

Arctic Gas to Spend \$30 Million On Pipeline Studies This Year

The President of the Alaskan Arctic Gas Pipeline Company will spend \$30 million in further study of the firm's proposed Alaskan-

Canadian pipeline project in 1975, bringing the total invested by Arctic Gas in the pipeline project to nearly \$100 million, according to its

president, Robert W. Ward. Arctic Gas has filed with U.S. and Canadian authorities for permits to construct a 2600-mile, large-

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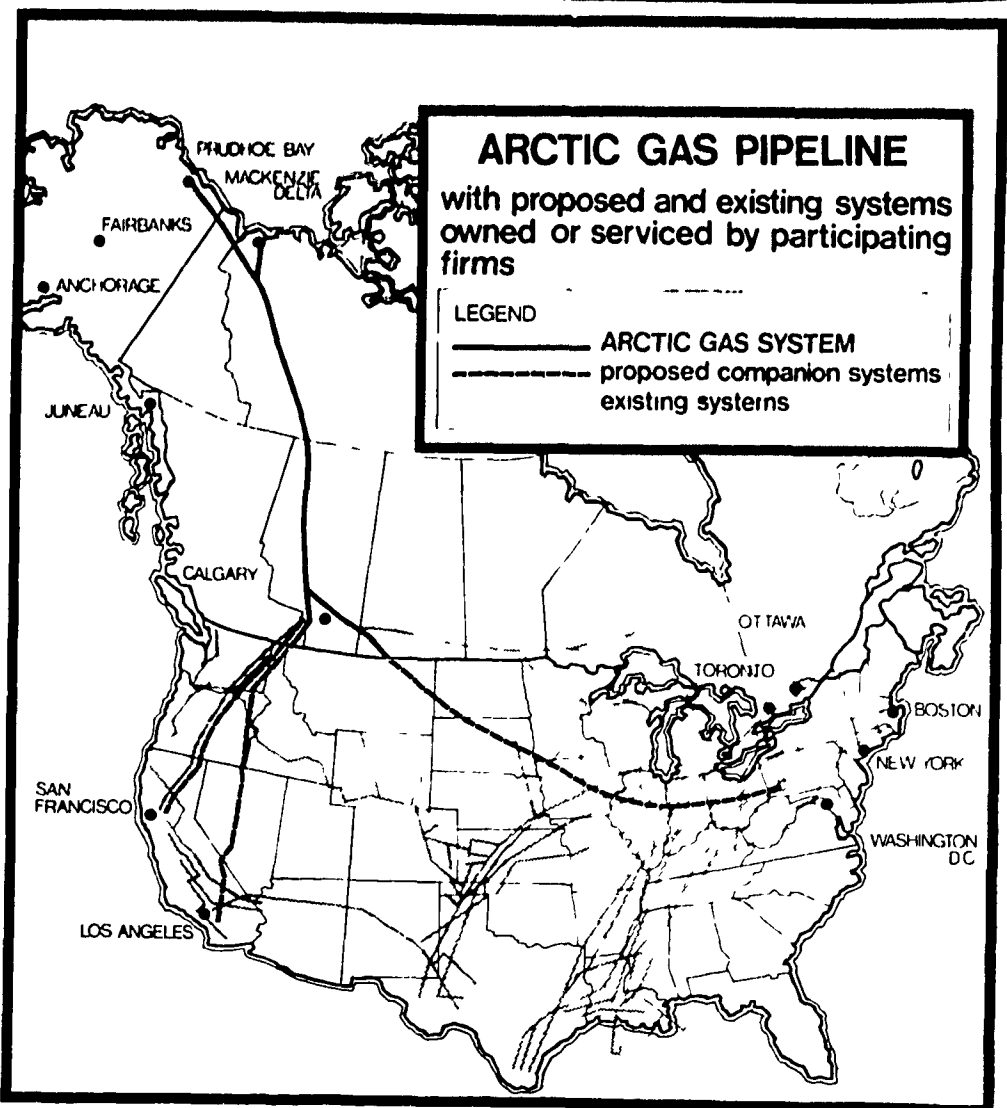
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diameter pipeline to bring prolific natural gas reserves at Alaska's Prudhoe Bay and Canada's Mackenzie River Delta area to major market areas throughout both countries.

"We will be spending nearly \$16 million to further

our studies on engineering and construction," Ward noted, "with an additional \$2.5 million to go to further environmental and socio-economic studies."

Ward said engineering monies will go to complete work on applications before federal authorities, further documentation on previously performed work as well as geotechnical studies, a pre-construction engineering program and final site locations within the pipeline route.

"Our efforts in the construction area will include detailed construction schedules and cost estimates, plus pipeline construction planning and final documents for federal authorities," Ward added.

Ward, in noting New York state officials have ordered several utilities to stop accepting new gas customers because of gas shortages, said the \$5.6 billion Arctic Gas Pipeline has a planned carrying capacity of at least 4.5 billion cubic feet per day without expansion.

