

*objective:* **stability and growth**

**positioned  
for the future**



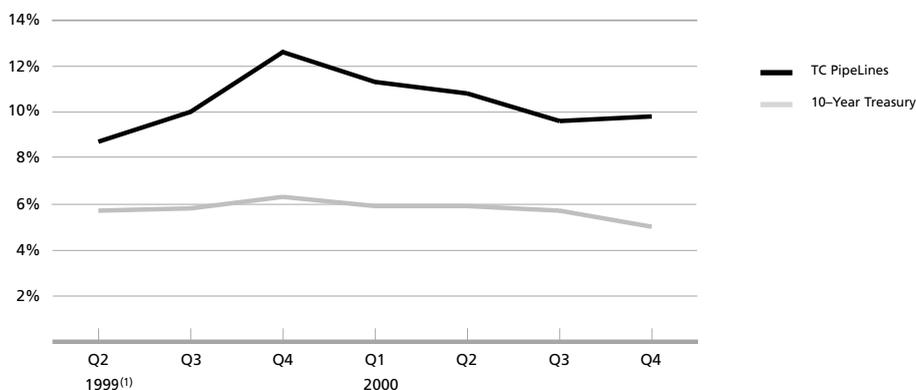
**TC PipeLines, LP**

# our profile

**TC PipeLines, LP** is a United States limited partnership that offers investors stable cash flow and growth prospects through the participation in the growth of the natural gas pipeline industry. TC PipeLines owns a 30% interest in Northern Border Pipeline Company and a 49% interest in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company. Both Northern Border Pipeline and Tuscarora own interstate pipeline systems that transport western Canadian natural gas to growing natural gas consuming markets in the Chicago and Reno areas, respectively. The Partnership is managed by its general partner, TC PipeLines GP, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of TransCanada PipeLines Limited. Common units of the Partnership are listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market and trade under the symbol TCLPZ.

## ATTRACTIVE YIELD

### TC PipeLines Yields vs. 10-Year Treasury



(1) TC PipeLines commenced operations on May 28, 1999.

## 2000 HIGHLIGHTS

### Highlights

- Project 2000, Northern Border Pipeline's expansion and 34-mile pipeline extension into northern Indiana, approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in March
- Acquisition of 49% interest in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company completed in September
- Quarterly cash distribution to unitholders increased from \$0.45 per unit to \$0.475 per unit effective for the third quarter of 2000
- Northern Border Pipeline's rate case settlement approved by the FERC in December

### Financial Highlights

	Year ended December 31,	May 28 <sup>(1)</sup> – December 31,
<i>(thousands of dollars, except per unit amounts)</i>	2000	1999
<b>Income Statement</b>		
Net income	<b>37,224</b>	20,224
Net income per unit	<b>\$ 2.08</b>	\$ 1.13
<b>Cash Flow</b>		
Cash flow from investment in Northern Border Pipeline Company	<b>40,471</b>	12,125
Cash flow from investment in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>1,499</b>	–
Cash distributions paid	<b>32,657</b>	11,037
Cash distributions per unit <sup>(3)</sup>	<b>\$ 1.850</b>	\$ 1.068

(1) TC PipeLines commenced operations on May 28, 1999.

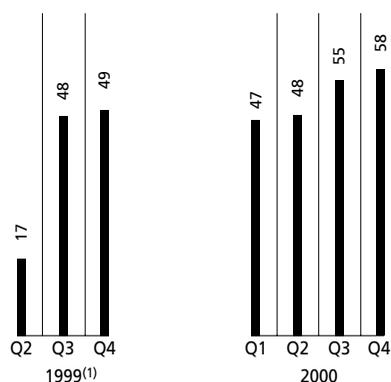
(2) TC PipeLines acquired a 49% interest in Tuscarora on September 1, 2000.

(3) Cash distributions are paid within 45 days after the end of each quarter.

## SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

### Quarterly Net Income

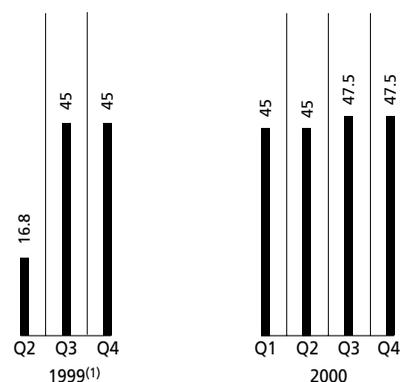
*(cents per unit)*



## PROVEN STABILITY

### Quarterly Cash Distributions

*(cents per unit)*



(1) TC PipeLines commenced operations on May 28, 1999.

## LETTER TO UNITHOLDERS

In a year when the natural gas market and equity markets experienced significant volatility, TC PipeLines demonstrated its commitment to stability and growth by delivering solid cash distributions to our unitholders. Since the time of the Partnership's initial public offering in May 1999, our objective has been two-fold: generate stable cash distributions to our unitholders and grow cash distributions in a sustainable, disciplined manner.

In measuring the Partnership's performance in 2000 relative to this objective, I am pleased to report that the Partnership has had a successful year.

A number of key events contributed to the Partnership's success in 2000. First and foremost, Northern Border Pipeline Company, of which the Partnership holds a 30% interest, generated solid financial results. With steady cash flows that are underpinned by long-term contracts and competitive rates for transporting western Canadian natural gas to the midwestern United States market, Northern Border Pipeline is an asset well-suited to enable TC PipeLines to achieve the stability desired by our unitholders. We believe Northern Border Pipeline's rate settlement agreement, which was approved by the FERC in December, further strengthens its competitive position. Project 2000, the planned expansion and 34-mile extension from Manhattan, Illinois to northern Indiana, is scheduled to be completed in November 2001 and is expected to provide near-term growth as it opens up new markets to Northern Border Pipeline.

In September, we acquired a 49% interest in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company. We believe Tuscarora demonstrates the attributes we look for when acquiring assets. The Tuscarora pipeline system has access to the natural gas reserves in the western Canadian sedimentary basin and is strategically located to serve growing natural gas demand in northern Nevada. Tuscarora also has a stable financial and operating track record, supported by long-term contracts. Furthermore, we believe that Tuscarora has near term growth potential. In January of 2001, Tuscarora completed the construction of the Hungry Valley lateral, a new

pipeline connection into the west side of the city of Reno. Upon being placed into service, the Hungry Valley lateral has provided an additional 10 million cubic feet of natural gas per day to the Reno area. We believe that as a result of projected continuing population growth, natural gas demand in the Reno area will continue to increase. Tuscarora is well positioned to take advantage of this expected growth in demand and is currently evaluating additional expansions of its mainline system to meet the expected increased demand.

Continued convergence in the energy business is expected across the continent, as natural gas continues to be the fuel of choice for new electricity generation. We expect this to contribute to strong growth in demand for natural gas in the next decade with over half of the incremental demand expected to come from the electric generation sector. To meet this demand growth, the supply of natural gas must keep pace. The western Canadian sedimentary basin, which currently supplies approximately 25% of North America's natural gas requirements, is expected to continue to be one of North America's key supply sources. Last year, an unprecedented 8,900 gas wells were drilled in the western Canadian sedimentary basin alone. As a result of these strong business fundamentals, we expect western Canadian natural gas supply to capture greater market share in the United States. Both Northern Border Pipeline and Tuscarora provide a strong infrastructure to meet this growth as they are well positioned to transport western Canadian natural gas to their respective markets.

We also continue to evaluate opportunities to grow through acquisitions. We are focused on investments of the high quality that have to date typified TC PipeLines, namely gas transmission assets which form key components of the continental grid connecting areas of growing natural gas supply to major natural gas consuming market areas. TransCanada, the parent company of our general partner, continues to view TC PipeLines as an important vehicle for realizing its gas transmission growth strategy. TransCanada is committed to providing the expertise that will make TC PipeLines successful in meeting our objective of growing cash distributions to unitholders.

On behalf of TC PipeLines, LP,



Ronald J. Turner

*President and Chief Executive Officer  
TC PipeLines GP, Inc.*

March 29, 2001

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**F O R M 10-K**

**Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000

Commission file number: 000-26091

**TC PIPELINES, LP**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**DELAWARE**

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)

**52-2135448**

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**110 TURNPIKE ROAD, SUITE 203**

**WESTBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01581**

(Address of principal executive offices)(zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **508-871-7046**

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:**

Title of each class

Name of each exchange on which registered

**NONE**

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:**

Title of each class

**COMMON UNITS**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant, based on March 9, 2001, was approximately \$273.2 million.

As of March 9, 2001, there were 14,690,694 of the registrant's common units outstanding.

**FORM 10-K INDEX**

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## FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

Certain written and oral statements made or incorporated by reference from time to time by TC PipeLines, LP, its general partner, or their representatives in this Form 10-K and other reports and filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission, news releases, conferences or otherwise, are forward-looking and relate to, among other things, anticipated financial performance, business prospects, strategies, market forces and commitments.

Much of this information appears in “Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” found herein. By its nature, such forward-looking information is subject to various risks and uncertainties, including those discussed below, which could cause TC PipeLines’ actual results and experience to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on this forward-looking information, which is as of the date of this Form 10-K, and TC PipeLines undertakes no obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Forward-looking information typically contains statements with words such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “expect,” “plan,” “target” or similar words suggesting future outcomes. The following discussion is intended to identify certain factors, though not necessarily all factors, which could cause future outcomes to differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking information.

The risks and uncertainties that may affect the operations, performance, development and results of TC PipeLines’ business and its ability to make cash distributions to unitholders include, but are not limited to, the following factors:

- regulatory decisions, particularly those of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC);
- cost of acquisitions, including related debt service payments;
- competing pipelines;
- tariff and transportation charges to be collected by Northern Border Pipeline Company for transportation services on the Northern Border pipeline system or by Tuscarora Gas

Transmission Company for transportation services on the Tuscarora pipeline system;

- the amount of cash distributed to TC PipeLines by Northern Border Pipeline or Tuscarora;
- the inability of Northern Border Pipeline or Tuscarora to maintain or increase its rate base by successfully completing FERC approved projects;
- a decline in the availability of western Canadian natural gas;
- majority control of the Northern Border Pipeline management committee by Northern Border Partners, L.P.;
- the amount of cash required to be contributed by TC PipeLines to fund the respective operations of Northern Border Pipeline or Tuscarora;
- competitive factors and pricing pressures;
- shifts in market demand;
- changes in laws and regulations, including environmental and regulatory laws;
- increases in maintenance and operating costs that are not recovered by increased transportation rates;
- prevailing economic conditions, particularly conditions of the capital and equity markets;
- the effects of required compliance with debt covenants;
- timing of completion of capital or maintenance projects;
- the availability of adequate levels of insurance;
- currency and interest rate fluctuations;
- the potential that the Internal Revenue Service could treat TC PipeLines as a corporation; and
- various events which could disrupt operations (including explosions, fires, and severe weather conditions).

**All amounts are stated in United States dollars unless otherwise indicated.**

**PART I**

## ITEM 1

**Business****BUSINESS OF TC PIPELINES, LP**

TC PipeLines, LP and its subsidiary limited partnerships, TC PipeLines Intermediate Limited Partnership and TC Tuscarora Intermediate Limited Partnership, collectively referred to herein as “TC PipeLines” or “the Partnership,” own and participate in the management of United States based pipeline assets. TC PipeLines GP, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of TransCanada Pipelines Limited, is the general partner of the Partnership.

On May 28, 1999, the Partnership issued 14,300,000 common units (11,500,000 to the public and 2,800,000 to an affiliate of the general partner) in its initial public offering for net proceeds of \$274.6 million. The Partnership used the net proceeds from this offering, along with 3,200,000 subordinated units, an aggregate 2% general partner interest and incentive distribution rights, to acquire the collective 30% general partner interest in Northern Border Pipeline previously held by TransCanada Border PipeLine Ltd. and TransCan Northern Ltd., affiliates of the general partner. The remaining 70% general partner interest in Northern Border Pipeline is held by Northern Border Partners, L.P., a publicly traded limited partnership that is not affiliated with TC PipeLines.

Subsequent to the initial public offering, the underwriters exercised a portion of their over-allotment option and purchased 390,694 additional common units for net proceeds to the Partnership of \$7.5 million. The Partnership used these proceeds to redeem an equal number of subordinated units held by the general partner.

The general partner holds an aggregate 2% general partner interest in the Partnership. The general partner also owns 2,809,306 subordinated units and is entitled to incentive distribution rights if quarterly cash distributions on the common and subordinated units exceed specified levels (see Item 5. – Market for Registrant’s Common Units and Related Security Holder Matters).

On September 1, 2000, TC PipeLines, based on the approval by a committee comprised of its independent directors, acquired a 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company. The Partnership acquired this asset from TCPL Tuscarora Ltd., an indirect subsidiary of TransCanada, for a purchase price of \$28.0 million. The Partnership borrowed \$24.5 million from the Revolving Credit Facility (see Item 7. – Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Liquidity and Capital Resources of TC PipeLines, LP – General) to fund a portion of the purchase price. The remainder of the purchase price was funded with cash on hand.

For the year ended December 31, 2000, the Partnership's 30% general partner interest in Northern Border Pipeline and 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora represent its only material assets.

## BUSINESS OF NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

### *General*

Northern Border Pipeline is a general partnership formed in 1978. The general partners are TC PipeLines and Northern Border Partners, both of which are publicly traded partnerships. Each of TC PipeLines and Northern Border Partners holds its interest in Northern Border Pipeline, 30% and 70% of voting power, respectively, through a subsidiary limited partnership. The general partner of TC PipeLines is TC PipeLines GP, Inc., a subsidiary of TransCanada. The general partners of Northern Border Partners and its subsidiary limited partnership are Northern Plains Natural Gas Company and Pan Border Gas Company, both subsidiaries of Enron Corp., and Northwest Border Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of The Williams Companies, Inc.

Northern Border Pipeline owns an interstate pipeline system that transports natural gas from the Montana-Saskatchewan border to natural gas markets in the midwestern United States. The Northern Border pipeline system connects with multiple pipelines, that provide shippers with access to the various natural gas markets served by those pipelines. In the year ended December 31, 2000, TC PipeLines estimates that Northern Border Pipeline transported approximately 22% of the total amount of natural gas imported from Canada to the United States. Over the same period, approximately 90% of the natural gas transported was produced in the western Canadian sedimentary basin located in the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

Northern Border Pipeline transports gas for shippers under a tariff regulated by the FERC. The tariff specifies the calculation of amounts to be paid by shippers and the general terms and conditions of transportation service on the pipeline system. Northern Border Pipeline derives revenue from agreements for the receipt and delivery of gas at points along the pipeline system as specified in each shipper's individual transportation contract. Northern Border Pipeline does not own the gas that it transports, and therefore it does not assume the related natural gas commodity risk.

The management of Northern Border Pipeline is overseen by a four-member management committee. One representative is designated by TC PipeLines; three representatives are designated by Northern Border Partners, with each of its general partners selecting one representative. Voting power on the management committee is presently allocated among Northern Border Partners' three representatives in proportion to their general partner interests in Northern Border Partners. As a result, the 70% voting power of Northern Border Partners'

three representatives on the management committee is allocated as follows: 35% to the representative designated by Northern Plains, 22.75% to the representative designated by Pan Border and 12.25% to the representative designated by Northwest Border. Northern Plains and Pan Border are subsidiaries of Enron Corp. Therefore, Enron controls 57.75% of the voting power of the management committee and has the right to select two of the members of the management committee.

The Northern Border pipeline system is operated by Northern Plains pursuant to an operating agreement. As of December 31, 2000, Northern Plains employed approximately 200 individuals located at the operating headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska, and at various locations along the pipeline route. Northern Plains' employees are not represented by any labor union and are not covered by any collective bargaining agreements.

#### *The Northern Border Pipeline System*

Northern Border Pipeline owns a 1,214-mile United States interstate pipeline system that transports natural gas from the Montana-Saskatchewan border near Port of Morgan, Montana, to interconnecting pipelines in the upper Midwest of the United States. Construction of the Northern Border pipeline system was initially completed in 1982 and was expanded and/or extended in 1991, 1992 and 1998.

The Northern Border pipeline system has pipeline access to natural gas reserves in the western Canadian sedimentary basin in the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan, as well as the Williston Basin in the United States. The Northern Border pipeline system also has access to synthetic gas produced at the Dakota Gasification plant in North Dakota. For the year ended December 31, 2000, of the natural gas transported on the system, approximately 90% was produced in Canada, approximately 5% was produced by the Dakota Gasification plant, and approximately 5% was produced in the Williston Basin.

The Northern Border pipeline system consists of 822 miles of 42-inch diameter pipe designed to transport 2,373 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) from the Canadian border to Ventura, Iowa; 30-inch diameter pipe and 36-inch diameter pipe, each approximately 147 miles in length, designed to transport 1,300 mmcf in total from Ventura, Iowa to Harper, Iowa; and 226 miles of 36-inch diameter pipe and 19 miles of 30-inch diameter pipe designed to transport 645 mmcf from Harper, Iowa to a terminus near Manhattan, Illinois (Chicago area). Along the pipeline there are 15 compressor stations with total rated horsepower of 476,500 and measurement facilities to support the receipt and delivery of gas at various points. Other facilities include four field offices and a microwave communication system with 51 tower sites.

At its northern end, the Northern Border pipeline system is connected to TransCanada's majority-owned Foothills Pipe Lines (Sask.) Ltd. system in Canada, which is connected to TransCanada's Alberta System and the pipeline system owned by Transgas Limited in

Saskatchewan. The Alberta System gathers and transports approximately 18% of the total North American natural gas production and approximately 74% of the natural gas produced in the western Canadian sedimentary basin. The Northern Border pipeline system also connects with facilities of Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline at Glen Ullin and Buford, North Dakota, facilities of Amerada Hess Corporation at Watford City, North Dakota and facilities of Dakota Gasification Company at Hebron, North Dakota in the northern portion of the Northern Border pipeline system.

### *Interconnects*

The Northern Border pipeline system connects with multiple pipelines that provide its shippers with access to the various natural gas markets served by those pipelines. The Northern Border pipeline system interconnects with pipeline facilities of:

- Northern Natural Gas Company, an Enron subsidiary, at Ventura, Iowa as well as multiple smaller interconnections in South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa;
- Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America at Harper, Iowa;
- MidAmerican Energy Company at Iowa City and Davenport, Iowa and Cordova, Illinois;
- Alliant Power Company at Prophetstown, Illinois;
- Northern Illinois Gas Company at Troy Grove and Minooka, Illinois;
- Midwestern Gas Transmission Company near Channahon, Illinois;
- ANR Pipeline Company near Manhattan, Illinois; and
- The Peoples Gas Light and Coke Company near Manhattan, Illinois at the terminus of the Northern Border pipeline system.

