Chief of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band Tammy Cook-Searson said. "Not only will natural gas benefit the environment, it will allow our businesses to compete and expand, as well as provide a safe and economical fuel source for our residents."

Now that natural gas pipelines have been installed throughout the La Ronge area, in order to maintain the safety and reliability of the system, any home owner or business planning a project that involves excavation are reminded to call Sask 1st Call, toll free at **1-866-828-4888** before digging. The service is free, as Sask 1st Call will notify any member company with buried infrastructure, including SaskEnergy, to come out and mark lines with just two days notice.

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For further information, please call:

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