

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): JANUARY 16, 2004

TC PIPELINES, LP  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	000-26091 (Commission File Number)	52-2135448 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
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110 TURNPIKE ROAD, SUITE 203 WESTBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS (Address of principal executive offices)	01581 (Zip Code)
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(508) 871-7046  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit 99.1 - News Release of TC PipeLines, LP (the "Partnership")  
entitled "TC PipeLines, LP Fourth Quarter Distribution", dated January 16,  
2004.

ITEM 9. REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE.

On January 16, 2004 the Partnership issued a news release announcing its  
fourth quarter distribution.

The information in Item 9 of this report is being furnished, not filed,  
pursuant to Regulation FD. Accordingly, the information in Item 9 of this  
report will not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement  
filed by the Partnership under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, unless  
specifically identified therein as being incorporated therein by reference.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements 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.

TC PipeLines, LP

By: TC PipeLines GP, Inc.,  
its general partner

Dated: January 16, 2004

By: /s/ Ronald J. Turner  
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Ronald J. Turner  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit 99.1 News Release of TC PipeLines, LP entitled "TC PipeLines,  
LP Fourth Quarter Distribution", dated January 16, 2004.

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News Release

## TC PIPELINES, LP ANNOUNCES FOURTH QUARTER DISTRIBUTION

Calgary, Alberta - January 16, 2004 - (Nasdaq: TCLP) - TC PipeLines, LP (the Partnership) today announced that the board of directors of TC PipeLines GP, Inc., its general partner, has declared the Partnership's fourth quarter 2003 distribution in the amount of US\$0.55 per unit. This distribution is payable on February 13, 2004 to unitholders of record as of January 30, 2004.

Northern Border Pipeline Company ("Northern Border Pipeline") has advised the Partnership that it has declared today its fourth quarter 2003 distribution and has confirmed its intention to make such distribution to the Partnership. The Partnership owns a 30% interest in Northern Border Pipeline, the remaining 70% is owned by Northern Border Partners, L.P. ("Northern Border Partners"). Notwithstanding Northern Border Partners' announcement earlier today that it does not intend to declare its distribution for the quarter ended December 31, 2003 by January 20, 2004, the Partnership will be able to make its distribution in the ordinary course.

TC PipeLines, LP is a publicly held limited partnership. It owns a 30% interest in Northern Border Pipeline Company, a Texas general partnership, and a 49% interest in Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company, a Nevada general partnership. Northern Border Pipeline, which is owned 70% by Northern Border Partners, L.P., a publicly traded master limited partnership controlled by affiliates of Enron Corp., owns a 1,249-mile United States interstate pipeline system that transports natural gas from the Montana-Saskatchewan border to markets in the midwestern United States. Tuscarora owns a 240-mile United States interstate pipeline system that transports natural gas from Oregon, where it interconnects with facilities of Gas Transmission Northwest Corporation (GTN), to northern Nevada. TC PipeLines, LP is managed by its general partner, TC PipeLines GP, Inc., a wholly

owned subsidiary of TransCanada PipeLines Limited. Subsidiaries of TransCanada also hold common and subordinated units of the Partnership. Common units of TC PipeLines, LP are quoted on the Nasdaq Stock Market and trade under the symbol "TCLP". For more information about TC PipeLines, LP, visit the Partnership's Internet site at [www.tcpipelineslp.com](http://www.tcpipelineslp.com).

## Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward Looking Information

This news release includes forward-looking statements regarding future events and the future financial performance of TC PipeLines, LP. All forward-looking statements are based on the Partnership's beliefs as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to the Partnership. When used herein, words such as "believes", "expects", "intends", "forecasts", "projects", and similar expressions, identify forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Securities Litigation Reform Act. These statements reflect the Partnership's current views with respect to future events and are subject to various risks, uncertainties and assumptions including regulatory decisions, particularly those of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Securities and Exchange Commission, cost of acquisitions, future demand for natural gas, overcapacity in the industry, and prevailing economic conditions, particularly conditions of the capital and equity markets, and other risks discussed in detail in the Partnership's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Partnership's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002. If one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or if the underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described in the forward-looking statement. Except as required by applicable securities laws, TC PipeLines, LP does not intend to update these forward-looking statements.

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