The Ventura, Iowa interconnect with Northern Natural Gas Company functions as a large market center, where natural gas transported on the Northern Border pipeline system is sold, traded and received for transport to significant consuming markets in the Midwest and to interconnecting pipeline facilities destined for other markets.

### *Shippers*

The Northern Border pipeline system serves more than 50 firm transportation shippers with diverse operating and financial profiles. Based upon shippers' contractual obligations, as of December 31, 2000, 92% of the firm capacity is contracted by producers and marketers. The remaining firm capacity is contracted to local distribution companies (5%), interstate pipelines (2%) and end-users (1%). As of December 31, 2000, the termination dates of these contracts ranged from October 31, 2001 to December 21, 2013 and the weighted average contract life, based upon annual contractual obligations, was approximately six years with just under 99% of capacity contracted through mid-September 2003.

Based on their proportionate shares of capacity, as of December 31, 2000, the five largest shippers are: Pan-Alberta Gas (U.S.) Inc. (25.5%), TransCanada Energy Marketing USA, Inc. (11.4%), PanCanadian Energy Services Inc (7.3%), Enron North America Corp. (6.3%) and Engage Energy US, LP. (5.4%). The 20 largest shippers, in total, are responsible for approximately 93% of total revenues.

As of December 31, 2000, Northern Border Pipeline's largest shipper, Pan-Alberta, holds firm capacity of 690 mmcf/d under three contracts with terms to October 31, 2003. An affiliate of Enron provides guaranties for 300 mmcf/d of Pan-Alberta's contractual obligations through October 31, 2001. In addition, Pan-Alberta's remaining capacity is supported by various credit support arrangements, including, among others, a letter of credit, a guaranty from an interstate pipeline company through October 31, 2001 for 132 mmcf/d, an escrow account and an upstream capacity transfer agreement. Mirant Americas Energy Marketing, LP, formerly Southern Company Energy Marketing L.P., manages the assets of Pan-Alberta Gas, Ltd., which include Pan-Alberta's contracts with Northern Border Pipeline.

Some of Northern Border Pipeline's shippers are affiliated with the general partners of TC PipeLines and Northern Border Partners. TransCanada Energy Marketing USA, Inc., a subsidiary of TransCanada, holds firm contracts representing 11.4% of capacity. Enron North America Corp., a subsidiary of Enron, holds firm contracts representing 6.3% of capacity. Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation, a subsidiary of Williams, holds a contract representing 0.8% of capacity.

#### *Demand For Transportation Capacity*

Northern Border Pipeline's long-term financial condition is dependent on the continued availability of economic western Canadian natural gas for import into the United States. Natural gas reserves may require significant capital expenditures by others for exploration and development drilling and the installation of production, gathering, storage, transportation and other facilities that permit natural gas to be produced and delivered to pipelines that interconnect with the Northern Border pipeline system. Low prices for natural gas, regulatory limitations or the lack of available capital for these projects could adversely affect the development of additional reserves and production, gathering, storage and pipeline transmission of western Canadian natural gas supplies. Additional pipeline export capacity also could accelerate depletion of these reserves.

Northern Border Pipeline's business depends in part on the level of demand for western Canadian natural gas in the markets the pipeline system serves. The volumes of natural gas delivered to these markets from other sources affect the demand for both western Canadian natural gas and use of the Northern Border pipeline system. Demand for western Canadian natural gas to serve other markets also influences the ability and willingness of shippers to use the Northern Border pipeline system to meet demand in the markets that the Northern Border pipeline system serves.

A variety of factors could affect the demand for natural gas in the markets that the Northern Border pipeline system serves. These factors include:

- economic conditions;
- fuel conservation measures;
- alternative energy requirements and prices;
- climatic conditions;
- government regulation; and
- technological advances in fuel economy and energy generation devices.

TC PipeLines cannot predict whether these or other factors will have an adverse effect on demand for use of the Northern Border pipeline system or how significant that adverse effect could be.

#### *Future Demand and Competition*

On March 16, 2000, the FERC issued an order granting Northern Border Pipeline's application for a certificate to construct and operate Northern Border Pipeline's proposed Project 2000 facilities. Project 2000 will expand and extend the Northern Border pipeline system into Indiana. Project 2000 will afford shippers on Northern Border's extended pipeline system access to industrial gas consumers in northern Indiana through an interconnect with Northern Indiana Public Service Company, a major midwest local distribution company, at the terminus near North Hayden, Indiana.

The capital expenditures for Project 2000 are estimated to be approximately \$94 million with a planned in-service date of November 2001. Proposed facilities include approximately 34.4 miles of 30-inch pipeline, new equipment and modifications at three compressor stations resulting in a net increase of 22,500 compressor horsepower, and one meter station.

As a result of the Project 2000 expansion, the Northern Border pipeline system will have the ability to transport 1,484 mmcf from Ventura to Harper, Iowa, 844 mmcf from Harper to Manhattan, Illinois, and 544 mmcf on the new extension from Manhattan to North Hayden, Indiana. Five shippers have contracted for all the additional capacity under long-term transportation agreements.

The Project 2000 shippers are: Bethlehem Steel Corporation, El Paso Energy Marketing Company, Northern Indiana Public Service Company, Peoples Energy Services Corporation and The Peoples Gas Light and Coke Company.

Northern Border Pipeline competes with other pipeline companies that transport natural gas from the western Canadian sedimentary basin or that transport natural gas to markets in the midwestern United States. The competitors for the supply of natural gas include six pipelines and the Canadian domestic users in the western Canadian sedimentary basin region. Northern

Border Pipeline's competitive position is affected by the availability of Canadian natural gas for export, the prices of natural gas in alternative markets, the cost of producing natural gas in Canada, and demand for natural gas in the United States.

Alliance Pipeline, which commenced transporting natural gas from the western Canadian sedimentary basin to the midwestern United States in December 2000, delivers its volumes into the Chicago market and other interstate pipelines. Alliance Pipeline transports for its shippers gas containing high-energy liquid hydrocarbons. Additional facilities to extract the natural gas liquids were constructed near Alliance Pipeline's terminus in Chicago to permit Alliance to transport natural gas with the liquids-rich element.

As a consequence of Alliance Pipeline, there has been an increase in the volume of natural gas moving from the western Canadian sedimentary basin to Chicago. Vector Pipeline L.P. interconnects with Alliance and transports gas eastward to a terminus in eastern Canada. There are several additional projects proposed to transport natural gas from the Chicago area that would provide access to additional markets for the shippers. The proposed projects currently being pursued by third parties are targeting markets in northern Illinois, Wisconsin, and the northeast United States. These proposed projects are in various stages of regulatory approval.

Williams has a minority interest (14.6%) in the Alliance Pipeline. TransCanada and other unaffiliated companies own and operate pipeline systems that transport natural gas from the same natural gas reserves in western Canada that supply Northern Border Pipeline's customers.

Natural gas is also produced in the United States and transported by competing pipeline systems to the same destinations as the Northern Border pipeline system.

#### *FERC Regulation*

GENERAL Northern Border Pipeline is subject to extensive regulation by the FERC as a "natural gas company" under the Natural Gas Act. Under the Natural Gas Act and the Natural Gas Policy Act, the FERC has jurisdiction with respect to virtually all aspects of the business, including:

- transportation of natural gas;
- rates and charges;
- construction of new facilities;
- extension or abandonment of service and facilities;
- accounts and records;
- depreciation and amortization policies;
- the acquisition and disposition of facilities; and
- the initiation and discontinuation of services.

Where required, Northern Border Pipeline holds certificates of public convenience and necessity issued by the FERC covering the facilities, activities and services. Under Section 8 of the Natural Gas Act, the FERC has the power to prescribe the accounting treatment for items for regulatory purposes. Northern Border Pipeline's books and records are periodically audited under Section 8.

The FERC regulates the rates and charges for transportation in interstate commerce. Natural gas companies may not charge rates exceeding rates judged just and reasonable by the FERC. In addition, the FERC prohibits natural gas companies from unduly preferring or unreasonably discriminating against any person with respect to pipeline rates or terms and conditions of service. Some types of rates may be discounted without further FERC authorization.

**NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE RATE CASE PROCEEDING** In May 1999, Northern Border Pipeline filed a rate case wherein it proposed, among other things, to increase the allowed equity rate of return to 15.25%. The total annual cost of service increase due to the proposed changes was approximately \$30 million. A number of the shippers and competing pipelines filed interventions and protests. In June 1999, the FERC issued an order in which the proposed changes were suspended until December 1, 1999, after which they were implemented with subsequent billings subject to refund. The order set for hearing not only the proposed changes but also several issues raised by intervenors including the appropriateness of the cost of service form of tariff and the depreciation schedule. Upon a request for clarification, the FERC issued an order in August 1999 that provided the manner in which the costs of the recently completed expansion and extension project (The Chicago Project) could be recovered from shippers may be examined in this proceeding and that, while Northern Border Pipeline had not proposed to change the depreciation rates approved in the last rate case, it had the burden of proving that the depreciation rates are just and reasonable.

On September 26, 2000, Northern Border Pipeline filed a stipulation and agreement in its 1999 rate case proceeding that documented a settlement. On December 13, 2000, the FERC issued its order approving the terms of the settlement. One of the important elements of the settlement is the conversion of Northern Border Pipeline's form of tariff from cost of service to stated rates based on a straight-fixed variable rate design. Under the former cost of service tariff, the firm transportation shippers contracted to pay for a proportionate share of Northern Border Pipeline's cost of service. During any given month, each of these shippers paid a uniform mileage-based charge for the amount of capacity contracted, and calculated under a cost of service tariff. The shippers were obligated to pay their proportionate share of the cost of service regardless of the amount of natural gas they actually transported. Under the cost of service form of tariff, Northern Border Pipeline could not charge or collect more than the cost of service. Under Northern Border Pipeline's new form of tariff, shippers pay Northern Border Pipeline on the basis of stated transportation rates. Under the terms of the settlement, and in accordance

with straight-fixed variable rate design principles, approximately 98% of the agreed upon revenue level is attributed to demand charges. The firm shippers are obligated to pay a monthly demand charge, regardless of the amount of natural gas they actually transport, for the term of their contracts. The remaining 2% of the agreed upon revenue level is attributed to the commodity charge based on the volumes of gas actually transported. From December 1, 1999, through and including December 31, 2000, the rates were based upon an annual revenue level of \$307 million. For periods after December 31, 2000, the rates are based upon an annual revenue level of \$305 million. On a per unit of transportation basis, the rates under the new tariff are approximately equal to the cost of service on a per unit basis charged prior to December 1, 1999. The settlement also provides that neither Northern Border Pipelines nor its existing shippers can seek rate changes until November 1, 2005, at which time Northern Border Pipeline must file a new rate case. Prior to the new rate case, Northern Border Pipeline will not be permitted to increase rates if its costs increase, nor will Northern Boarder Pipeline be required to reduce rates based on cost savings. Northern Border Pipeline's earnings and cash flow will depend on its future costs, contracted capacity, the volumes of gas transported and its ability to recontract capacity at acceptable rates.

Under Northern Border Pipeline's previous cost of service tariff, the amount of revenue that Northern Border Pipeline collected from customers generally declined as the rate base was recovered. Under its new tariff, Northern Border Pipeline is entitled to collect revenue based on stated rates established in its 1999 rate case until its next rate case, which will be filed November 1, 2005. Northern Border Pipeline will, however, continue to depreciate its rate base at an annual depreciation rate on transmission plant in service of 2.25% and Northern Border Pipeline's rate base in 2005 will be a factor in determining what Northern Border Pipeline can charge when it files a new rate case at that time. In order to avoid a decline in the revenue Northern Border Pipeline can collect from its customers, Northern Border Pipeline must maintain or increase its rate base by acquiring or constructing assets that replace or add to existing pipeline facilities or by adding new facilities and maintain its level of contracted capacity at the stated rates.

It was agreed in the settlement of the 1999 rate case, that there would be no project cost containment mechanism adjustment for The Chicago Project and that all costs as of November 30, 1999 incurred in the construction and commissioning of The Chicago Project be included in rate base. The project cost containment mechanism was created in the settlement of the 1995 rate case. The purpose of the project cost containment mechanism was to limit Northern Border Pipeline's ability to include cost overruns for The Chicago Project in rate base and to provide incentives for cost underruns.

The settlement of Northern Border Pipeline's 1995 rate case, provided that for at least seven years from the date The Chicago Project was completed, Northern Border Pipeline could continue to calculate the allowance for income taxes in the manner it had historically used. In addition, a settlement adjustment mechanism of \$31 million was implemented, which effectively reduces the return on rate base. These provisions of the 1995 rate case were maintained in the settlement of Northern Border Pipeline's 1999 rate case.

Northern Border Pipeline also provides interruptible transportation service. Interruptible transportation service is transportation in circumstances when surplus capacity is available after satisfying firm service requests. The maximum rate that may be charged to interruptible shippers is calculated as the sum of the firm transportation Rate Schedule T-1 maximum reservation charge and commodity rate. Under Northern Border Pipeline's previous cost of service form of tariff, all interruptible transportation service revenue generated was credited to the benefit of the firm shippers. Under Northern Border Pipeline's new tariff, Northern Border Pipeline shares net interruptible transportation service revenue and any new services revenue on an equal basis with Northern Border Pipeline's firm shippers through October 31, 2003. In addition, Northern Border Pipeline is permitted to retain revenue from interruptible transportation service to offset any decontracted firm capacity.

After October 31, 2003, all revenues from interruptible transportation service and other new services will no longer be subject to sharing and thus will be retained by Northern Border Pipeline. In addition, the settlement of the 1999 rate case also provided for an equal sharing with Northern Border Pipeline's firm shippers of revenue generated from a certain telecommunications contract for the term of that contract. Northern Border Pipeline intends to develop new services and seek the FERC's authorization to implement such services. While the receipt of those approvals and the future impact of the revenue sharing provisions of the settlement on Northern Border Pipeline's earnings cannot be determined at this time, revenues from these sources are expected to be minimal through at least October 31, 2003.

**OPEN ACCESS REGULATION** Beginning on April 8, 1992, the FERC issued a series of orders, known as Order 636, which required pipeline companies to unbundle their services and offer sales, transportation, storage, gathering and other services separately, to provide all transportation services on a basis that is equal in quality for all shippers and to implement a program to allow firm holders of pipeline capacity to resell or release their capacity to other shippers. Capacity release provisions were adopted that allowed shippers to release all or part of their capacity either permanently or temporarily. Shippers on the Northern Border pipeline system have temporarily released capacity as well as permanently released capacity to other shippers who have agreed to comply with the underlying contractual and regulatory obligations associated with that capacity.

Beginning in 1996, the FERC issued a series of orders, referred to together as Order 587, amending its open access regulations to standardize business practices and procedures governing transactions between interstate natural gas pipelines, their customers, and others doing business with the pipelines. The intent of Order 587 was to assist shippers that deal with more than one pipeline by establishing standardized business practices and procedures. These business standards, developed by the Gas Industry Standards Board, govern important business practices including shipper supplied service nominations, allocation of available capacity, accounting and invoicing of transportation service, standardized internet business transactions and capacity release. Northern Border Pipeline has implemented the necessary changes to its tariff and internal systems.

In 1998, the FERC initiated a number of proceedings to further amend its open access regulations. In the resulting order, Order 637 issued February 9, 2000, the FERC revised the short-term transportation regulations by 1) waiving the maximum rate ceiling in its capacity release regulations until September 30, 2002 for short-term releases of capacity of less than one year; 2) permitting value-oriented peak/off-peak rates to better allocate revenue responsibility between short-term and long-term markets; 3) permitting term-differentiated rates to better allocate risks between shippers and the pipelines; 4) revising the regulations related to scheduling procedures, capacity segmentation, imbalance management and penalties; 5) retaining the right of first refusal and the five-year matching cap but limiting the right to customers with maximum rate contracts for 12 or more consecutive months of service; and 6) adopting new reporting requirements to take effect September 1, 2000 that include reporting daily transactional data on all firm and interruptible contracts, daily reporting of scheduled quantities at points or segments, and the posting of corporate and pipeline organizational charts, names and functions. As required by Order No. 637, Northern Border Pipeline filed pro forma tariff sheets in compliance to address the issues identified in 4) above. This filing is pending at the FERC. All other related compliance filings and reporting requirements have been completed and implemented.

TC PipeLines does not believe these regulatory initiatives will have a material adverse impact to Northern Border Pipeline's operations.

#### *Environmental and Safety Matters*

Northern Border Pipeline's operations are subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to safety and the protection of the environment which include the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, Clean Air Act, as amended, the Clean Water Act, as amended, the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1969, as amended, and the Pipeline Safety Act of 1992.

Although TC PipeLines believes that Northern Border Pipeline's operations and facilities are in general compliance in all material respects with applicable environmental and safety regulations, risks of substantial costs and liabilities are inherent in pipeline operations, and TC PipeLines cannot provide any assurances that Northern Border Pipeline will not incur such costs and liabilities. Moreover, it is possible that other developments, such as increasingly strict environmental and safety laws, regulations and enforcement policies thereunder, and claims for damages to property or persons resulting from Northern Border Pipeline's operations, could result in substantial costs and liabilities to Northern Border Pipeline. If Northern Border Pipeline is unable to recover such resulting costs, earnings and cash distributions could be adversely affected.

## BUSINESS OF TUSCARORA GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY

Tuscarora is a Nevada general partnership that was formed in 1993. Its general partners are TC Tuscarora Intermediate Limited Partnership, a direct subsidiary of TC PipeLines, which holds a 49% general partner interest, Tuscarora Gas Pipeline Co., a wholly owned subsidiary of Sierra Pacific Resources Company, which holds a 50% general partner interest and TCPL Tuscarora Ltd., an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of TransCanada, which holds a 1% general partner interest.

The management of Tuscarora is overseen by a management committee that determines the policies of, has authority over the affairs of, and approves the actions of Tuscarora. The management committee participates in the management of the construction, maintenance and operation of the Tuscarora pipeline system.

Under the Tuscarora partnership agreement, voting control is allocated among Tuscarora's three general partners in proportion to their general partner interests in Tuscarora. As a result, TC PipeLines has a 49% voting interest, Sierra Pacific has a 50% voting interest, and TransCanada has a 1% voting interest on the Tuscarora management committee. Tuscarora Gas Operating Company, a subsidiary of Sierra Pacific, operates the Tuscarora pipeline system pursuant to an operating agreement.

