At Kinder Morgan Canada, pipelines are our business and safety is our number one priority. As our pipelines traverse many communities in Western Canada and the United States, we share the value the communities place on safety and the environment, and our prevention and maintenance programs are built around the belief that no spill or leak is acceptable.

Our comprehensive and systematic approach to safety includes a broad range of preventive measures to ensure maximum pipeline safety and reliability, safety of the public and employees and protection of the environment. These preventive measures include continuous 24/7 monitoring of the pipeline, corrosion protection and natural hazards management, damage prevention and public awareness programs, inline inspections and integrity management program.

**Inline Inspections**

We monitor our pipelines by regularly running internal inspection tools through sections of the pipeline. These hi-tech devices, called smart tools (or smart pigs), detect issues with the pipe condition that can pose a risk to the integrity of the pipeline. When a smart tool travels through the pipeline, it collects pipeline data which is used to generate a detailed report. Our Integrity group analyzes the findings and develops an integrity dig plan to promptly examine any features that require further investigation. As the smart tool technology is constantly evolving, our ability to identify and characterize various pipeline features has increased significantly over the past several years.

**Integrity Digs**

Integrity digs are typically based on the results of an inline inspection. An integrity dig involves a segment of pipe being excavated and inspected using non-destructive examination methods. If required, repairs are completed, the site is backfilled and restored to the original condition or better.

Integrity digs require careful planning and preparation, including conducting environmental assessments, obtaining approvals and permits from landowners, First Nations, and municipal authorities.

It is our goal to ensure that our pipelines continue to operate safely and reliably while minimizing the impact of this work on both the public and the environment and complying with all applicable standards and regulatory requirements.
What is an integrity dig?
An integrity dig is an inspection of a pipeline segment using non-destructive examination. Integrity digs are conducted on a regular basis at targeted locations along our pipelines and are part of our proactive approach to pipeline safety.

What does the work for an integrity dig involve?
An integrity dig starts with locating the site where a pipeline feature has been identified and staking the site using temporary markers. The next steps involve conducting an environmental assessment, obtaining applicable permits and developing a comprehensive excavation plan. The pipe is then carefully exposed using hand digging or hydro excavation with a vacuum truck. To ensure protection of the pipe from accidental damage, any mechanical excavation using a backhoe/excavator is completed in strict adherence to KMC’s requirements and supervision by a dedicated KMC inspector. During the next step, the pipe coating is removed and the pipe is examined using non-destructive examination. Based on the field assessment results and regulatory requirements, repairs are completed. Repair options may include a simple recoat, repair sleeve or cutout and replacement of the pipe segment. Upon completion, the site is backfilled and restored to the original condition or better.

How does Kinder Morgan Canada notify affected landowners and neighbours?
If an integrity dig is located on private land, our representative will make initial contact with the landowner to discuss access, the timeline and other important considerations, such as remediation and restoration of the disturbed land. Affected landowners and neighbours are notified in advance of excavation activities. We are committed to being a responsible pipeline operator and a good neighbour, and as such, we make every reasonable effort to keep landowners and neighbours informed and to minimize impacts of this required maintenance.

CONTACT US
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In case of pipeline emergency, call 24 hours toll free (888) 876-6711