

Question from respondent:

On page 3 of the NEB RFI, it states (as one of the high-level requirements for the solution) that: “Employees of regulated companies and other people, collectively called tipsters, are able to report online to disclose alleged acts of non-compliance.” Is it possible for the NEB to provide additional information regarding the various groups/regulated pipelines/facilities whom you would want to make the system available to, and what types of incidents (tips) these various groups would likely use the system for, to report to the NEB? As well, and if possible, can the number of potential end users of the system be provided (in other words, how large a population will have access to report tips through the reporting mechanism)?

Response:

The system should be made available to anyone with internet access for the submission of a confidential disclosure. With the introduction of a new system to report tips anonymously, the number of external parties using the future system to report tips in is unknown.

The system will be used by tipsters to report allegations of non-compliance, with legislation that is within the NEB’s mandate (e.g. the NEB Act, Onshore Pipeline Regulations (OPR), Processing Plant Regulations (PPR), etc.).

- For example, an employee of regulated company is aware of substandard materials being used in the construction of a facility. The employee may have reported this to their employer with unsatisfactory results.

Access to reported tips in their original format and content will be limited to the Intake Unit, comprised of designated specialists (less than 6 individuals).

Case files will be assigned to a few specialists, on a need to know basis; these specialists require access to anonymous information and the system for the assigned file for the completion of typical case management activities.

Additionally, access to anonymized information will be limited to an executive committee (less than 6 members).