### *The Tuscarora Pipeline System*

Tuscarora owns a 229-mile, 20-inch diameter, United States interstate pipeline system that originates at an interconnection point with facilities of PG&E Gas Transmission - Northwest near Malin, Oregon and runs southeast through northeastern California and northwestern Nevada. The Tuscarora pipeline system terminates near Reno, Nevada at the Tracy Power Plant. Deliveries are also made directly to the local gas distribution system of Sierra Pacific. Along its route, deliveries are made in Oregon, northern California and northwestern Nevada.

The Tuscarora pipeline system was constructed in 1995 and was placed into service in December 1995. The Tuscarora pipeline system has the capacity to transport, on a firm basis, approximately 124 mmcf. TC PipeLines believes that the Tuscarora pipeline system has the potential to be economically expanded up to approximately 240 mmcf.

Tuscarora has firm transportation contracts for over 94% of its capacity, including a contract for 92% of the capacity held by Sierra Pacific Power Company, a subsidiary of Sierra Pacific, which expires on November 30, 2015. As of December 31, 2000, the weighted average contract life on the Tuscarora pipeline system was approximately 15 years.

In December 2000, Tuscarora commenced construction of the Hungry Valley lateral, a 16-mile, 16-inch pipeline extension to serve as Tuscarora's second connection into Reno, Nevada. Sierra Pacific Power holds firm capacity on the lateral for approximately 10 mmcf under a 15-year firm transportation contract. The project was completed in January 2001 at a capital cost of approximately \$10.7 million.

Tuscarora's competitive position is dependent on the continued availability of economic western Canadian natural gas for import into the United States and on the level of demand for western Canadian natural gas in the markets the Tuscarora pipeline system serves. Shippers of natural gas from the western Canadian sedimentary basin have other options for transporting Canadian natural gas to the United States, including transportation on pipelines eastward in Canada or to markets on the west coast of the United States and Canada. Similarly, natural gas produced in the United States serves the same markets as Tuscarora in northern Nevada. However, TC PipeLines believes Tuscarora has a well diversified natural gas supply which allows it to transport both Canadian and United States natural gas.

In 2000, Tuscarora embarked on a public solicitation for additional capacity on its system. Based on the results of the solicitation, Tuscarora is currently evaluating expanding its pipeline system. TC PipeLines expects Tuscarora to file an application in the first half of 2001 with the FERC for approval to expand the Tuscarora pipeline system. At this time, TC PipeLines can give no assurance that Tuscarora will decide to or be able to expand its pipeline system.

#### *FERC Regulation*

Tuscarora is subject to regulation by the FERC as a "natural gas company" under the Natural Gas Act, and is subject to the FERC's rules, regulations and accounting procedures.

Tuscarora generates revenues from individual transportation contracts with shippers that provide for the receipt and delivery of natural gas at points along the Tuscarora pipeline system. Tuscarora's transportation rates are based on its cost of service as approved by the FERC. Tuscarora's cost of service includes administrative and operating costs, depreciation and amortization, taxes other than income taxes, an allowance for income taxes and a regulated return on capital employed.

#### *Environmental and Safety Matters*

Tuscarora's operations are subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to safety and protection of the environment. TC PipeLines believes that Tuscarora's operations and facilities comply in all material respects with applicable United States environmental and safety regulations.

## ITEM 2

### **Properties**

TC PipeLines does not hold the right, title or interest in any properties.

Northern Border Pipeline holds the right, title and interest in its pipeline system. With respect to real property, the Northern Border pipeline system falls into two basic categories: (a) parcels which it owns in fee, such as certain of the compressor stations, meter stations, pipeline field office sites, and microwave tower sites; and (b) parcels where Northern Border Pipeline's interest derives from leases, easements, rights-of-way, permits or licenses from landowners or

governmental authorities permitting the use of such land for the construction and operation of the Northern Border pipeline system. The right to construct and operate the Northern Border pipeline across certain property was obtained by Northern Border Pipeline through exercise of the power of eminent domain. Northern Border Pipeline continues to have the power of eminent domain in each of the states in which it operates its pipeline system, although Northern Border Pipeline may not have the power of eminent domain with respect to Native American tribal lands.

Approximately 90 miles of the Northern Border pipeline system is located on fee, allotted and tribal lands within the exterior boundaries of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in Montana. Tribal lands are lands owned in trust by the United States for the Fort Peck Tribes and allotted lands are lands owned in trust by the United States for an individual Indian or Indians. Northern Border Pipeline does have the right of eminent domain with respect to allotted lands.

In 1980, Northern Border Pipeline entered into a pipeline right-of-way lease with the Fort Peck Tribal Executive Board, for and on behalf of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. This pipeline right-of-way lease, which was approved by the Department of the Interior in 1981, granted to Northern Border Pipeline the right and privilege to construct and operate its pipeline on certain tribal lands. This lease expires in 2011.

In conjunction with obtaining a pipeline right-of-way lease across tribal lands located within the exterior boundaries of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Northern Border Pipeline also obtained a right-of-way across allotted lands located within the reservation boundaries. This right-of-way on allotted lands is either a perpetual easement or for a term of years. Most of the allotted lands are subject to a perpetual easement either granted, by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for and on behalf of individual Indian owners, or obtained through condemnation. Several tracts are subject to a right-of-way grant that has a term of 15 years.

Tuscarora holds the right, title and interest in its pipeline system. Tuscarora owns all of its material equipment and personal property and leases office space in Reno, Nevada. With respect to real property, Tuscarora's ownership falls into two basic categories (a) parcels which it owns in fee, including meter stations; and (b) parcels where its interest derives from leases, easements, grants, temporary use of permits or licenses from landowners or governmental authorities permitting the use of the land for the construction and operation of its pipeline system.

### ITEM 3

#### **Litigation**

TC PipeLines is not currently a party to any material legal proceedings.

Neither Northern Border Pipeline nor Tuscarora are currently party to any material legal proceedings that, individually or in the aggregate, would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse impact on TC PipeLines' results of operations or financial position.

## ITEM 4

**Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders**

There were no matters submitted to a vote of security holders, through solicitation of proxies or otherwise, during the year ended December 31, 2000.

**PART II**

## ITEM 5

**Market for the Registrant's Common Units and Related Security Holder Matters**

The common units, representing limited partner interests in the Partnership, were issued pursuant to an initial public offering at a price of \$20.50 per common unit. The common units are quoted on the Nasdaq Stock Market and trade under the symbol "TCLPZ". The common units began trading on May 28, 1999.

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low sale prices per common unit, as reported by the Nasdaq Stock Market, and the amount of cash distributions per common unit paid with respect to the corresponding periods.

	Price Range		Cash Distributions
	High	Low	Paid per Unit <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>2000</b>			
First Quarter	<b>\$18.375</b>	<b>\$14.000</b>	<b>\$0.4500</b>
Second Quarter	<b>\$17.000</b>	<b>\$14.500</b>	<b>\$0.4500</b>
Third Quarter	<b>\$20.375</b>	<b>\$16.125</b>	<b>\$0.4750</b>
Fourth Quarter	<b>\$20.500</b>	<b>\$17.875</b>	<b>\$0.4750</b>
<b>1999</b>			
Second Quarter <sup>(2)</sup>	\$21.000	\$20.375	\$0.1681
Third Quarter	\$20.625	\$17.625	\$0.4500
Fourth Quarter	\$18.500	\$13.875	\$0.4500

(1) Cash distributions are paid within 45 days after the end of each quarter.

(2) The Partnership commenced operations on May 28, 1999.

As of March 9, 2001, there were approximately 76 record holders of common units and approximately 5,353 beneficial owners of the common units, including common units held in street name.

The Partnership currently has 14,690,694 common units outstanding, of which 11,890,694 are held by the public and 2,800,000 are held by an affiliate of the general partner. The Partnership also has 2,809,306 subordinated units outstanding, all of which are held by the general partner, for which there is no established public trading market. The common units and the subordinated units represent an aggregate 98% limited partner interest and the general partner interest represents an aggregate 2% general partner interest in the Partnership.

In general, the general partner is entitled to 2% of all cash distributions and the holders of common units and subordinated units (collectively referred to as unitholders) are entitled to the remaining 98% of all cash distributions. The Partnership will make quarterly cash distributions to its partners (including holders of subordinated units), comprising all of its Available Cash. Available Cash is defined in the partnership agreement and generally means, with respect to any quarter of the Partnership, all cash on hand at the end of such quarter less the amount of cash reserves that is necessary or appropriate in the reasonable discretion of the general partner to (i) provide for the proper conduct of the business of the Partnership (including reserves for future capital expenditures and for anticipated credit needs), (ii) comply with applicable laws or any Partnership debt instrument or agreement, or (iii) provide funds for cash distributions to unitholders and the general partner in respect of any one or more of the next four quarters. Distributions of Available Cash to the holder of subordinated units are subject to the prior rights of the holders of common units to receive the minimum quarterly distribution for each quarter while the subordinated units are outstanding (subordination period), and to receive any arrearages in the cash distribution of minimum quarterly distributions on the common units for prior quarters during the subordination period. The partnership agreement defines the minimum quarterly distribution as \$0.45 for each full fiscal quarter (prorated for the initial partial fiscal quarter commencing May 28, 1999, the closing date of the initial public offering, through June 30, 1999). The subordination period will generally not end before June 30, 2004. Upon expiration of the subordination period, all subordinated units will be converted on a one-for-one basis into common units and will participate pro rata with all other common units in future distributions of Available Cash. Under certain circumstances, up to 66.7% of the subordinated units may convert into common units prior to the expiration of the subordination period.

The general partner is entitled to incentive distributions if the amount distributed with respect to any quarter exceeds the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.45 per common unit. Under the incentive distribution provisions, the general partner is entitled to 15% of amounts distributed in excess of \$0.45 per common unit, 25% of amounts distributed in excess of \$0.5275 per common unit, and 50% of amounts distributed in excess of \$0.69 per common unit. The amounts that trigger incentive distributions at various levels are subject to adjustment in certain events, as described in the partnership agreement.

On September 5, 2000, the Partnership announced an increase in the quarterly cash distribution from \$0.45 per unit to \$0.475 per unit for the third quarter cash distribution, which was paid on November 14, 2000. As a result, the first tier of incentive distributions has been achieved.

In 2000, the Partnership made cash distributions to the limited partners and the general partner that amounted to \$32.7 million. These payments represented the \$0.45 per unit minimum quarterly cash distribution for the quarters ended December 31, 1999, March 31, 2000 and June 30, 2000 and \$0.475 per unit for the quarter ended September 30, 2000. On February 14, 2001,

the Partnership paid a cash distribution of \$8.5 million to the limited partners and the general partner, representing a cash distribution of \$0.475 per unit for the quarter ended December 31, 2000.

## ITEM 6

**Selected Financial Data**

The selected financial data should be read in conjunction with the financial statements, including the notes thereto, and Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

## TC PIPELINES, LP

<i>(thousands of dollars, except per unit amounts)</i>	Year ended December 31, 2000	May 28 <sup>(1)</sup> – December 31, 1999
<b>Income Data:</b>		
Equity income from investment in Northern Border Pipeline	38,119	20,923
Equity income from investment in Tuscarora <sup>(2)</sup>	943	–
General and administrative expenses	(1,337)	(699)
Financial charges and other	(501)	–
Net Income	<b>37,224</b>	<b>20,224</b>
Basic and fully diluted net income per unit	<b>\$2.08</b>	<b>\$1.13</b>
Units outstanding (thousands)	<b>17,500</b>	<b>17,500</b>
<b>Cash Flow Data:</b>		
Net cash provided by operating activities	<b>40,366</b>	<b>11,832</b>
Distributions paid	<b>32,657</b>	<b>11,037</b>
<b>Balance Sheet Data (at end of period):</b>		
Investment in Northern Border Pipeline	<b>248,098</b>	<b>250,450</b>
Investment in Tuscarora <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>27,881</b>	<b>–</b>
Total assets	<b>277,545</b>	<b>251,245</b>
Long-term debt	<b>21,500</b>	<b>–</b>
Partners’ capital	<b>255,405</b>	<b>250,838</b>

(1) The Partnership commenced operations on May 28, 1999.

(2) The Partnership acquired a 49% interest in Tuscarora on September 1, 2000.

## ITEM 7

**Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

The following discussions of the financial condition and results of operations for the Partnership, Northern Border Pipeline and Tuscarora should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto of the Partnership and Northern Border Pipeline included elsewhere in this report (see Item 8. – Financial Statements and Supplementary Data).

For more detailed information regarding the basis of presentation for the following financial information, see the notes to the financial statements of the Partnership and Northern Border Pipeline. All amounts are stated in United States dollars.

### **Results of Operations of TC PipeLines, LP**

Currently, the Partnership holds two equity investments; a 30% general partner interest in Northern Border Pipeline and a 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora. TC PipeLines accounts for its interests in Northern Border Pipeline and Tuscarora using the equity method of accounting. The Partnership's initial investment in Northern Border Pipeline was recorded at \$241.7 million, the combined carrying values of the investment in Northern Border Pipeline as reflected in the accounts of the predecessor companies as at May 28, 1999. This amount equated to 30% of Northern Border Pipeline's partners' capital as at May 28, 1999. The Partnership's initial investment in Tuscarora, acquired on September 1, 2000, was recorded at \$28.4 million reflecting the purchase price of the investment including acquisition costs.

Since the general partner's interests in Northern Border Pipeline and Tuscarora are currently the Partnership's only material sources of income, the Partnership's results of operations are influenced by and reflect the same factors that influence the financial results of Northern Border Pipeline and Tuscarora.

### **YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 COMPARED WITH THE PERIOD MAY 28 TO DECEMBER 31, 1999**

For the year ended December 31, 2000, TC PipeLines recorded equity income of \$38.1 million from its investment in Northern Border Pipeline, compared to \$20.9 million for the period from May 28 to December 31, 1999. The \$17.2 million increase reflects twelve months of activity in 2000 compared to approximately seven months of activity in 1999 (TC PipeLines acquired its 30% general partner interest in Northern Border Pipeline on May 28, 1999). In addition, Northern Border Pipeline's 2000 net income reflects its rate case settlement, resulting in incremental equity income to TC PipeLines. Northern Border Pipeline also reduced reserves previously established for regulatory issues as the result of the settlement of Northern Border Pipeline's rate case, resulting in increased equity income to TC PipeLines.

For the year ended December 31, 2000, TC PipeLines recorded equity income of \$0.9 million from its investment in Tuscarora.

TC PipeLines incurred general and administrative expenses of \$1.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 compared to \$0.7 million for the period from May 28 to December 31, 1999. This increase reflects higher administrative costs and a full year of operations in 2000.

The Partnership reported financial charges and other of \$0.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, which includes interest expense relating to the Partnership's Revolving Credit Facility (see Item 7. – Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Liquidity and Capital Resources of TC PipeLines, LP – General).

On September 1, 2000 the Partnership borrowed \$24.5 million from the Revolving Credit Facility to finance a portion of the acquisition of a 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora. At December 31, 2000, the Partnership had \$21.5 million outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources of TC Pipelines, LP**

#### **CASH DISTRIBUTION POLICY OF TC PIPELINES, LP**

During the subordination period, which generally cannot end before June 30, 2004, the Partnership will make distributions of Available Cash in the following manner:

- First, 98% to the common units, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until there is distributed for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter;
- Second, 98% to the common units, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until there is distributed for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to any arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units for that quarter and for any prior quarters during the subordination period;
- Third, 98% to the subordinated units, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until there is distributed for each outstanding subordinated unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter; and
- Thereafter, in a manner whereby the general partner has rights (referred to as incentive distribution rights) to receive increasing percentages of excess quarterly cash distributions over specified cash distribution thresholds.

#### **GENERAL**

On January 19, 2001, the board of directors of the general partner declared the Partnership's 2000 fourth quarter cash distribution. The fourth quarter cash distribution which was paid on February 14, 2001, to unitholders of record as of January 31, 2001, totaled \$8.5 million and was paid in the following manner: \$7.0 million to common unitholders, \$1.3 million to the general partner as holder of the subordinated units, and \$0.2 million to the general partner, as holder of incentive distribution rights and in respect of its 2% general partner interest.

On August 22, 2000, the Partnership entered into an unsecured three-year credit facility with a third party (Revolving Credit Facility) under which the Partnership may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$30.0 million. Loans under the Revolving Credit Facility may bear interest, at the option of the Partnership, at a one-, two-, three-, or six-month London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus 0.875%, or at a floating rate based on the higher of the federal funds effective rate plus 0.5% and the prime rate. The Revolving Credit Facility matures on August 31, 2003. Amounts borrowed may be repaid in part or in full prior to that time without penalty. The Revolving Credit Facility may be used to finance capital expenditures and for other general purposes. On September 1, 2000, the Partnership borrowed \$24.5 million

under the Revolving Credit Facility to fund a portion of the purchase price of the 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora. In November, the Partnership made a \$3.0 million principal payment on the Revolving Credit Facility. Therefore, at December 31, 2000, the Partnership had \$21.5 million outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility. The weighted average interest rate for the period from September 1 to December 31, 2000 was 7.57%.

On May 28, 1999, the Partnership entered into a \$40.0 million unsecured two-year revolving credit facility with TransCanada PipeLine USA Ltd., an affiliate of the general partner. The credit facility bears interest at LIBOR plus 1.25%. The purpose of this credit facility is to provide borrowings to fund capital expenditures, to fund capital contributions to Northern Border Pipeline and for working capital and other general business purposes, including funding cash distributions to partners, if necessary. At December 31, 2000, the Partnership had no amount outstanding under this credit facility.

#### **CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Cash flows provided by operating activities increased to \$40.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 from \$11.8 million for the period May 28 to December 31, 1999. For the year ended December 31, 2000, the Partnership received cash distributions in aggregate of \$42.0 million from its equity investments in Northern Border Pipeline and Tuscarora. For the period May 28 to December 31, 1999, the Partnership received cash distributions of \$12.1 million from Northern Border Pipeline.

#### **CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

Net cash used in investing activities was \$28.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, relating to the purchase of a 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora.

#### **CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

For the year ended December 31, 2000, the Partnership paid \$32.7 million in cash distributions. This compares to cash distributions of \$11.0 million that were paid by the Partnership for the period May 28 to December 31, 1999.

