

## Trudeau hedges energy bets

### APPROVED

Liberals consent to controversial expansion of Kinder Morgan pipeline to Vancouver as well as a second one into Wisconsin

### REJECTED

Government kills Enbridge's Northern Gateway project and reaffirms a ban on crude-oil tankers off northern coast of British Columbia



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, centre, made the pipeline announcement at a news conference in Ottawa, flanked by, from left to right, Transport Minister Marc Garneau, Fisheries Minister Dominic LeBlanc, Environment Minister Catherine McKenna, Natural Resources Minister Jim Carr and Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould. CHRIS WATIE/REUTERS

### Move gives Alberta a boost, but upsets environmentalists

SHAWN MCCARTHY OTTAWA  
JEFF LEWIS CALGARY

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau gave a shot in the arm Tuesday to Alberta's struggling oil industry by approving two major crude pipelines, a decision that provoked outrage from environmentalists, some First Nations leaders and B.C.'s Lower Mainland politicians.

At a news conference in Ottawa, Mr. Trudeau gave the green light to Kinder Morgan Inc.'s tripling of capacity on its Trans Mountain line to Vancouver, and Enbridge Inc.'s expansion of its main export line to the U.S. — a total of one million barrels a day of added export capacity from Alberta.

However, the Prime Minister indicated Enbridge's long-stalled Northern Gateway pipeline through the Great Bear Rainforest will not proceed, and Ottawa will impose a moratorium on crude tanker traffic off the northern coast of B.C.

"We made this decision today because we are convinced it is in the best interests of all Canadians," he said. "We heard clearly from Canadians that they don't want to see someone trying to make a choice between what's good for the environment and what's good for the economy."

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### Trudeau decided to own it, and now he does

CAMPBELL CLARK

This is the decision that upsets the image of Justin Trudeau as an all-things-to-all-voters people-pleaser. On Tuesday, he risked his own popularity, and several of his party's seats, by approving Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline. And he came out to announce it, in person, and on camera.

By now, the Trans Mountain decision seemed almost unavoidable, because Mr. Trudeau had promised he would find a way to get Canadian oil off the continent, and effectively made it the centre of an ambitious political bargain — a pipeline matched with a climate-change plan. But it still took nerve. Approving Trans Mountain means more oil tankers in Vancouver Harbour, upsetting many of the voters who elected Liberals in 15 Lower Mainland ridings. Two Liberal MPs publicly opposed it.

Mr. Trudeau can expect vociferous protests, accusations that he sold out his promises of environmental stewardship. Even before the announcement, NDP Leader Tom Mulcair was calling it a "betrayal." Yet Mr. Trudeau put his face on the announcement.

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### Approval was crucial to Notley's political survival

GARY MASON

In making the most contentious decision in the short life of his government, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau gave Alberta Premier Rachel Notley the biggest victory in the brief life of hers.

The federal government's approval of Kinder Morgan Inc.'s controversial Trans Mountain pipeline expansion is news that will be felt across this country — but nowhere more than in Alberta, a province economically ravaged by the downturn in the price of oil. The political ripple the announcement creates is difficult to overstate.

The project gives Ms. Notley's centre-left New Democratic Party something successive Progressive Conservative administrations in Alberta couldn't accomplish over the decade a Conservative government was in control in Ottawa.

No wonder Ms. Notley was so jubilant over the news: Her long-term political survival depended on it. For her opponents, it is the most bitter of pills to swallow.

Ms. Notley had to risk some dicey moves of her own to lay the groundwork for this outcome.

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