

As a follow up to its EBB notice dated June 29, 2018, 11:29, Gas Transmission Northwest LLC (GTN), indirectly and partially owned by TransCanada PipeLines Limited (TransCanada), is informing interested parties that a chemical substance, Dithiazine, continues to appear at facilities on the GTN System, and those of some upstream and downstream connecting pipelines.

Dithiazine is a sulphur compound by-product created through the use of Triazine, a liquid chemical scavenger used by producers to remove hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) from gas streams. TransCanada has become aware that Dithiazine may drop out of the gas stream, under certain conditions, in the form of a white powder, and further chemically change to an adhesive, putty-like substance at some points of pressure reduction (for example, at a regulator) due to a temperature drop that accompanies the pressure reduction. If a sufficient quantity of the material is accumulated in certain appurtenances, it could cause them not to function properly.

As TransCanada has previously advised, multi-stage pressure regulation and/or heating of the gas stream prior to the pressure cut can mitigate against Dithiazine dropping out of the natural gas stream. In addition, periodic equipment inspections and cleaning to remove any observed solid deposits may help prevent operational issues with facility equipment.

However, due to the potential for Dithiazine to interfere with equipment–functionality, TransCanada is considering disallowing the receipt of gas that has interacted with Triazine into the GTN System if the factors contributing to the presence of Dithiazine do not change. In the event Dithiazine continues to appear at facilities on the GTN System, GTN may decide to issue an Operational Flow Order by April 1, 2019 in accordance with Section 6.30 of its FERC Gas Tariff, as amended from time to time, to maintain or restore the operational integrity of its system.

To provide additional clarity and address any questions, TransCanada invites all parties to attend a working session to be held the second week of February 2019 in Calgary, Alberta. More information to follow.

TransCanada will continue to provide stakeholders with updates as appropriate. In the meantime, GTN commercial and operations representatives are available to meet with any affected parties at their convenience, or to address any questions.