On September 1, 2000, the Partnership borrowed \$24.5 million from the Revolving Credit Facility to fund a portion of the purchase price of the 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora. At December 31, 2000, the Partnership had \$21.5 million outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility.

#### **CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS**

To the extent TC PipeLines has any capital requirements with respect to its investments in Northern Border Pipeline and Tuscarora or makes acquisitions in 2001, TC PipeLines expects to finance these requirements with debt and/or equity.

## Results of Operations of Northern Border Pipeline <sup>(1)</sup>

### YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 COMPARED WITH THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

Operating revenues, net for the year ended December 31, 2000 were \$311.0 million as compared to \$298.3 million for the same period in 1999, an increase of \$12.7 million (4%). Northern Border Pipeline's net operating revenues for 2000 reflect the significant terms of the rate case settlement discussed in Item 1. "Business of Northern Border Pipeline Company – Northern Border Pipeline Rate Case Settlement." Operating revenues for 1999 were determined under Northern Border Pipeline's cost of service tariff.

Operations and maintenance expense increased \$2.8 million (7%) for the year ended December 31, 2000, from the same period in 1999, due primarily to increased employee payroll and benefit expenses and costs to operate Northern Border Pipeline's two electric-powered compressor units.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$5.4 million (10%) for the year ended December 31, 2000, as compared to the same period in 1999, due primarily to an increase in the depreciation rate applied to transmission plant. As a result of the rate case settlement, Northern Border Pipeline used a depreciation rate for transmission plant of 2.25% for 2000. Northern Border Pipeline had used a depreciation rate of 2.0% for 1999.

Taxes other than income decreased \$2.3 million (8%) for the year ended December 31, 2000, as compared to the same period in 1999, due primarily to adjustments to previous estimates of ad valorem taxes.

Interest expense, net increased \$4.9 million (8%) for the year ended December 31, 2000, as compared to the same period in 1999, due primarily to an increase in average interest rates between 1999 and 2000. The impact of the increase in interest rates was partially offset by a decrease in average debt outstanding.

Other income increased \$6.7 million (491%) for the year ended December 31, 2000, as compared to the same period in 1999, due primarily to a reduction in reserves previously established for regulatory issues as the result of the settlement of Northern Border Pipeline's rate case.

### YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999 COMPARED WITH THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1998

Operating revenues, net increased \$101.7 million (52%) for the year ended December 31, 1999, as compared to the same period in 1998, due primarily to additional revenue from the operation of The Chicago Project facilities. Additional receipt capacity of 700 mmcf/d, a 42% increase, and new firm transportation agreements with 27 shippers resulted from The Chicago Project. Northern Border Pipeline's cost of service tariff provided an opportunity to recover operations and maintenance costs of the pipeline, taxes other than income taxes, interest, depreciation and

<sup>(1)</sup>Amounts discussed represent 100% of the operations of Northern Border Pipeline, in which the Partnership has held a 30% interest since May 28, 1999.

amortization, an allowance for income taxes and a regulated return on equity. Northern Border Pipeline was generally allowed an opportunity to collect from its shippers a return on unrecovered rate base as well as recover that rate base through depreciation and amortization. The Chicago Project increased Northern Border Pipeline's rate base, which increased return for the year ended December 31, 1999. Also reflected in the increase in 1999 revenues are recoveries of increased pipeline operating expenses due to the new facilities.

Operations and maintenance expense increased \$9.3 million (31%) for the year ended December 31, 1999, from the same period in 1998, due primarily to operations and maintenance expenses for The Chicago Project facilities and increased employee payroll and benefit expenses.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$10.9 million (27%) for the year ended December 31, 1999, as compared to the same period in 1998, due primarily to The Chicago Project facilities placed into service. The impact of the additional facilities on depreciation and amortization expense was partially offset by a decrease in the depreciation rate applied to transmission plant from 2.5% to 2.0%. Northern Border Pipeline agreed to reduce the depreciation rate at the time The Chicago Project was placed into service as part of a previous rate case settlement.

Taxes other than income increased \$8.9 million (42%) for the year ended December 31, 1999, as compared to the same period in 1998, due primarily to ad valorem taxes attributable to the facilities placed into service for The Chicago Project.

For the year ended December 31, 1998, Northern Border Pipeline recorded a regulatory credit of \$8.9 million. During the construction of The Chicago Project, Northern Border Pipeline placed new facilities into service in advance of the December 1998 project in-service date to maintain gas flow at firm contracted capacity while existing facilities were being modified. The regulatory credit deferred the cost of service of these new facilities, which Northern Border Pipeline began to recover from its shippers commencing with the in-service date of The Chicago Project.

Interest expense, net increased \$34.7 million (136%) for the year ended December 31, 1999, as compared to the same period in 1998, due to an increase in interest expense of \$15.8 million and a decrease in interest expense capitalized of \$18.9 million. Interest expense increased due primarily to an increase in average debt outstanding, reflecting amounts borrowed to finance a portion of the capital expenditures for The Chicago Project. The impact of the increased borrowings on interest expense was partially offset by a decrease in average interest rates between 1998 and 1999. The decrease in interest expense capitalized is due to the completion of construction of The Chicago Project in December 1998.

Other income decreased \$10.7 million (89%) for the year ended December 31, 1999, as compared to the same period in 1998, primarily due to a decrease in the allowance for equity funds used during construction. The decrease in the allowance for equity funds used during construction is due to the completion of construction of The Chicago Project in December 1998.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources of Northern Border Pipeline

### GENERAL

In August 1999, Northern Border Pipeline completed a private offering of \$200 million of 7.75% Senior Notes due 2009, which notes were subsequently exchanged in a registered offering for notes with substantially identical terms (1999 Senior Notes). The indenture under which the 1999 Senior Notes were issued does not limit the amount of unsecured debt Northern Border Pipeline may incur, but does contain material financial covenants, including restrictions on incurrence of secured indebtedness. The proceeds from the 1999 Senior Notes were used to reduce indebtedness under a June 1997 credit agreement.

In June 1997, Northern Border Pipeline entered into a credit agreement (Pipeline Credit Agreement) with certain financial institutions to borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$750 million. The Pipeline Credit Agreement is comprised of a \$200 million five-year revolving credit facility maturing in June 2002 to be used for the retirement of Northern Border Pipeline's prior credit facilities and for general business purposes, and a \$550 million three-year revolving credit facility to be used for the construction of The Chicago Project. Effective March 31, 1999, the three-year revolving credit facility converted to a term loan maturing in June 2002. At December 31, 2000, \$424 million was outstanding under the term loan and \$45 million was outstanding under the five-year revolving credit facility.

At December 31, 2000, Northern Border Pipeline also had outstanding \$184 million of senior notes issued in a \$250 million private placement under a July 1992 note purchase agreement. The note purchase agreement provides for four series of notes, Series A through D, maturing between August 2000 and August 2003. The Series A Notes with a principal amount of \$66 million were repaid in August 2000. The Series B Notes with a principal amount of \$41 million mature in August 2001. Northern Border Pipeline anticipates borrowing on the Pipeline Credit Agreement to repay the Series B Notes.

Short-term liquidity needs will be met by Northern Border Pipeline's internal sources and through the Pipeline Credit Agreement discussed above. Long-term capital needs may be met through Northern Border Pipeline's ability to issue long-term indebtedness.

### CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Cash flows provided by operating activities increased \$4.5 million to \$176.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, as compared to the same period in 1999, primarily due to increased earnings. During 2000, Northern Border Pipeline realized net cash inflows of approximately \$2.4 million related to Northern Border Pipeline's rate case, which included approximately \$25.1 million of amounts collected subject to refund less estimated refunds issued in late December 2000 totaling approximately \$22.7 million. Cash flows provided by operating activities increased \$67.7 million to \$171.5 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, as compared to the same period in 1998, primarily attributed to The Chicago Project facilities placed into service in late December 1998.

## CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Capital expenditures of \$15.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 included \$7.4 million for Project 2000. For the same period in 1999, capital expenditures were \$101.7 million and included \$85.5 million for The Chicago Project and \$2.5 million for Project 2000. The remaining capital expenditures for 2000 and 1999 are primarily related to renewals and replacements of existing facilities.

Total capital expenditures for 2001 are estimated to be \$97 million, including \$81 million for Project 2000 (see Item 1. – Business of Northern Border Pipeline – Future Demand and Competition). The remaining capital expenditures planned for 2001 are for renewals and replacements of existing facilities. Northern Border Pipeline currently anticipates funding its 2001 capital expenditures primarily by borrowing on its Pipeline Credit Agreement and using internal sources.

## CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Cash flows used in financing activities increased \$58.8 million to \$148.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, as compared to the same period in 1999. Distributions paid to the general partners increased \$7.7 million to \$134.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 as compared to the same period of 1999 primarily due to an increase in Northern Border Pipeline's net income. For the year ended December 31, 2000, advances under the Pipeline Credit Agreement, which were primarily used to repay \$66 million of Series A Notes, were \$75 million as compared to advances of \$90 million for the same period in 1999, which were primarily used to finance a portion of the capital expenditures for The Chicago Project. Financing activities for the year ended December 31, 1999 included \$197.4 million from the issuance of the 1999 Senior Notes, net of associated debt discounts and issuance costs, and \$12.9 million from the termination of interest rate forward agreements. Payments on the Pipeline Credit Agreement were \$45 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, as compared to \$263 million for the same period in 1999. At December 31, 2000, Northern Border Pipeline reflected a cash overdraft of approximately \$22.4 million primarily due to refund checks outstanding. The goal of Northern Border Pipeline's cash management program is to maximize the amount of Northern Border Pipeline's cash and cash equivalents balance in highly liquid, interest-bearing investments. Those investments are converted to cash when needed to replenish Northern Border Pipeline's bank accounts for check clearing requirements.

Cash flows used in financing activities were \$89.9 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, as compared to cash flows provided by financing activities of \$564.8 million for the same period in 1998. During the year ended December 31, 1998, Northern Border Pipeline's general partners contributed \$223.0 million to finance a portion of the capital expenditures for The Chicago Project. Distributions paid to the general partners increased \$66.0 million to \$127.2 million for the year ended December 31, 1999 as compared to the same period of 1998. The distributions for 1999 were impacted by increased earnings and included distributions for 13

months' activity, rather than 12 months, resulting from a change in the timing of distribution payments. The distributions for 1998 were impacted by a rate case refund during the fourth quarter of 1997 and by the change in the timing of distribution payments. Advances under the Pipeline Credit Agreement, which were primarily used to finance a portion of the capital expenditures for The Chicago Project, were \$90 million for the year ended December 31, 1999 as compared to advances of \$403 million for the same period in 1998.

## **Results of Operations of Tuscarora** <sup>(2)</sup>

### **YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 COMPARED WITH THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999**

Revenue generated by Tuscarora was \$19.4 million and \$19.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

For the year ended December 31, 2000, Tuscarora incurred costs and expenses of \$2.4 million compared to \$2.9 million for the same period last year. The decrease in costs and expenses is primarily due to the capitalization of labor costs relating to the construction of the Hungry Valley lateral and lower property taxes.

Tuscarora recorded depreciation of \$4.4 million for each of the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999.

Tuscarora recorded financial charges and other of \$5.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, compared to \$6.0 million for the same period last year.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources of Tuscarora**

### **GENERAL**

In September 2000, Tuscarora adopted a cash distribution policy that became effective January 1, 2001. Under the terms of the cash distribution policy, Tuscarora will make quarterly cash distributions to its general partners in accordance with their respective general partner interests. Cash distributions will generally be computed as the sum of Tuscarora's net income before taxes and depreciation and amortization, less amounts required for debt repayments, net of refinancings, maintenance capital expenditures, certain non-cash items, and any cash reserves deemed necessary by the management committee. Cash distributions will be computed at the end of each calendar quarter and the distribution will be made on or before the last day of the month following the quarter end.

### **CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Cash flows provided by operating activities for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999 were \$10.7 million.

<sup>(2)</sup>Amounts discussed represent 100% of the operations of Tuscarora, in which the Partnership has held a 49% interest since September 1, 2000.

## CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Net cash used in investing activities increased to \$3.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 compared to \$0.7 million in 1999 due to capital expenditures incurred in 2000 relating to construction of the Hungry Valley lateral.

## CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

For the year ended December 31, 2000, Tuscarora repaid \$3.6 million in debt compared to repayments of \$2.8 million in the year ended December 31, 1999.

On December 19, 2000, Tuscarora issued Series B Senior Secured Notes in the amount of \$8.0 million. These notes bear interest at 7.99% and are due in 2010. The proceeds from these notes were used to finance the construction of the Hungry Valley lateral.

Tuscarora paid cash distributions of \$5.3 million to its general partners for the year ended December 31, 2000 compared to cash distributions of \$8.5 million for the year ended December 31, 1999. The decrease in cash distributions in 2000 is due to an increase in the amount of cash used to fund capital expenditures relating to the Hungry Valley lateral.

## New Accounting Pronouncements

In June 1998, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." In June 1999, the FASB issued SFAS No. 137, which deferred the effective date of SFAS No. 133 to fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2000. In June 2000 the FASB issued SFAS No. 138, which amended certain guidance within SFAS No. 133. TC PipeLines does not believe SFAS No. 133, as amended, will have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

## ITEM 7a

### Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

TC PipeLines' interest rate exposure results from its Revolving Credit Facility which is subject to variability in LIBOR interest rates. If LIBOR interest rates change by one percentage point compared to the rates in effect as of December 31, 2000, annual interest expense would change by approximately \$0.2 million. This amount has been determined by considering the impact of the hypothetical interest rates on variable rate borrowings outstanding as of December 31, 2000.

The Partnership's market risk sensitivity is also influenced by and reflects the same factors that influence Northern Border Pipeline.

Northern Border Pipeline's interest rate exposure results from variable rate borrowings from commercial banks. To mitigate potential fluctuations in interest rates, Northern Border Pipeline attempts to maintain a significant portion of its debt portfolio in fixed rate debt. Northern Border Pipeline also uses interest rate swap agreements to increase the portion of fixed rate debt. As of December 31, 2000, approximately 50% of Northern Border Pipeline's debt portfolio, after considering the effect of interest rate swap agreements, is in fixed rate debt.

If average interest rates change by one percentage point compared to rates in effect as of December 31, 2000, Northern Border Pipeline's annual interest expense would change by approximately \$4.3 million. This amount has been determined by considering the impact of the hypothetical interest rates on variable rate borrowings outstanding as of December 31, 2000.

## ITEM 8

**Financial Statements and Supplementary Data**

The information required hereunder is included in this report as set forth in the "Index to Financial Statements" on page F-1.

## ITEM 9

**Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure**

None.

**PART III**

## ITEM 10

**Directors and Officers of the General Partner**

TC PipeLines is a limited partnership and has no officers, directors or employees. Set forth below is certain information concerning the directors and officers of the general partner. Each director holds office for a one-year term or until his or her successor is earlier appointed. All officers of the general partner serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the general partner.

Name	Age as of December 31, 2000	Position with General Partner as of December 31, 2000
Ronald J. Turner	47	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
Russell K. Girling	38	Chief Financial Officer and Director
Paul F. MacGregor	43	Vice-President, Business Development
Donald R. Marchand	38	Vice-President and Treasurer
Gary G. Penrose	58	Vice-President, Taxation
Theresa Jang	36	Controller
Rhonda E.S. Grant	43	Secretary
Robert A. Helman	66	Independent Director
Jack F. Jenkins-Stark	49	Independent Director
David L. Marshall	61	Independent Director
Dennis J. McConaghy	48	Director
Walentin Mirosh	55	Director

**Mr. Turner** has been a director of the general partner since April 1999 and was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer in December 2000. Mr. Turner's principal occupation is Executive Vice-President, Operations and Engineering of TransCanada, a position he has

held since December 2000. From June 2000 until December 2000, Mr. Turner was Executive Vice-President, International of TransCanada. From April 2000 until June 2000, Mr. Turner was Senior Vice-President, International of TransCanada. From July 1999 until April 2000, Mr. Turner was Senior Vice-President and President, International of TransCanada. From July 1998 until July 1999, Mr. Turner was Senior Vice-President of TransCanada. From April 1998 until July 1998, Mr. Turner was Executive Vice-President, NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (natural gas transmission). From December 1997 until April 1998, Mr. Turner was Vice-President, Value Process West, NOVA Chemicals Ltd. (commodity chemicals). From January 1994 until December 1997, Mr. Turner was Vice-President, Facilities Provision, NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. Mr. Turner is also a director of NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd.

**Mr. Girling** was appointed Chief Financial Officer and a director of the general partner in April 1999. Mr. Girling's principal occupation is Executive Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of TransCanada, a position he has held since June 2000. From July 1999 until June 2000, Mr. Girling was Senior Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of TransCanada. From January 1999 until July 1999, Mr. Girling was Vice-President, Finance of TransCanada. From July 1998 until January 1999, Mr. Girling was Executive Vice-President, Power (TransCanada Energy Ltd.). From October 1995 until July 1998, Mr. Girling was Senior Vice-President, North American Power (TransCanada Energy Ltd.). Mr. Girling is a director of the general partner of TransCanada Power, L.P., a Canadian limited partnership. Mr. Girling is also a director of NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd.

**Mr. MacGregor** was appointed Vice-President, Business Development of the general partner in April 1999. Mr. MacGregor's principal occupation is Vice-President of Business Development of TransCanada, a position he has held since September 1999. From July 1998 until September 1999, Mr. MacGregor was Vice-President, North American Pipeline Investments for TransCanada's Transmission division. From 1997 until July 1998, Mr. MacGregor was a Vice-President of Alberta Natural Gas Company Ltd. (ANG) (energy services), a former subsidiary of TransCanada which has since merged into TransCanada. In 1996, Mr. MacGregor was Director of Field Operations of TransCanada.

**Mr. Marchand** was appointed Vice-President and Treasurer of the general partner in October 1999. Mr. Marchand's principal occupation is Vice-President, Finance and Treasurer of TransCanada, a position he has held since September 1999. From January 1998 until September 1999, Mr. Marchand was Director, Finance of TransCanada. From August 1996 until January 1998, Mr. Marchand was Manager, Finance of TransCanada. From July 1995 until August 1996, Mr. Marchand was Assistant Manager, Finance of TransCanada.

**Mr. Penrose** was appointed Vice-President, Taxation of the general partner in April 1999. Mr. Penrose's principal occupation is Vice-President, Taxation of TransCanada, a position he has held since February 1997. From August 1992 until February 1997, Mr. Penrose was General Manager, Taxation for TransCanada. Mr. Penrose is also a director of TransCanada Hungary Liquidity Management Limited Liability Company.