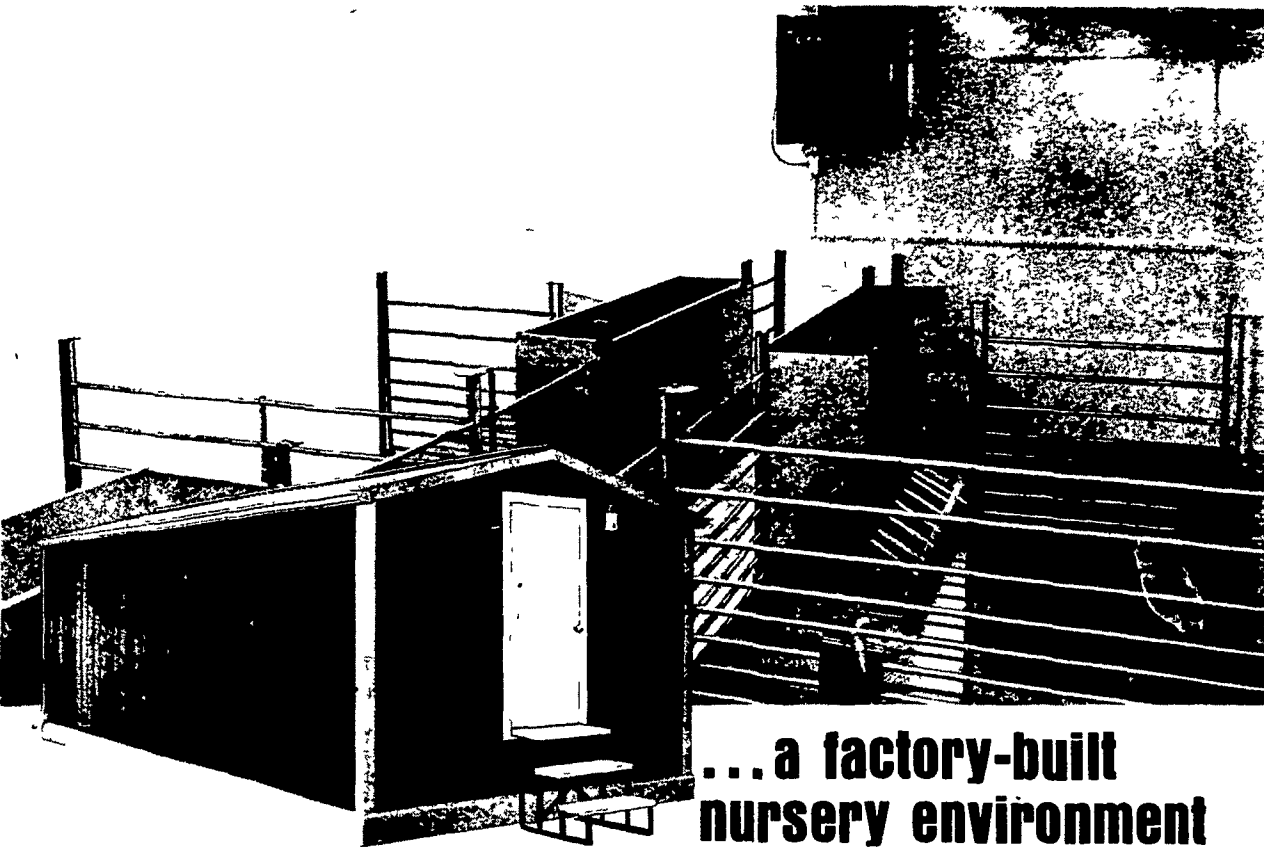
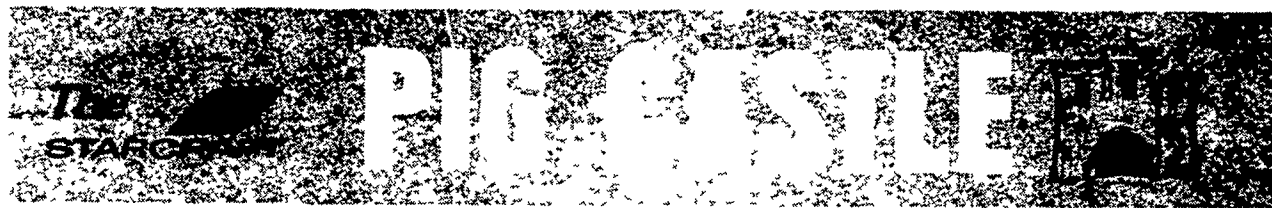
He also discussed a 1600-

mile companion pipeline proposed by six Arctic Gas supporting members called Northern Border Pipeline. The pipeline would meet the Arctic Gas line at the Canadian border in Montana and run east into Pennsylvania, distributing gas as it moved eastward. Other pipelines would take gas from the Arctic Gas line and move it from the Idaho-Canadian border to the western states.

"The Arctic Gas system would cost hundreds of millions of dollars less annually and use 75 percent less fuel in transportation than an alternate proposal," Ward said, "thus offering the most efficient, economical, and direct means of transporting the maximum amount of Alaskan gas to U.S. consumers throughout the nation."

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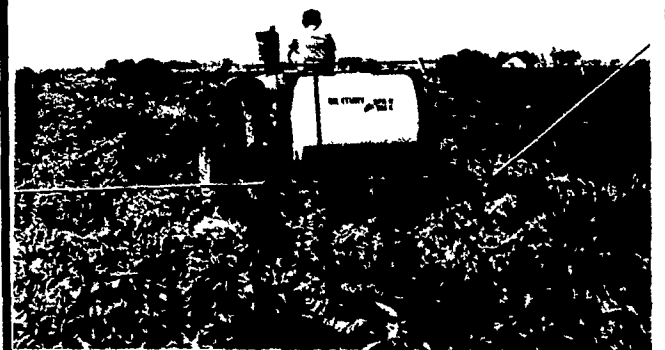
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