**Project Title:** Study on the Approval and Construction of Pipelines

**Principal Investigator: Dr. Mark Zbaracki; Ivey Business School, London, Ontario; mzbaracki@ivey.ca**

**Researcher: Julian Barg, PhD Candidate; Ivey Business School, London, Ontario; jbarg.phd@ivey.ca**

# Letter of Information

## Introduction

You are being invited to participate in this research study about the approval, and construction of large pipelines because you were involved in or affected by the construction of a large pipeline. The purpose of this study is to unveil the flow of information between different actors during the overall process. It is expected that this interview will last for about 1 hour. If questions remain open after this interview, the researcher may contact you again and schedule a follow-up interview.

If you agree to participate, the researcher will conduct a phone call or zoom call with you. You will be asked questions on your communication with other actors regarding the construction of pipelines, and the researcher will develop timelines with you. The researcher may audio-/video-record the session with your consent, or you may proceed without recording, in which case the researcher will take notes by hand.

## Benefits

You may not directly benefit from participating in this study but the data gathered from this study may allow society as a whole to develop a better understanding of how the decision to conduct large projects, such as the construction of pipelines, comes about.

## Participation and Withdrawal

If you decide to withdraw from the study, you may do so at any time by informing the researcher and ending the conversation. However, once it has been anonymized, the researcher may no longer be able to remove your data from the dataset.

## Confidentiality

If the results of the study are published, your name will not be used.

All data will be collected anonymously and neither the researchers nor anyone else will be able to identify you as a research participant. The data will be stored on a secure server at Western University and will be retained for a minimum of 7 years. Your data may be retained indefinitely and could be used for future research purposes (e.g., to answer a new research question). By consenting to participate in this study, you are agreeing that your data can be used beyond the purposes of this present study by either the current or other researchers.

## Compensation for Participation

You will not be compensated for your participation in this research.

## Rights of Research Participants

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You may decide not to be in this study. Even if you consent to participate you have the right to not answer individual questions or to withdraw from the study at any time.

You do not waive any legal right by consenting to this study.

## Who to Contact with Questions

If you have questions about this research study please contact Mr. Julian Barg: +1 226 984-1461; barg.julian@gmail.com.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant or the conduct of this study, you may contact The Office of Human Research Ethics (519) 661-3036, 1-844-720-9816, email: ethics@uwo.ca. This office oversees the ethical conduct of research studies and is not part of the study team. Everything that you discuss will be kept confidential.

If you would like to receive a copy of any potential study results, please contact PI’s name at the email address shown above.

**This letter is yours to keep for future reference.**

# Verbal Consent Form

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**Principal Investigator:** Julian Barg; Ivey Business School, London, Ontario; jbarg.phd@ivey.ca

I have read the Letter of Information (or it has been read to me), have had the nature of the study explained to me and I agree to participate. All questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

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| --- |
| I agree to be audio-recorded in this research. |
| ☐ Yes |
| ☐ No |

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| I consent to the use of unidentified quotes obtained during the study in the dissemination of this research. |
| ☐ Yes |
| ☐ No |

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|  |
| Participant name |

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|  |
| Date of participant verbal consent |

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| --- |
|  |
| Name of person obtaining consent |

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| Signature of person obtaining consent |

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| Date |