**Ms. Jang** was appointed Controller of the general partner in June 1999. From May 1997 until June 1999, Ms. Jang was a Specialist in TransCanada's Financial Reporting department. From February 1996 until May 1997, Ms. Jang was Supervisor, Corporate Accounting of TransCanada. From August 1992 until February 1996, Ms. Jang was Senior Financial Analyst, Corporate Accounting of TransCanada.

**Ms. Grant** was appointed Secretary of the general partner in April 1999. Ms. Grant's principal occupation is Vice-President and Corporate Secretary of TransCanada, a position she has held since September 1999. From July 1998 until September 1999, Ms. Grant was Corporate Secretary and Associate General Counsel, Corporate of TransCanada. From October 1994 until July 1998, Ms. Grant was Corporate Secretary and Associate General Counsel, Corporate of NOVA Corporation (energy services and commodity chemicals).

**Mr. Helman** was appointed a director of the general partner in July 1999. Mr. Helman has been a partner of Mayer, Brown & Platt (law firm) since 1967. Mr. Helman also serves as a director of Brambles USA, Inc., Dreyers Grand Ice Cream, Inc., Northern Trust Corporation and The Northern Trust Company.

**Mr. Marshall** was appointed a director of the general partner in July 1999. Mr. Marshall was Vice-Chairman of The Pittston Company (diversified energy, security and transportation services firm) from 1994 until 1998 and was the Chief Financial Officer and a director of The Pittston Company from 1983 until 1994. Mr. Marshall also serves as a director on the board of M&S Austin One, LLC.

**Mr. Jenkins-Stark** was appointed a director of the general partner in July 1999. Mr. Jenkins-Stark is currently Senior Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Silicon Energy Corp. (a developer and seller of internet-based energy technology software), a position he has held since April 2000. From December 1998 until April 2000, Mr. Jenkins-Stark was Senior Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of GATX Capital (commercial finance). From September 1998 until December 1998, Mr. Jenkins-Stark was Senior Vice-President, Finance of GATX Capital. From May 1987 until September 1998, Mr. Jenkins-Stark was Senior Vice-President of PG&E Corp. (diversified energy) and President and Chief Executive Officer of PG&E Gas Transmission Company (natural gas transmission). Mr. Jenkins-Stark also serves as a director of Hall-Kinion Corporation.

**Mr. McConaghy** was appointed a director of the general partner in December 2000. Mr. McConaghy's principal occupation is Senior Vice-President Business Development of TransCanada, a position he has held since October 2000. From June 2000 until October 2000, Mr. McConaghy was Senior Vice-President, Midstream/Divestments of TransCanada. From July 1998 until June 2000, Mr. McConaghy was Vice-President Corporate Strategy and Planning of TransCanada. From May 1996 until July 1998, Mr. McConaghy was Vice-President, Strategy and Corporate Development, NOVA Corporation. From November 1995

until May 1996, Mr. McConaghy was Senior Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer, NOVA Chemicals Ltd.

**Mr. Mirosh** has been a director of the general partner since October 1999. Mr. Mirosh's principal occupation is Executive Vice-President, Regulatory Strategy and Northern Development of TransCanada, a position he has held since June 2000. From April 2000 until June 2000, Mr. Mirosh was Senior Vice-President, Regulatory Strategy and Northern Development of TransCanada. From July 1999 until April 2000, Mr. Mirosh was Senior Vice-President, Corporate Strategy and Business Development of TransCanada. From July 1998 until July 1999, Mr. Mirosh was Senior Vice-President, Business Development and Corporate Strategy of TransCanada. From April 1996 until July 1998, Mr. Mirosh was President of ANG and prior to that time, Mr. Mirosh was Executive Vice-President, Operations of ANG. Mr. Mirosh is also a director of NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd.

## ITEM 11

### Executive Compensation

The following table summarizes certain information regarding the annual salaries of Messrs. Ronald J. Turner and Garry P. Mihaichuk for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999 by TransCanada, parent company of the general partner. Mr. Turner is an employee of TransCanada and was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the general partner in December 2000. Mr. Mihaichuk was an employee of TransCanada until December 2000 and served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the general partner from October 1999 until December 2000. Through the general partner, TC PipeLines reimburses TransCanada for the services contributed to its operations by Messrs. Turner and Mihaichuk. TC PipeLines and the general partner were formed in December 1998 and the general partner began compensating its directors and officers on May 28, 1999.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Annual TransCanada Base Salary <sup>(1)</sup>	
		Canadian Dollars	United States Dollar Equivalent <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>Ronald J. Turner</b> <sup>(3)</sup>			
President and Chief Executive Officer	2000	309,660	206,500
<b>Garry P. Mihaichuk</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	2000	431,250	287,600
Former President and Chief Executive Officer	1999	345,839	239,500

- (1) Annualized base salary paid by parent of general partner. Only a proportionate share, based on services provided, is attributed to the Partnership.
- (2) The compensation of the Chief Executive Officer of the general partner is paid by TransCanada in Canadian dollars. The United States dollar equivalents have been calculated using the applicable 2000 and 1999 noon buying rate in New York City for cable transfers in foreign currencies as certified for customs purposes of 0.6669 and 0.6925, respectively, as reported by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
- (3) Mr. Turner was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the general partner in December 2000.
- (4) Mr. Mihaichuk was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of the general partner in October 1999 and resigned in December 2000.

Each director who is not an employee of TransCanada, the general partner or its affiliates (independent director) is entitled to a directors' retainer fee of \$10,000 per annum and an additional fee of \$2,000 per annum for each committee of the board of which he is Chair. These fees are paid by the Partnership on a semi-annual basis. For the year ended December 31, 1999, the three independent directors were paid half of these annual fees as they were appointed in July 1999. Each independent director is also paid a fee of \$1,500 for attendance at each meeting of the Board of Directors and a fee of \$750 for attendance at each meeting of a committee of the Board. The independent directors are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the course of attending such meetings. Under a directors' compensation plan adopted effective July 19, 1999, each independent director receives 50% of his annual board retainer that is payable on the applicable date in the form of common units of the Partnership. The common units are purchased by the general partner on the open market and the number of common units purchased under the directors' compensation plan is based on the trading price of common units on the day preceding the applicable payment date.

The Audit and Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the general partner of TC PipeLines did not during the last completed fiscal year make any determination with respect to the compensation of the Partnership's executive officers. The executive officers' salaries are determined on a competitive and market basis by the parent company of the general partner.

## ITEM 12

### **Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management**

The following table sets forth the beneficial ownership of the voting securities of the Partnership as of March 9, 2001 by the general partner's directors, officers and certain beneficial owners. Officers of the general partner own shares of TransCanada, which in the aggregate amount to less than 1% of TransCanada's issued and outstanding shares. Other than as set forth below, no person is known by the general partner to own beneficially more than 5% of the voting securities of the Partnership.

Name and Business Address	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership				Percentage of Interest for all Units <sup>(1)</sup>
	Common Units		Subordinated Units		
	Number of Units	Percent of Class	Number of Units	Percent of Class	
<b>TC PipeLines GP, Inc.</b> <sup>(2)(3)</sup> 450 1st Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 5H1	–	–	2,809,306	100	16.1
<b>TransCan Northern Ltd.</b> <sup>(2)</sup> 450 1st Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 5H1	2,800,000	19.1	–	–	16.0
<b>Goldman, Sachs Group Inc.</b> <sup>(4)</sup> 85 Broad Street New York, New York 10004	2,515,200	17.1	–	–	14.4
<b>Robert A. Helman</b> <sup>(5)</sup> 190 S. LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois 60603	6,450	*	–	–	*
<b>Jack F. Jenkins-Stark</b> <sup>(6)</sup> 1010 Atlantic Avenue Alameda, California 94501	2,450	*	–	–	*
<b>David L. Marshall</b> <sup>(7)</sup> 450 1st Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 5H1	2,050	*	–	–	*
<b>Ronald J. Turner</b> 450 1st Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 5H1	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Garry P. Mihaichuk</b> 450 1st Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 5H1	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Directors and Executive Officers as a Group</b> (12 persons)	10,950	*	–	–	*

(1) A total of 17,500,000 common and subordinated units are issued and outstanding.

(2) TC PipeLines GP, Inc. and TransCan Northern Ltd. are wholly owned subsidiaries of TransCanada.

(3) TC PipeLines GP, Inc. owns an aggregate 2% general partner interest of TC PipeLines and its subsidiaries on a combined basis.

(4) As reported on a schedule 13(g) filed on February 14, 2001, each of Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (GS Group) and Goldman, Sachs & Co. (Goldman Sachs) disclaim beneficial ownership of the securities beneficially owned by (i) any client accounts with respect to which Goldman Sachs or employees of Goldman Sachs have voting or investment discretion, or both and (ii) certain investment entities, of which a subsidiary of GS Group or Goldman Sachs is the general partner, managing general partner or other manager, to the extent interests in such entities are held by persons other than GS Group, Goldman Sachs or their affiliates.

(5) 6,000 units are held by Bank of Oklahoma N.A., trustee for Mayer, Brown & Platt Savings Plan FBO Robert A. Helman and 450 units are held directly by Mr. Helman.

(6) 2,450 units are held by the Jenkins-Stark Family Trust dated June 16, 1995.

(7) 2,050 units are held directly by Mr. Marshall.

\* Less than 1%.

*Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance*

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires the Company's directors and officers, and persons who own more than 10% of the common units, to file initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership (Forms 3, 4, and 5) of the common units with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Nasdaq Stock Market. Officers, directors and greater than 10% unitholders are required by SEC regulation to furnish the Partnership with copies of all such forms that they file.

Except as set forth below, based solely on the Partnership's review of the copies of such reports received by the Partnership and on written representations by certain reporting persons that no reports on Form 5 were required, the Partnership believes that during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000 all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to its officers, directors and holders of 10% or more of its common units were complied with in a timely manner. However, the Form 3 required to be filed by Mr. Dennis McConaghy within 10 days of his appointment as a director of the general partner on December 22, 2000, was filed late on March 5, 2001 due to a clerical error.

## I T E M 13

**Certain Relationships and Related Transactions**

An affiliate of the general partner owns 2,800,000 common units and the general partner owns 2,809,306 subordinated units, representing an aggregate 31.4% limited partner interest in the Partnership. In addition, the general partner owns an aggregate 2% general partner interest in the Partnership through which it manages and operates the Partnership.

The general partner is accountable to TC PipeLines and the unitholders as a fiduciary. Neither the Delaware Act nor case law defines with particularity the fiduciary duties owed by general partners to limited partners of a limited partnership. The Delaware Act does provide that Delaware limited partnerships may, in their partnership agreements, restrict or expand the fiduciary duties owed by a general partner to limited partners and the partnership.

In order to induce the general partner to manage the business of TC PipeLines, the partnership agreement contains various provisions restricting the fiduciary duties that might otherwise be owed by the general partner. The following is a summary of the material restrictions of the fiduciary duties owed by the general partner to the limited partners.

- The partnership agreement permits the general partner to make a number of decisions in its "sole discretion." This entitles the general partner to consider only the interests and factors that it desires and it shall have no duty or obligation to give any consideration to any interest of, or factors affecting, TC PipeLines, its affiliates or any limited partner. Other provisions of the partnership agreement provide that the general partner's actions must be made in its reasonable discretion.

- The partnership agreement generally provides that affiliated transactions and resolutions of conflicts of interest not involving a required vote of unitholders must be “fair and reasonable” to TC PipeLines. In determining whether a transaction or resolution is “fair and reasonable” the general partner may consider interests of all parties involved, including its own. Unless the general partner has acted in bad faith, the action taken by the general partner shall not constitute a breach of its fiduciary duty.
- The partnership agreement specifically provides that it shall not be a breach of the general partner’s fiduciary duty if its affiliates engage in business interests and activities in competition with, or in preference or to the exclusion of, TC PipeLines. Also, the general partner and its affiliates have no obligation to present business opportunities to TC PipeLines.
- The partnership agreement provides that the general partner and its officers and directors will not be liable for monetary damages to TC PipeLines, the limited partners or assignees for errors of judgment or for any acts or omissions if the general partner and those other persons acted in good faith.

TC PipeLines is required to indemnify the general partner and its officers, directors, employees, affiliates, partners, members, agents and trustees (collectively referred to hereafter as the General Partner and others), to the fullest extent permitted by law, against liabilities, costs and expenses incurred by the General Partner and others. This indemnification is required if the General Partner and others acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in, or (in the case of a person other than the general partner) not opposed to, the best interests of TC PipeLines. Indemnification is required for criminal proceedings if the General Partner and others had no reasonable cause to believe their conduct was unlawful.

The Partnership does not directly employ any persons to manage or operate its business. These functions are provided by the general partner. The general partner does not receive a management fee or other compensation in connection with its management of the Partnership. The Partnership reimburses the general partner for all costs of services provided, including the costs of employee, officer and director compensation and benefits, and all other expenses necessary or appropriate to the conduct of the business of, and allocable to the Partnership. The partnership agreement provides that the general partner will, in its sole discretion, determine the expenses that are allocable to the Partnership in any reasonable manner determined by it. Total costs reimbursed to the general partner by the Partnership were approximately \$0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2000. Such costs include, (i) personnel costs (such as salaries and employee benefits) of the personnel providing services, (ii) overhead costs (such as office space and equipment) and (iii) out-of-pocket expenses related to the provision of services to the Partnership.

On May 28, 1999, the Partnership entered into a \$40.0 million unsecured two-year revolving credit facility with TransCanada PipeLine USA Ltd., an affiliate of the general partner. The credit facility bears interest at LIBOR plus 1.25%. The purpose of this credit facility is to provide borrowings to fund capital expenditures, to fund capital contributions to Northern Border Pipeline and for working capital and other general business purposes, including funding cash distributions to partners, if necessary. At December 31, 2000, the Partnership had no amount outstanding under this credit facility.

On September 1, 2000, TC PipeLines, based on the approval of a committee comprised of its independent directors, acquired a 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora. The Partnership acquired this asset from TCPL Tuscarora Ltd., an indirect subsidiary of TransCanada, for a purchase price of \$28.0 million. The Partnership borrowed \$24.5 million from the Revolving Credit Facility (see Item 7. – Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Liquidity and Capital Resources of TC PipeLines, LP – General) to fund a portion of the purchase price. The remainder of the purchase price was funded with cash on hand.

As of February 1, 2001, TransCanada Energy Marketing USA, Inc., an affiliate of TransCanada, the parent of TC PipeLines’ general partner, is one of Northern Border Pipeline’s firm shippers and is currently obligated to pay 11.4% of Northern Border Pipeline’s capacity. The terms of this transaction are no less favorable to Northern Border Pipeline than those which Northern Border Pipeline would expect to negotiate with unrelated third parties on an arm’s length basis.

## **PART IV**

### ITEM 14

#### **Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules and Reports on Form 8-K**

- (a) (1) and (2) Financial Statements and Financial Statement Schedules

The financial statements filed as part of this report are listed in the “Index to Financial Statements” on Page F-1.

- (b) The Registrant filed the following reports on Form 8-K during the fourth quarter of 2000:

A report on Form 8-K was filed on October 3, 2000 stating that Northern Border Pipeline, a partnership in which TC PipeLines indirectly holds a 30% general partner interest, had filed for approval on September 26, 2000, a stipulation and agreement with the FERC that documents the settlement of its pending rate case.

A report on Form 8-K was filed on December 20, 2000 announcing changes to the officers and directors of the general partner of the Partnership and the FERC’s approval of the rate case settlement of Northern Border Pipeline, a partnership in which TC PipeLines indirectly holds a 30% general partner interest.

- (c) Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Description
*3.1	Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of TC PipeLines, LP dated May 28, 1999 (Exhibit 3.1 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 10-K, March 28, 2000).
*3.2	Certificate of Limited Partnership of TC PipeLines, LP (Exhibit 3.2 to TC Pipelines, LP's Form S-1 Registration Statement Registration No. 333-69947 ("1999 Form S-1")).
*3.3	Certificate of Limited Partnership of TC PipeLines Intermediate Limited Partnership (Exhibit 3.3 to the 1999 Form S-1).
*3.4	Certificate of Limited Partnership of TC Tuscarora Intermediate Limited Partnership (Exhibit 99.1 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 8-K, September 1, 2000).
*3.5	Agreement of Limited Partnership of TC Tuscarora Intermediate Limited Partnership dated July 19, 2000 (Exhibit 99.2 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 8-K, September 1, 2000).
*4.1	Indenture, dated as of August 17, 1999 between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Bank One Trust Company, NA, successor to The First National Bank of Chicago, as trustee (Exhibit 4.1 to Northern Border Pipeline Company's, Form S-4 Registration Statement Registration No. 333-88577).
*4.2	Indenture, Assignment and Security Agreement dated December 21, 1995 between Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company and Wilmington Trust Company, as trustee (Exhibit 99.1 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 10-Q, quarter ended September 30, 2000).
*10.1	Amended and Restated Agreement of Limited Partnership of TC PipeLines Intermediate Limited Partnership dated May 28, 1999 (Exhibit 10.1 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 10-K, March 28, 2000).
*10.2	Contribution, Conveyance and Assumption Agreement among TC PipeLines, LP and certain other parties dated May 28, 1999 (Exhibit 10.2 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 10-K, March 28, 2000).
*10.3	Northern Border Pipeline Company General Partnership Agreement between Northern Border Intermediate Limited Partnership, TransCanada Border PipeLine Ltd., and TransCan Northern Ltd., effective March 9, 1978 as amended (Exhibit 3.2 to Northern Border Partners, L.P. Form S-1 Registration Statement No. 33-66158).
*10.3.1	Seventh Supplement Amending Northern Border Pipeline Company General Partnership Agreement dated as of September 23, 1993 Partnership (Exhibit 10.3.1 to the 1999 Form S-1).

