Energy East Pipeline Proposal Positive for Canada

Ottawa, October 30, 2014 – The Canadian Fuels Association supports the TransCanada Energy East pipeline proposal to bring western Canadian crude oil to refineries in eastern Canada. Opening markets for western Canadian crude is a positive step for Canada and Canadians while providing an additional crude option that would enhance competitiveness and longer term viability for eastern refineries.

“Additional flexibility and market access for western Canada crudes links producers with refiners and adds more value to Canada’s manufacturing and resource base,” said Peter Boag, President and CEO, Canadian Fuels Association.

“Refining Canadian crude oil could significantly reduce the current reliance on foreign crudes and maximize the economic viability of refineries in eastern Canada. The refining sector is a major contributor to provincial economies and provides a significant number of jobs in all provinces where refiners must compete in a globally competitive market.”

Refineries in eastern Canada import up to 700,000 barrels of oil every day, as much as 86 percent of refinery needs, from foreign countries. The Atlantic Provinces’ share of Canada’s refining output has grown to nearly 25 percent of national refining production and accounts for more than 60 percent of Canada’s transportation fuel exports.

Eastern Canadian refineries have already begun to access western Canadian crude through rail deliveries. Pipeline access would provide an additional transportation option that increases safety, efficiencies and cost-effectiveness.

The Canadian Fuels Association represents the industry that produces, distributes and markets petroleum products in Canada – including 95 percent of the transportation fuels Canadians rely on to remain mobile and globally competitive. The fuels sector contributes $5.6-billion to Canada’s GDP each year and employs some 100,000 Canadians at 18 refineries, 21 primary fuel distribution terminals and approximately 12,000 commercial and retail sites throughout Canada.

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