Exhibit Number	Description
*10.3.2	Eighth Supplement Amending Northern Border Pipeline Company General Partnership Agreement dated May 21, 1999 by and among TransCan Border PipeLine Ltd., TransCanada Northern Ltd., Northern Border Intermediate Limited Partnership and TC PipeLines Intermediate Limited Partnership (Exhibit 10.3.2 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 10-K, March 28, 2000).
*10.4	Note Purchase Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and the parties listed therein, dated July 15, 1992 (Exhibit 10.6 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form S-1 Registration Statement No. 33-66158).
*10.4.1	Supplemental Agreement to the Note Purchase Agreement dated as of June 1, 1995 (Exhibit 10.6.1 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form S-1 Registration Statement No. 33-66158).
*10.5	U.S. \$40,000,000 Two-year Revolving Credit Facility between TC PipeLines, LP, as borrower, and TransCanada PipeLine USA Ltd., as lender dated May 28, 1999 (Exhibit 10.5 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 10-K, March 28, 2000).
*10.6	Form of Credit Agreement among Northern Border Pipeline Company, The First National Bank of Chicago, as Administrative Agent, The First National Bank of Chicago, Royal Bank of Canada, and Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association, as Syndication Agents, First Chicago Capital Markets, Inc., Royal Bank of Canada, and BancAmerica Securities, Inc. as Joint Arrangers and Lenders (as defined therein) dated as of June 16, 1997 (Exhibit 10(c) to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form S-3 Registration Statement No. 33-40601).
*10.7	Operating Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Northern Plains Natural Gas Company, dated February 28, 1980 (Exhibit 10.3 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form S-1 Registration Statement No. 33-66158).
*10.8	Guaranty made by Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company, dated October 31, 1992 (Exhibit 10.9 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form S-1 Registration Statement No. 33-65158).
*10.9	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Enron Gas Marketing, Inc., dated June 22, 1990 (Exhibit 10.10 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form S-1 Registration Statement No. 33-66158).
*10.9.1	Amended Exhibit A to Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shipper Service Agreement effective April 1, 1998 (Exhibit 10.10.4 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1997 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).

Exhibit Number	Description
*10.10	Amended Exhibit A to Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Enron Gas Marketing, Inc. (Exhibit 10.10.1 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1993, SEC file No. 1-12202).
*10.11	Amended Exhibit A to Northern Border Pipeline U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Enron Gas Marketing, Inc., effective November 1, 1994 (Exhibit 10.10.2 to the Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1994, SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.12	Amended Exhibit A's to Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shipper Service Agreement effective August 1, 1995 and November 1, 1995 (Exhibit 10.10.3 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1995).
*10.13	Amended Exhibit A to Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shipper Service Agreement effective April 1, 1998 (Exhibit 10.10.4 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1997, SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.14	Guaranty made by Northern Natural Gas Company, dated October 7, 1993 (Exhibit 10.11.1 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1993 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.14.1	Guaranty made by Northern Natural Gas Company, dated October 7, 1993 (Exhibit 10.11.2 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1993 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.15	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Western Gas Marketing Limited, as agent for TransCanada PipeLines Limited, dated December 15, 1980 (Exhibit 10.13 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form S-1 Registration Statement No. 33-66158).
*10.15.1	Amended Exhibit A to Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Western Gas Marketing Limited extending the term effective April 2, 1999 (Exhibit 10.11.1 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.16	Amendment to Northern Border Pipeline Company Service Agreement extending the term effective November 1, 1995 (Exhibit 10.13.1 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1995).
*10.17	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation, dated July 14, 1983, with Amended Exhibit A effective February 11, 1994 (Exhibit 10.17 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1995 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).

Exhibit Number	Description
*10.18	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Enron Capital & Trade Resources Corp. dated October 15, 1997 (Exhibit 10.21 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1997 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.19	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Enron Capital & Trade Resources Corp. dated October 15, 1997 (Exhibit 10.22 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1997 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.20	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Enron Capital & Trade Resources Corp. dated August 5, 1997 with Amendment dated September 25, 1997 (Exhibit 10.25 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1997 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.20.1	Amended Exhibit A to Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Enron Capital & Trade Resources Corp. effective November 1, 1998 (Exhibit 10.15.1 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.22	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Enron Capital & Trade Resources Corp. dated August 5, 1997 (Exhibit 10.26 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1997 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.22.1	Amended Exhibit A to Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Enron Capital & Trade Resources Corp. effective April 2, 1999 (Exhibit 10.16.1 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.23	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and TransCanada Gas Services Inc., as agent for TransCanada PipeLines Limited, dated August 14, 1997 (Exhibit 10.28 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1997 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.24	Agreement among Northern Plains Natural Gas Company, Pan Border Gas Company, Northwest Border Pipeline Company, TransCanada Border PipeLine Ltd., TransCan Northern Ltd., Northern Border Intermediate Limited Partnership, Northern Border Partners, L.P., and the Management Committee of Northern Border Pipeline, dated as of March 17, 1999 (Exhibit 10.21 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s 1998 Form 10-K SEC File No. 1-12202).
*10.25	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and TransCanada Gas Services Inc. as agent for TransCanada PipeLines Limited, dated October 10, 1996, with Amended Exhibit A effective April 2, 1999 (Exhibit 10.19 to 1999 Form S-1).

Exhibit Number	Description
*10.26	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and TransCanada Gas Services Inc., as agent for TransCanada PipeLines Limited dated August 5, 1997 with Amended Exhibit A, effective April 2, 1999 (Exhibit 10.27 to Northern Border Partners, L.P.'s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1997).
*10.27	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and TransCanada Gas Services Inc. as agent for TransCanada PipeLines Limited, dated October 5, 1998, with Amended Exhibit A effective April 2, 1999 (Exhibit 10.20 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.28	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and TransCanada Gas Services Inc. as agent for TransCanada PipeLines Limited, dated October 5, 1998, with Amended Exhibit A effective April 2, 1999 (Exhibit 10.21 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.29	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and TransCanada Gas Services Inc. as agent for TransCanada PipeLines Limited, dated October 5, 1998, with Amended Exhibit A effective April 2, 1999 (Exhibit 10.22 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.30	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and TransCanada Gas Services Inc. as agent for TransCanada PipeLines Limited, dated October 5, 1998, with Amended Exhibit A effective April 2, 1999 (Exhibit 10.23 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.31	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and TransCanada Gas Services Inc. as agent for TransCanada PipeLines Limited, dated December 18, 1998 (Exhibit 10.24 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.32	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Pan-Alberta Gas (U.S.) Inc. dated October 1, 1993, with Amended Exhibit A effective June 22, 1998 (Exhibit 10.25 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.33	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Pan-Alberta Gas (U.S.) Inc. (successor to Natgas U.S. Inc.), dated October 6, 1989, with Amended Exhibit A effective April 2, 1999 (Exhibit 10.26 to 1999 Form S-1).

Exhibit Number	Description
*10.34	Northern Border Pipeline Company U.S. Shippers Service Agreement between Northern Border Pipeline Company and Pan-Alberta Gas (U.S.) Inc., dated October 1, 1992, with Amended Exhibit A effective June 22, 1998 (Exhibit 10.27 to 1999 Form S-1).
*10.35	Project Management Agreement by and between Northern Plains Natural Gas Company and Enron Engineering & Construction Company, dated March 1, 1996 (Exhibit No. 10.39 to Northern Border Pipeline Company, Form S-4 Registration Statement, Registration No. 333-88577).
*10.36	Directors' Compensation Plan of TC PipeLines, GP, Inc. dated effective July 19, 1999 (Exhibit 10.36 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 10-K, March 28, 2000).
*10.37	Purchase and Sale Agreement dated July 19, 2000 among TCPL Tuscarora Ltd., TC Tuscarora Intermediate Limited Partnership, TC PipeLines GP, Inc., TransCanada PipeLines Limited and TransCanada PipeLine USA Ltd. (Exhibit 99.3 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 8-K, September 1, 2000).
*10.38	Credit Agreement dated as of August 22, 2000 among TC PipeLines, LP, the Lenders Party thereto and Bank One N.A., as agent (Exhibit 99.2 to TC PipeLines, LP's Form 10-Q, quarter ended September 30, 2000).
21.1	Subsidiaries of the Registrant.

\* Indicates exhibits incorporated by reference.

**Signatures**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of March 2001.

TC PIPELINES, LP  
(A Delaware Limited Partnership)  
by its general partner, TC PipeLines GP, Inc.

By: \_\_\_\_\_



Ronald J. Turner  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*  
TC PipeLines GP, Inc.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.



Ronald J. Turner  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*  
*and Director (Principal Executive Officer)*  
March 29, 2001



Valentin Mirosh  
*Director*  
March 29, 2001



Russell K. Girling  
*Chief Financial Officer*  
*and Director (Principal Financial Officer)*  
March 29, 2001

Robert A. Helman  
*Director*  
March , 2001



Theresa Jang  
*Controller (Principal Accounting Officer)*  
March 29, 2001

Jack F. Jenkins-Stark  
*Director*  
March , 2001



Dennis J. McConaghy  
*Director*  
March 29, 2001

David L. Marshall  
*Director*  
March , 2001

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Board of Directors of TC PipeLines GP, Inc., General Partner of TC PipeLines, LP:

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of TC PipeLines, LP (a Delaware limited partnership) as of December 31, 2000 and 1999 and the related statements of income, cash flows and changes in partners' capital for the year ended December 31, 2000 and the period from the commencement of operations on May 28, 1999 to December 31, 1999. These financial statements are the responsibility of the General Partner. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of TC PipeLines, LP as of December 31, 2000 and 1999 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2000 and the period from the commencement of operations on May 28, 1999 to December 31, 1999 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

*KPMG LLP*

Calgary, Canada

January 22, 2001

**BALANCE SHEET**

<i>December 31 (thousands of dollars)</i>	2000	1999
<b>Assets</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash	1,566	795
Investment in Northern Border Pipeline Company	248,098	250,450
Investment in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company	27,881	-
	<b>277,545</b>	<b>251,245</b>
<b>Liabilities and Partners' Capital</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	499	407
Accrued interest	141	-
	<b>640</b>	<b>407</b>
Long-Term Debt	21,500	-
Partners' Capital		
Common units	212,253	208,573
Subordinated units	37,951	37,248
General partner	5,201	5,017
	<b>255,405</b>	<b>250,838</b>
	<b>277,545</b>	<b>251,245</b>

**STATEMENT OF INCOME**

<i>(thousands of dollars, except per unit amounts)</i>	Year ended December 31, 2000	May 28 <sup>(1)</sup> – December 31, 1999
<b>Equity Income from Investment in Northern Border Pipeline Company</b>	<b>38,119</b>	<b>20,923</b>
<b>Equity Income from Investment in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>General and Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>(1,337)</b>	<b>(699)</b>
<b>Financial Charges and Other</b>	<b>(501)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>37,224</b>	<b>20,224</b>
<b>Net Income per Unit</b>	<b>\$2.08</b>	<b>\$1.13</b>
<b>Units Outstanding (thousands)</b>	<b>17,500</b>	<b>17,500</b>

(1) Commencement of operations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

<i>(thousands of dollars)</i>	Year ended December 31, 2000	May 28 <sup>(1)</sup> – December 31, 1999
<b>Cash Generated from Operations</b>		
Net income	37,224	20,224
Add/(Deduct):		
Distributions received in excess of /(less than) equity income	2,909	(8,799)
Increase in accounts payable	92	407
Increase in accrued interest	141	–
	<b>40,366</b>	<b>11,832</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Investment in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company	(28,438)	–
	<b>(28,438)</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>		
Distributions paid	(32,657)	(11,037)
Long-term debt issued	24,500	–
Reduction of long-term debt	(3,000)	–
Common units issued	–	282,061
Common units redeemed	–	(274,560)
Subordinated units redeemed	–	(7,501)
	<b>(11,157)</b>	<b>(11,037)</b>
<b>Increase in Cash</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>795</b>
<b>Cash, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Cash, End of Period</b>	<b>1,566</b>	<b>795</b>

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN PARTNERS' CAPITAL**

	Common Units		Subordinated Units		General Partner	Partners' Capital	
	<i>(thousands of units)</i>	<i>(thousands of dollars)</i>	<i>(thousands of units)</i>	<i>(thousands of dollars)</i>	<i>(thousands of dollars)</i>	<i>(thousands of units)</i>	<i>(thousands of dollars)</i>
<b>Partnership Units</b>							
Initial public offering	14,300	274,560	–	–	–	14,300	274,560
Contributions of assets	14,300	193,515	3,200	43,303	4,833	17,500	241,651
Redemption of common units	(14,300)	(274,560)	–	–	–	(14,300)	(274,560)
Exercise of over-allotment option	391	7,501	(391)	(7,501)	–	–	–
	14,691	201,016	2,809	35,802	4,833	17,500	241,651
Net Income		16,637		3,182	405		20,224
Distributions Paid		(9,080)		(1,736)	(221)		(11,037)
Partners' Capital at							
December 31, 1999	14,691	208,573	2,809	37,248	5,017	17,500	250,838
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>30,490</b>		<b>5,830</b>	<b>904</b>		<b>37,224</b>
<b>Distributions Paid</b>		<b>(26,810)</b>		<b>(5,127)</b>	<b>(720)</b>		<b>(32,657)</b>
Partners' Capital at							
December 31, 2000	<b>14,691</b>	<b>212,253</b>	<b>2,809</b>	<b>37,951</b>	<b>5,201</b>	<b>17,500</b>	<b>255,405</b>

(1) Commencement of operations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

## NOTE 1

**Basis of Presentation**

TC PipeLines, LP, a Delaware limited partnership, and its subsidiary limited partnerships, TC PipeLines Intermediate Limited Partnership, a Delaware limited partnership, and TC Tuscarora Intermediate Limited Partnership, a Delaware limited partnership, are collectively referred to herein as TC PipeLines or the Partnership. TC PipeLines was formed by TransCanada PipeLines Limited (TransCanada) to acquire, own and participate in the management of United States based pipeline assets.

TC PipeLines owns a 30% general partner interest in Northern Border Pipeline Company (Northern Border Pipeline), a Texas general partnership. Northern Border Pipeline owns a 1,214-mile natural gas transmission line extending from the United States-Canadian border near Port of Morgan, Montana, to a terminus near Manhattan, Illinois.

TC PipeLines also owns a 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company (Tuscarora), a Nevada general partnership. Tuscarora owns a 229-mile interstate pipeline system that transports natural gas from Malin, Oregon, where it interconnects with facilities of PG&E Gas Transmission – Northwest, to the Reno, Nevada area.

TC PipeLines is managed by its general partner, TC PipeLines GP, Inc. (General Partner), a wholly-owned subsidiary of TransCanada. The General Partner provides certain administrative services for the Partnership and is reimbursed for its costs and expenses. In addition to its 2% general partner interest, the General Partner owns 2,809,306 Subordinated Units, representing an effective 15.7% limited partner interest in the Partnership at December 31, 2000.

**INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING AND CONCURRENT TRANSACTIONS**

TC PipeLines commenced operations on May 28, 1999, when it issued 14,300,000 Common Units (11,500,000 to the public and 2,800,000 to an affiliate of the General Partner) for net proceeds of \$274.6 million, after deducting underwriters' fees of \$15.0 million. These proceeds, along with 3,200,000 Subordinated Units, a 2% general partner interest and incentive distribution rights, were issued to TransCanada Border PipeLine Ltd. and TransCan Northern Ltd. (collectively, the predecessor companies), affiliates of the General Partner, to acquire the predecessor companies' 30% general partner interest in Northern Border Pipeline.

On June 25, 1999, the underwriters exercised a portion of their over-allotment option under the terms of the underwriting agreement and purchased 390,694 additional Common Units for net proceeds of \$7.5 million. The Partnership used those proceeds to redeem 390,694 Subordinated Units from the General Partner.

## NOTE 2

**Significant Accounting Policies***(a) Basis of Presentation*

The accompanying financial statements and related notes present the financial position of the Partnership as of December 31, 2000 and 1999 and the results of its operations, cash flows and changes in partners' capital for the year ended December 31, 2000 and for the period from May 28, 1999 (commencement of operations) to December 31, 1999. The Partnership uses the equity method of accounting for its investments in Northern Border Pipeline and Tuscarora, over which it is able to exercise significant influence. Amounts are stated in United States dollars.

*(b) Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Although management believes these estimates are reasonable, actual results could differ from these estimates.

*(c) Cash and Cash Equivalents*

Cash equivalents consist of highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value because of the short maturity of these investments.

*(d) Partners' Capital*

Costs incurred in connection with the issuance of Units are deducted from the proceeds received.

*(e) Income Taxes*

No provision for income taxes related to the operations of the Partnership is included in the accompanying financial statements because, as a partnership, it is not subject to Federal or state income tax. The tax effect of the Partnership's activities accrues to its partners.

## NOTE 3

**Investment in Northern Border Pipeline Company**

The Partnership owns a 30% general partner interest in Northern Border Pipeline, a partnership which owns a natural gas pipeline extending from the Montana-Saskatchewan border near Port of Morgan, Montana, to a terminus near Manhattan, Illinois. Northern Border Pipeline is subject to regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

At the time of acquisition on May 28, 1999, the Partnership recorded its investment in Northern Border Pipeline at \$241.7 million, representing the combined carrying values of the investment

in Northern Border Pipeline as reflected in the accounts of the predecessor companies at the same date. TC PipeLines' equity income amounted to \$38.1 million and \$20.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 and the period May 28 to December 31, 1999, respectively, representing 30% of the net income of Northern Border Pipeline for the same periods.

The following sets out summarized financial information for Northern Border Pipeline as at and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999. TC PipeLines has held its general partner interest since May 28, 1999.

<i>December 31 (millions of dollars)</i>	2000	1999
<b>Northern Border Pipeline Balance Sheet</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	29.0	17.3
Other current assets	38.1	33.8
Plant, property and equipment, net	1,687.0	1,731.4
Other assets	14.4	14.2
Current liabilities	(114.3)	(116.7)
Reserves and deferred credits	(4.9)	(10.7)
Long-term debt	(822.3)	(834.5)
Partners' capital	827.0	834.8

<i>Year ended December 31 (millions of dollars)</i>	2000	1999
<b>Northern Border Pipeline Income Statement</b>		
Revenues	311.0	298.3
Costs and expenses	(69.5)	(69.0)
Depreciation	(57.3)	(51.9)
Financial charges and other	(57.1)	(58.8)
Net income	127.1	118.6

#### NOTE 4

##### **Investment in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company**

On September 1, 2000, TC PipeLines completed its acquisition of a 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company. The Partnership acquired this asset from TCPL Tuscarora Ltd., an indirect subsidiary of TransCanada, for a purchase price of \$28.0 million. The Partnership borrowed \$24.5 million from the Revolving Credit Facility (see Note 5) to fund a portion of the purchase price. The remainder of the purchase price was funded with cash on hand. TCPL Tuscarora Ltd. has retained a 1% general partner interest in Tuscarora. Tuscarora is subject to regulation by the FERC.

TC PipeLines' equity income from Tuscarora for the period September 1, 2000, the date of acquisition, to December 31, 2000 amounted to \$0.9 million representing 49% of the net income of Tuscarora for the same period.

The following sets out summarized financial information for Tuscarora as at and for the year ended December 31, 2000. TC PipeLines has held its general partner interest since September 1, 2000.

<i>December 31 (millions of dollars)</i>	2000
<b>Tuscarora Balance Sheet</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	7.1
Other current assets	3.2
Plant, property and equipment, net	115.7
Other assets	2.5
Current liabilities	(8.9)
Reserves and deferred credits	(12.0)
Long-term debt	(84.2)
Partners' capital	23.4

<i>Year ended December 31 (millions of dollars)</i>	2000
<b>Tuscarora Income Statement</b>	
Revenues	19.4
Costs and expenses	(2.4)
Depreciation	(4.4)
Financial charges and other	(5.8)
Net income	6.8

#### NOTE 5

##### **Credit Facilities and Long-Term Debt**

On August 22, 2000, the Partnership entered into an unsecured three-year credit facility with a third party (Revolving Credit Facility) under which the Partnership may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$30.0 million. Loans under the Revolving Credit Facility bear interest at a floating rate. The Revolving Credit Facility matures on August 31, 2003. Amounts borrowed may be repaid in part or in full prior to that time without penalty. The Revolving Credit Facility may be used to finance capital expenditures and for other general purposes. On September 1, 2000, the Partnership borrowed \$24.5 million from the Revolving Credit Facility to fund a portion of the purchase price of the 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora. At December 31, 2000, the Partnership had \$21.5 million outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility. The fair value of the Revolving Credit Facility approximates its carrying value. The weighted average interest rate for the period from September 1 to December 31, 2000, the four months the Revolving Credit Facility has been outstanding, was 7.57%. Interest paid during the year ended December 31, 2000 and the period May 28 to December 31, 1999 was \$0.5 million and nil, respectively.

On May 28, 1999, the Partnership entered into a \$40.0 million unsecured two-year revolving credit facility with TransCanada PipeLine USA Ltd. (TransCanada Credit Facility), an affiliate of the General Partner. The credit facility bears interest at London Interbank Offered Rate plus 1.25%. The purpose of the TransCanada Credit Facility is to provide borrowings to fund capital expenditures, to fund capital contributions to Northern Border Pipeline and for working capital and other general business purposes, including funding cash distributions to partners, if necessary. At December 31, 2000 and 1999, the Partnership had no amount outstanding under this credit facility.

## NOTE 6

**Partners' Capital and Distributions**

Partners' capital consists of 14,690,694 Common Units representing an 82.3% limited partner interest (an affiliate of the General Partner owns 2,800,000 of such Common Units), 2,809,306 Subordinated Units owned by the General Partner representing a 15.7% limited partner interest and a 2% general partner interest. In the aggregate, the General Partner's and its affiliate's interests represent an effective 33.4% ownership of the Partnership's equity.

The Partnership will make distributions to its partners with respect to each calendar quarter within 45 days after the end of each quarter. Distributions are based on available cash which includes all cash and cash equivalents of the Partnership and working capital borrowings less reserves established by the General Partner. Amounts will generally be distributed 98% to the holders of Common and Subordinated Units (collectively referred to as Unitholders) and 2% to the General Partner. The Unitholders are entitled to receive the minimum quarterly distribution (MQD) of \$0.45 per unit if and to the extent there is sufficient available cash. Distributions to holders of the Subordinated Units are subject, while Subordinated Units remain outstanding (Subordination Period), to the prior rights of holders of the Common Units to receive the MQD. The Subordination Period generally cannot end before June 30, 2004. Upon expiration of the Subordination Period, all Subordinated Units will be converted on a one-for-one basis into Common Units and will participate pro rata with all other Common Units in future distributions. Under certain circumstances, up to 66.7% of the Subordinated Units may convert into Common Units prior to the expiration of the Subordination Period. Common Units will not accrue arrearages with respect to distributions for any quarter after the Subordination Period and Subordinated Units will not accrue any arrearages with respect to distributions for any quarter.

As an incentive, the General Partner's percentage interest in quarterly distributions is increased after certain specified target levels are met. At the time the quarterly distributions exceed \$0.45 per unit, the General Partner will receive 15% of the excess. As the quarterly distributions are increased above \$0.5275 per unit, the General Partner will receive increasing percentages in excess of the targets reaching a maximum of 50% of the excess of the highest target level. For the year ended December 31, 2000 and the period May 28 to December 31, 1999, the Partnership distributed \$1.85 and \$1.068, respectively, per unit. The distributions for the year ended December 31, 2000 and the period May 28 to December 31, 1999 included incentive distributions to the General Partner in the amount of \$0.2 million and nil, respectively.

Partnership income is allocated to the General Partner and the limited partners in accordance with their respective partnership percentages, after giving effect to any priority income allocations for incentive distributions that are allocated 100% to the General Partner.

## NOTE 7

**Net Income per Unit**

Net income per unit is computed by dividing net income, after deduction of the General Partner's allocation, by the weighted average number of Common and Subordinated Units outstanding. The General Partner's allocation is equal to an amount based upon the General Partner's 2% interest, adjusted to reflect an amount equal to incentive distributions. Net income per unit was determined as follows:

<i>(thousands of dollars, except per unit amounts)</i>	Year ended December 31, 2000	May 28 <sup>(1)</sup> – December 31, 1999
Net income	<b>37,224</b>	20,224
Net income allocated to General Partner	<b>(745)</b>	(405)
Adjustment to reflect incentive distribution income allocation	<b>(159)</b>	–
	<b>(904)</b>	(405)
Net income allocable to units	<b>36,320</b>	19,819
Weighted average units outstanding (thousands)	<b>17,500</b>	17,500
Net income per unit	<b>\$2.08</b>	\$1.13

(1) Commencement of operations.

## NOTE 8

**Related Party Transactions**

The Partnership does not directly employ any persons to manage or operate its business. These functions are provided by the General Partner. The General Partner does not receive a management fee or other compensation in connection with its management of the Partnership. The Partnership reimburses the General Partner for all costs of services provided, including the costs of employee, officer and director compensation and benefits, and all other expenses necessary or appropriate to the conduct of the business of, and allocable to the Partnership. The Partnership Agreement provides that the General Partner will determine the expenses that are allocable to the Partnership in any reasonable manner determined by the General Partner in its sole discretion. Total costs reimbursed to the General Partner by the Partnership were approximately \$0.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 (\$0.2 million for the period from May 28, 1999 to December 31, 1999). Such costs include (i) personnel costs (such as salaries and employee benefits) of the personnel providing such services, (ii) overhead costs (such as office space and equipment) and (iii) out-of-pocket expenses related to the provision of such services.

On September 1, 2000, TC PipeLines, based on the approval of a committee comprised of its independent directors, completed its acquisition of a 49% general partner interest in Tuscarora. The Partnership acquired this asset from TCPL Tuscarora Ltd., an indirect subsidiary of TransCanada, for a purchase price of \$28.0 million. The Partnership borrowed \$24.5 million from the Revolving Credit Facility (see Note 5) to fund a portion of the purchase price. The remainder of the purchase price was funded with cash on hand.

TransCanada Energy Marketing USA, Inc. (TransCanada Energy), an affiliate of TransCanada, the parent of TC PipeLines' General Partner, has firm service agreements representing approximately 11.4% of contracted capacity. The firm service agreements for TransCanada Energy extend for various terms with termination dates that range from October 2003 to December 2008.

## NOTE 9

**Quarterly Financial Data (unaudited)**

<i>(thousands of dollars, except per unit amounts)</i>	Equity Income	Net Income	Net Income Per Unit	Cash Distributions <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>2000</b>				
First Quarter	<b>8,623</b>	<b>8,344</b>	<b>\$ 0.47</b>	<b>8,036</b>
Second Quarter	<b>8,824</b>	<b>8,533</b>	<b>\$ 0.48</b>	<b>8,036</b>
Third Quarter	<b>10,514</b>	<b>9,980</b>	<b>\$ 0.55</b>	<b>8,550</b>
Fourth Quarter	<b>11,101</b>	<b>10,367</b>	<b>\$ 0.58</b>	<b>8,550</b>
<b>1999</b>				
Second Quarter <sup>(2)</sup>	3,130	2,986	\$ 0.17	3,001
Third Quarter	8,738	8,499	\$ 0.48	8,036
Fourth Quarter	9,055	8,739	\$ 0.49	8,036

(1) Cash distributions are paid within 45 days after the end of each quarter.

(2) The Partnership commenced operations on May 28, 1999.

## NOTE 10

**Accounting Pronouncements**

In June 1998, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." In June 1999, the FASB issued SFAS No. 137 which deferred the effective date of SFAS No. 133 to fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2000. In June 2000 the FASB issued SFAS No. 138, which amended certain guidance within SFAS No. 133. The adoption of SFAS No. 133, as amended, will not have a material impact on TC PipeLines' financial position or results of operations.

## NOTE 11

**Subsequent Events**

On January 18, 2001, the Board of Directors of the General Partner declared a cash distribution of \$0.475 per unit related to the three months ended December 31, 2000. The \$8.5 million distribution is payable on February 14, 2001 in the following manner: \$7.0 million to the holders of Common Units as of the close of business on January 31, 2000, \$1.3 million to the General Partner as holder of the Subordinated Units, and \$0.2 million to the General Partner as holder of incentive distribution rights and in respect of its 2% general partner interest.

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

To Northern Border Pipeline Company:

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of Northern Border Pipeline Company (a Texas partnership) as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, and the related statements of income, cash flows and changes in partners' capital for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2000. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Northern Border Pipeline Company as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2000, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Arthur Andersen LLP  
Omaha, Nebraska,  
January 22, 2001

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## BALANCE SHEET

(In Thousands)

	December 31,	
	2000	1999
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 29,046	\$ 17,310
Accounts receivable	27,128	21,929
Related party receivables	6,008	5,120
Materials and supplies, at cost	4,957	3,645
Under recovered cost of service	-	3,068
Total current assets	<u>67,139</u>	<u>51,072</u>
NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION PLANT		
In service	2,364,487	2,363,291
Construction work in progress	14,405	4,730
Total property, plant and equipment	<u>2,378,892</u>	<u>2,368,021</u>
Less: Accumulated provision for depreciation and amortization	691,900	636,627
Property, plant and equipment, net	<u>1,686,992</u>	<u>1,731,394</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Total assets	<u>14,374</u>	<u>14,225</u>
	<u>\$1,768,505</u>	<u>\$1,796,691</u>
LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' CAPITAL		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 41,000	\$ 66,000
Accounts payable	26,087	5,588
Accrued taxes other than income	28,137	26,290
Accrued interest	14,401	16,504
Accumulated provision for rate refunds	4,726	2,317
Total current liabilities	<u>114,351</u>	<u>116,699</u>
LONG-TERM DEBT, NET OF CURRENT MATURITIES		
	<u>822,267</u>	<u>834,459</u>
RESERVES AND DEFERRED CREDITS		
	<u>4,892</u>	<u>10,698</u>
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note 6)		
PARTNERS' CAPITAL		
Total liabilities and partners' capital	<u>826,995</u>	<u>834,835</u>
	<u>\$1,768,505</u>	<u>\$1,796,691</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## STATEMENT OF INCOME

(In Thousands)

	Year ended December 31,		
	2000	1999	1998
OPERATING REVENUES			
Operating revenues	\$ 334,978	\$ 300,664	\$ 196,600
Provision for rate refunds	(23,956)	(2,317)	-
Operating revenues, net	<u>311,022</u>	<u>298,347</u>	<u>196,600</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Operations and maintenance	41,548	38,708	29,447
Depreciation and amortization	57,328	51,908	40,989
Taxes other than income	27,979	30,320	21,381
Regulatory credit	-	-	(8,878)
Operating expenses	<u>126,855</u>	<u>120,936</u>	<u>82,939</u>
OPERATING INCOME	<u>184,167</u>	<u>177,411</u>	<u>113,661</u>
INTEREST EXPENSE			
Interest expense	65,489	60,312	44,542
Interest expense capitalized	(328)	(98)	(19,001)
Interest expense, net	<u>65,161</u>	<u>60,214</u>	<u>25,541</u>
OTHER INCOME			
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	305	101	10,237
Other income, net	<u>7,753</u>	<u>1,262</u>	<u>1,874</u>
Other income	<u>8,058</u>	<u>1,363</u>	<u>12,111</u>
NET INCOME TO PARTNERS	<u>\$ 127,064</u>	<u>\$ 118,560</u>	<u>\$ 100,231</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

(In Thousands)

	Year ended December 31,		
	2000	1999	1998
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Net income to partners	\$ 127,064	\$ 118,560	\$ 100,231
Adjustments to reconcile net income to partners to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	57,682	51,962	41,005
Provision for rate refunds	25,082	2,317	-
Rate refunds paid	(22,673)	-	-
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	(305)	(101)	(10,237)
Reserves and deferred credits	(5,806)	880	(10)
Regulatory credit	-	-	(9,105)
Changes in components of working capital	(3,002)	(2,112)	(18,471)
Other	(2,075)	(40)	364
Total adjustments	48,903	52,906	3,546
Net cash provided by operating activities	175,967	171,466	103,777
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Capital expenditures for property, plant and equipment, net	(15,523)	(101,678)	(651,169)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Contributions from partners	-	-	223,000
Distributions to partners	(134,904)	(127,163)	(61,205)
Issuance of long-term debt, net	75,000	289,026	403,000
Retirement of long-term debt	(111,000)	(263,000)	-
Increase in bank overdraft	22,437	-	-
Proceeds received upon termination of interest rate forward agreements	-	12,896	-
Long-term debt financing costs	(241)	(1,626)	-
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(148,708)	(89,867)	564,795
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	11,736	(20,079)	17,403
Cash and cash equivalents-beginning of year	17,310	37,389	19,986
Cash and cash equivalents-end of year	\$ 29,046	\$ 17,310	\$ 37,389
Changes in components of working capital:			
Accounts receivable	\$ (6,087)	\$ (8,145)	\$ (1,567)
Materials and supplies	(1,312)	(285)	317
Accounts payable	1,585	(4,598)	(10,769)
Accrued taxes other than income	1,847	6,462	(466)
Accrued interest	(2,103)	4,741	1,396
Over/under recovered cost of service	3,068	(287)	(7,382)
Total	\$ (3,002)	\$ (2,112)	\$ (18,471)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN PARTNERS' CAPITAL**  
(In Thousands)

	TransCanada Border PipeLine Ltd.	TransCan Northern Ltd.	TC PipeLines Intermediate Limited Partnership	Northern Border Intermediate Limited Partnership	Total Partners' Capital
Partners' Capital at					
December 31, 1997	\$ 34,885	\$ 139,539	\$ -	\$ 406,988	\$ 581,412
Net income to partners	6,014	24,055	-	70,162	100,231
Contributions received	13,380	53,520	-	156,100	223,000
Distributions paid	(3,673)	(14,689)	-	(42,843)	(61,205)
Partners' Capital at					
December 31, 1998	50,606	202,425	-	590,407	843,438
Net income to partners	2,930	11,715	20,923	82,992	118,560
Distributions paid	(5,206)	(20,819)	(12,124)	(89,014)	(127,163)
Ownership transfer	(48,330)	(193,321)	241,651	-	-
Partners' Capital at					
December 31, 1999	-	-	250,450	584,385	834,835
Net income to partners	-	-	38,119	88,945	127,064
Distributions paid	-	-	(40,471)	(94,433)	(134,904)
Partners' Capital at					
December 31, 2000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 248,098	\$ 578,897	\$ 826,995

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

Northern Border Pipeline Company (Northern Border Pipeline) is a general partnership, formed in 1978, pursuant to the Texas Uniform Partnership Act. The ownership percentages of the partners in Northern Border Pipeline (Partners) at December 31, 2000 and 1999, are as follows:

<u>Partner</u>	<u>Ownership Percentage</u>
Northern Border Intermediate Limited Partnership	70
TC PipeLines Intermediate Limited Partnership	30

Net income and distributions are allocated to the Partners based on ownership percentage. Effective May 28, 1999, TransCanada Border Pipeline Ltd. and TransCan Northern Ltd. transferred their combined 30% ownership interest in Northern Border Pipeline to TC PipeLines Intermediate Limited Partnership (TC PipeLines) in connection with an initial public offering of limited partner interests in TC PipeLines, LP. In accordance with the partnership agreement, net income and distributions were prorated at the effective date of the ownership transfer.

Northern Border Pipeline owns a 1,214-mile natural gas transmission pipeline system extending from the United States-Canadian border near Port of Morgan, Montana, to a terminus near Manhattan, Illinois.

Northern Border Pipeline is managed by a Management Committee that includes three representatives from Northern Border Intermediate Limited Partnership (Partnership) and one representative from TC PipeLines. The Partnership's representatives selected by its general partners, Northern Plains Natural Gas Company (Northern Plains), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Enron Corp. (Enron), Pan Border Gas Company (Pan Border), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Northern Plains, and Northwest Border Pipeline Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Williams Companies, Inc., have 35%, 22.75% and 12.25%, respectively, of the voting interest on the Management Committee. The representative designated by TC PipeLines votes the remaining 30% interest. In December 1998, Northern Plains acquired Pan Border from a subsidiary of Duke Energy Corporation. At the closing of the acquisition, Pan Border's sole asset consisted of its general partner interest in the Partnership. The day-to-day management of Northern Border Pipeline's affairs is the responsibility of Northern Plains (the Operator), as defined by the operating agreement between Northern Border Pipeline and Northern Plains. Northern Border Pipeline is charged for the salaries, benefits and expenses of the

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Operator. For the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999, and 1998, Northern Border Pipeline reimbursed the Operator approximately \$31.7 million, \$29.7 million and \$30.0 million, respectively. Additionally, Northern Border Pipeline utilizes Enron affiliates for management on pipeline expansion and extension projects.

## 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### (A) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### (B) Government Regulation

Northern Border Pipeline is subject to regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Northern Border Pipeline's accounting policies conform to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 71, "Accounting for the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation." Accordingly, certain assets that result from the regulated ratemaking process are recorded that would not be recorded under generally accepted accounting principles for nonregulated entities. At December 31, 2000 and 1999, Northern Border Pipeline has reflected regulatory assets of approximately \$12.4 million and \$12.1 million, respectively, in Other Assets on the balance sheet. Northern Border Pipeline is recovering the regulatory assets from its shippers over varying time periods, which range from four to 43 years.

### (C) Revenue Recognition

Northern Border Pipeline transports gas for shippers under a tariff regulated by the FERC. The tariff specifies the calculation of amounts to be paid by shippers and the general terms and conditions of transportation service on the pipeline system. Northern Border Pipeline's revenues are derived from agreements for the receipt and delivery of gas at points along the pipeline system as specified in each shipper's individual transportation contract. Northern Border Pipeline does not own the gas that it transports, and therefore it does not assume the

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

related natural gas commodity risk. See Notes 3 and 4 for a further discussion of Northern Border Pipeline's tariff and transportation agreements.

(D) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value because of the short maturity of these investments.

(E) Income Taxes

Income taxes are the responsibility of the Partners and are not reflected in these financial statements. However, the Northern Border Pipeline FERC tariff establishes the method of accounting for and calculating income taxes and requires Northern Border Pipeline to reflect in its rates the income taxes which would have been paid or accrued if Northern Border Pipeline were organized during the period as a corporation. As a result, for purposes of determining transportation rates in calculating the return allowed by the FERC, Partners' capital and rate base are reduced by the amount equivalent to the net accumulated deferred income taxes. Such amounts were approximately \$326 million and \$316 million at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively, and are primarily related to accelerated depreciation and other plant-related differences.

(F) Property, Plant and Equipment and Related Depreciation and Amortization

Property, plant and equipment is stated at original cost. The original cost of property retired is charged to accumulated depreciation and amortization, net of salvage and cost of removal. No retirement gain or loss is included in income except in the case of extraordinary retirements or sales.

Maintenance and repairs are charged to operations in the period incurred. The provision for depreciation and amortization of the transmission line is an integral part of Northern Border Pipeline's FERC tariff. The effective depreciation rates applied to Northern Border Pipeline's transmission plant in 2000, 1999 and 1998 were 2.25%, 2.0% and 2.5%, respectively. Based upon the rate case settlement discussed in Note 3, Northern Border Pipeline will continue to use a 2.25% depreciation rate. Composite rates are applied to all other functional groups of property having similar economic characteristics.

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(G) Allowance for Funds Used During Construction

The allowance for funds used during construction (AFUDC) represents the estimated costs, during the period of construction, of funds used for construction purposes. For regulated activities, Northern Border Pipeline is permitted to earn a return on and recover AFUDC through its inclusion in rate base and the provision for depreciation.

(H) Risk Management

Financial instruments are used by Northern Border Pipeline in the management of its interest rate exposure. A control environment has been established which includes policies and procedures for risk assessment and the approval, reporting and monitoring of financial instrument activities. As a result, Northern Border Pipeline has entered into various interest rate swap agreements with major financial institutions which hedge interest rate risk by effectively converting certain of its floating rate debt to fixed rate debt. Northern Border Pipeline does not use these instruments for trading purposes. The cost or benefit of the interest rate swap agreements is recognized currently as a component of interest expense.

3. RATES AND REGULATORY ISSUESRate Case

Northern Border Pipeline's revenue is derived from agreements with various shippers for the transportation of natural gas. It transports gas under a FERC regulated tariff. Northern Border Pipeline had used a cost of service form of tariff since its inception but agreed to convert to a stated rate form of tariff as part of the settlement of its current rate case discussed below.

Under the cost of service tariff, Northern Border Pipeline was provided an opportunity to recover all of the operations and maintenance costs of the pipeline, taxes other than income taxes, interest, depreciation and amortization, an allowance for income taxes and a regulated return on equity. Northern Border Pipeline was generally allowed to collect from its shippers a return on regulated rate base as well as recover that rate base through depreciation and amortization. Billings for the firm transportation agreements were based on contracted volumes to determine the allocable share of the cost of service and were not dependent upon the percentage of available capacity actually used. Under the cost of service tariff, Northern Border Pipeline billed on an estimated basis for a six-

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

month cycle. Any net excess or deficiency resulting from the comparison of the actual cost of service determined for the period in accordance with the FERC tariff to the estimated billing was accumulated, including carrying charges thereon, and was either billed to or credited back to the shippers. Revenues reflected actual cost of service. An amount equal to differences between billing estimates and the actual cost of service, including carrying charges, was reflected in current assets or current liabilities.

Northern Border Pipeline filed a rate proceeding with the FERC in May 1999 for, among other things, a redetermination of its allowed equity rate of return. The total annual cost of service increase due to Northern Border Pipeline's proposed changes was approximately \$30 million. In June 1999, the FERC issued an order in which the proposed changes were suspended until December 1, 1999, after which the proposed changes were implemented with subsequent billings subject to refund.

In September 2000, Northern Border Pipeline filed a stipulation and agreement with the FERC that documented the proposed settlement of its pending rate case. The settlement was approved by the FERC in December 2000. Under the approved settlement, effective December 1, 1999, shippers will pay stated transportation rates based on a straight-fixed variable rate design. Under the straight-fixed variable rate design, approximately 98% of the agreed upon revenue level is attributed to demand charges, based upon contracted firm capacity, and the remaining 2% is attributed to commodity charges, based on the volumes of gas actually transported on the system. From December 1, 1999, through and including December 31, 2000, the rates were based upon an annual revenue level of \$307 million. For periods after December 31, 2000, the rates are based upon an annual revenue level of \$305 million. The settlement further provides for the incorporation into Northern Border Pipeline's rate base all of the construction costs of The Chicago Project, which was Northern Border Pipeline's expansion and extension of its pipeline from near Harper, Iowa, to a point near Manhattan, Illinois. Northern Border Pipeline had placed into service the facilities for the Chicago Project in December 1998. Under the settlement, both Northern Border Pipeline and its existing shippers will not be able to seek rate changes until November 1, 2005, at which time Northern Border Pipeline must file a new rate case.

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

After the FERC approved the rate case settlement and prior to the end of 2000, Northern Border Pipeline made estimated refund payments to its shippers totaling approximately \$22.7 million, primarily related to the period from December 1999 to November 2000. At December 31, 2000, Northern Border Pipeline had estimated its remaining refund obligation through the end of 2000 to be approximately \$4.7 million, which is expected to be paid in the first quarter of 2001. Northern Border Pipeline's operating revenues for 2000 reflect the significant terms of the approved settlement.

Certificate application

In October 1998, Northern Border Pipeline filed a certificate application with the FERC to seek approval to expand and extend its pipeline system into Indiana (Project 2000). When completed, Project 2000 will afford shippers on the expanded and extended pipeline system access to industrial gas consumers in northern Indiana. The certificate application was subsequently amended by Northern Border Pipeline in March and December 1999. On March 16, 2000, the FERC issued an order granting Northern Border Pipeline's application for a certificate to construct and operate the proposed facilities. The FERC approved Northern Border Pipeline's request for rolled-in rate treatment based upon the proposed project costs. The project has a targeted in-service date of November 2001. The capital expenditures for the project are estimated to be approximately \$94 million, of which \$10.8 million had been incurred through December 31, 2000.

4. TRANSPORTATION SERVICE AGREEMENTS

Operating revenues are collected pursuant to the FERC tariff through firm transportation service agreements (firm service agreements). The firm service agreements extend for various terms with termination dates that range from October 2001 to December 2013. Northern Border Pipeline also has interruptible service agreements with numerous other shippers as a result of its self-implementing blanket transportation authority. Under the approved settlement of the rate case discussed in Note 3, in certain situations, Northern Border Pipeline will reduce the billings for the firm service agreements by one half of the revenues received from the interruptible service agreements through October 31, 2003. After October 31, 2003, all revenues from interruptible transportation service will be retained by Northern Border Pipeline.

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Northern Border Pipeline's largest shipper, Pan-Alberta Gas (U.S.) Inc. (PAGUS), is presently obligated for approximately 25.5% of the contracted firm capacity through three firm service agreements which expire in October 2003. Financial guarantees exist through October 2001 for approximately 16.3% of the contracted firm capacity of PAGUS, including 10.5% guaranteed by Northern Natural Gas Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Enron. The remaining obligation of PAGUS is supported by various credit support arrangements, including among others, a letter of credit, an escrow account and an upstream capacity transfer agreement. Operating revenues from the PAGUS firm service agreements and interruptible service agreements for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 were \$65.0 million, \$76.6 million and \$87.3 million, respectively.

TransCanada Energy Marketing USA, Inc. (TransCanada Energy), an affiliate of TC PipeLines, has firm service agreements representing approximately 11.4% of contracted capacity. The firm service agreements for TransCanada Energy extend for various terms with termination dates that range from October 2003 to December 2008. Other shippers affiliated with the Partners of Northern Border Pipeline have firm service agreements representing approximately 7.1% of contracted capacity. These firm service agreements extend for various terms with termination dates that range from January 2002 to May 2009. Operating revenues from the affiliated firm service agreements and interruptible service agreements for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999, and 1998 were \$58.5 million, \$52.5 million and \$22.4 million, respectively.

5. CREDIT FACILITIES AND LONG-TERM DEBT

Detailed information on long-term debt is as follows:

(Thousands of dollars)	December 31,	
	2000	1999
1992 Senior Notes - average 8.49% and 8.43% at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively, due from 2000 to 2003	\$ 184,000	\$ 250,000
Pipeline Credit Agreement		
Term loan, due 2002	424,000	439,000
Five-year revolving credit facility	45,000	-
1999 Senior Notes - 7.75%, due 2009	200,000	200,000
Unamortized proceeds from termination of interest rate forward agreements	11,107	12,397
Unamortized debt discount	(840)	(938)
Total	863,267	900,459
Less: Current maturities of long-term debt	41,000	66,000
Long-term debt	<u>\$ 822,267</u>	<u>\$ 834,459</u>

**NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY****NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

In August 1999, Northern Border Pipeline completed a private offering of \$200 million of 7.75% Senior Notes due 2009, which notes were subsequently exchanged in a registered offering for notes with substantially identical terms (1999 Senior Notes). Also in August 1999, Northern Border Pipeline received approximately \$12.9 million from the termination of interest rate forward agreements, which is included in long-term debt on the balance sheet and is being amortized against interest expense over the life of the 1999 Senior Notes. The interest rate forward agreements, which had an aggregate notional amount of \$150 million, had been executed in September 1998 to hedge the interest rate on a planned issuance of fixed rate debt in 1999. The proceeds from the private offering, net of debt discounts and issuance costs, and the termination of the interest rate forward agreements were used to reduce existing indebtedness under a June 1997 credit agreement.

In June 1997, Northern Border Pipeline entered into a credit agreement (Pipeline Credit Agreement) with certain financial institutions to borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$750 million. The Pipeline Credit Agreement is comprised of a \$200 million five-year revolving credit facility to be used for the retirement of a previously existing bank loan agreement and for general business purposes, and a \$550 million three-year revolving credit facility to be used for the construction of The Chicago Project. Effective March 1999, in accordance with the provisions of the Pipeline Credit Agreement, Northern Border Pipeline converted the three-year revolving credit facility to a term loan maturing in June 2002. The Pipeline Credit Agreement permits Northern Border Pipeline to choose among various interest rate options, to specify the portion of the borrowings to be covered by specific interest rate options and to specify the interest rate period, subject to certain parameters. Northern Border Pipeline is required to pay a facility fee on the remaining aggregate principal commitment amount of \$624 million.

At December 31, 2000 and 1999, Northern Border Pipeline had an outstanding interest rate swap agreement with a notional amount of \$40 million, which will terminate in November 2001. Under the agreement, Northern Border Pipeline makes payments to counterparties at fixed rates and in return receives payments at variable rates based on the London Interbank Offered Rate. At December 31, 2000 and 1999, Northern Border Pipeline was in a payable position relative to its counterparties. The average effective interest rate of Northern Border Pipeline's variable rate debt, taking into consideration the interest rate swap agreement, was 7.06% and 6.73% at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized, during the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 was \$68.0 million, \$55.5 million and \$23.8 million, respectively.

Aggregate required repayments of long-term debt are as follows: \$41 million, \$547 million and \$65 million for 2001, 2002 and 2003, respectively. There are no required repayment obligations for either 2004 or 2005.

Certain of Northern Border Pipeline's long-term debt and credit arrangements contain requirements as to the maintenance of minimum partners' capital and debt to capitalization ratios which restrict the incurrence of other indebtedness by Northern Border Pipeline and also place certain restrictions on distributions to the partners of Northern Border Pipeline. Under the most restrictive of the covenants, as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively, \$136 million and \$132 million of partners' capital of Northern Border Pipeline could be distributed.

The following estimated fair values of financial instruments represent the amount at which each instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties. Based on quoted market prices for similar issues with similar terms and remaining maturities, the estimated fair value of the 1992 Senior Notes was approximately \$191 million and \$273 million at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively. The estimated fair value of the 1999 Senior Notes was approximately \$213 million and \$201 million at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively. At December 31, 2000 and 1999, the estimated fair value which would be payable to terminate the interest rate swap agreement, taking into account current interest rates, was approximately \$1 million. Northern Border Pipeline presently intends to maintain the current schedule of maturities for the 1992 Senior Notes, 1999 Senior Notes and the interest rate swap agreement which will result in no gains or losses on their respective repayment. The fair value of Northern Border Pipeline's variable rate debt approximates the carrying value since the interest rates are periodically adjusted to reflect current market conditions.

## 6. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

### Capital expenditures

Total capital expenditures for 2001 are estimated to be \$97 million. This includes approximately \$81 million for Project 2000 (see Note 3) and approximately \$16 million for renewals and replacements of

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

the existing facilities. Funds required to meet the capital expenditures for 2001 are anticipated to be provided primarily from debt borrowings and internal sources.

Environmental Matters

Northern Border Pipeline is not aware of any material contingent liabilities with respect to compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations.

Other

Various legal actions that have arisen in the ordinary course of business are pending. Northern Border Pipeline believes that the resolution of these issues will not have a material adverse impact on Northern Border Pipeline's results of operations or financial position.

7. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (Unaudited)

<u>(In thousands)</u>	<u>Operating Revenues, net</u>	<u>Operating Income</u>	<u>Net Income to Partners</u>
2000			
First Quarter	\$ 76,241	\$ 44,628	\$ 28,744
Second Quarter	77,346	44,305	29,413
Third Quarter	78,241	47,584	34,293
Fourth Quarter	79,194	47,650	34,614
1999			
First Quarter	\$ 73,635	\$ 44,271	\$ 30,315
Second Quarter	73,022	43,788	28,933
Third Quarter	73,925	44,017	29,127
Fourth Quarter	77,765	45,335	30,185

## 8. ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In 1998, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." SFAS No. 133 establishes accounting and reporting standards requiring that every derivative instrument (including certain derivative instruments embedded in other contracts) be recorded on the balance sheet as either an asset or liability measured at its fair value. The statement requires that changes in the derivative's fair value be recognized currently in earnings unless specific hedge accounting criteria are met. Special accounting for qualifying hedges allows a derivative's gains and losses to offset related results on the hedged item in the income statement, and requires that a company formally document, designate and assess the effectiveness of transactions that receive hedge accounting.

**NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

In June 1999, the FASB issued SFAS No. 137, which deferred the effective date of SFAS No. 133 to fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2000. In June 2000, the FASB issued SFAS No. 138, which amended certain guidance within SFAS No. 133. Northern Border Pipeline will adopt SFAS No. 133 beginning January 1, 2001. The adoption of SFAS No. 133, as amended, will not have a material impact on Northern Border Pipeline's financial position or results of operations.

9. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Northern Border Pipeline makes distributions to its general partners approximately one month following the end of the quarter. The distribution for the fourth quarter of 2000 of approximately \$31.4 million is payable February 2, 2001.

## NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
ON SCHEDULE**

To Northern Border Pipeline Company:

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States, the financial statements of Northern Border Pipeline Company included in this Form 10-K and have issued our report thereon dated January 22, 2001. Our audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The schedule of Northern Border Pipeline Company listed in Item 14 of Part IV of this Form 10-K is the responsibility of the Company's management and is presented for purposes of complying with the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and is not part of the basic financial statements. This schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, fairly states in all material respects the financial data required to be set forth therein in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Arthur Andersen LLP  
Omaha, Nebraska,  
January 22, 2001

**NORTHERN BORDER PIPELINE COMPANY**  
**SCHEDULE II - VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000, 1999 AND 1998**  
(In Thousands)

Column A	Column B	Column C		Column D	Column E
Description	Balance at Beginning of Year	Additions		Deductions	Balance at End of Year
Description	of Year	Charged to Costs and Expenses	Charged to Other Accounts	For Purpose For Which Reserves Were Created	End of Year
Reserve for regulatory issues					
2000	\$ 7,376	\$ 1,800	\$ -	\$ 7,376	\$ 1,800
1999	\$ 6,726	\$ 650	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,376
1998	\$ 6,726	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,726

**Board of Directors of the  
General Partner of  
TC PipeLines, LP**

*(December 31, 2000)*

Russell K. Girling  
*Executive Vice-President and  
Chief Financial Officer  
TransCanada PipeLines Limited  
Calgary, Alberta*

Robert A. Helman  
*Partner  
Mayer, Brown & Platt  
Chicago, Illinois*

Jack F. Jenkins-Stark  
*Senior Vice-President and  
Chief Financial Officer  
Silicon Energy Corp.  
Alameda, California*

David L. Marshall  
*Retired Vice Chairman  
The Pittston Company  
Hilton Head, South Carolina*

Dennis J. McConaghy  
*Senior Vice-President Business Development  
TransCanada PipeLines Limited  
Calgary, Alberta*

Valentin Mirosch  
*Executive Vice-President, Regulatory  
Strategy and Northern Development  
TransCanada PipeLines Limited  
Calgary, Alberta*

Ronald J. Turner  
*Executive Vice-President  
Operations and Engineering  
TransCanada PipeLines Limited  
Calgary, Alberta*

**Executive Officers of the  
General Partner of  
TC PipeLines, LP**

*(December 31, 2000)*

Ronald J. Turner  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

Russell K. Girling  
*Chief Financial Officer*

Paul F. MacGregor  
*Vice-President, Business Development*

Donald R. Marchand  
*Vice-President and Treasurer*

Gary G. Penrose  
*Vice-President, Taxation*

Theresa Jang  
*Controller*

Rhondda E. S. Grant  
*Secretary*

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www.tcpipelineslp.com

**K-1 Information**

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**Stock Exchange Listing**

Nasdaq Stock Market  
Symbol: TCLPZ

**Auditors**

KPMG LLP  
Calgary, Alberta

**Transfer Agent**

Mellon Investor Services LLC  
Ridgefield Park, New Jersey



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