

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
 Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office

Environmental Notification Form

<p><i>For Office Use Only</i></p> <p>EEA#: <u>15812</u></p> <p>MEPA Analyst: <u>Erin Flaherty</u></p>

The information requested on this form must be completed in order to submit a document electronically for review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Hopkinton to Ashland Transfer Line Replacement Project		
Street Address: 3.71 mile pipeline replacement in Hopkinton and Ashland		
Municipality: Hopkinton and Ashland, MA		Watershed: Concord (HUC 8 1070005)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: UTM Zone 19	Latitude: N 42.245605	Longitude: W -71.491633
Estimated commencement date: 5/1/2019	Estimated completion date: 12/1/2023	
Project Type: Utility	Status of project design: 80 %complete	
Proponent: NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (Eversource)		
Street Address: 247 Station Drive, SE270		
Municipality: Westwood	State: MA	Zip Code: 02090
Name of Contact Person: Richard Paquette		
Firm/Agency: TRC	Street Address: 6 Ashley Drive	
Municipality: Scarborough	State: ME	Zip Code: 04074
Phone: 207-274-2604	Fax: 207-879-9293	E-mail: rpaquette@trcsolutions.com

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No

If this is an Expanded Environmental Notification Form (ENF) (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) or a Notice of Project Change (NPC), are you requesting:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

(Note: Greenhouse Gas Emissions analysis must be included in the Expanded ENF.)

Which MEPA review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
301 CMR 11.03(3)(b)(f) and 11.03 (3)(a)(1)(a)

Which State Agency Permits will the project require?

- **401 WQC; and**
- **Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board approval.**

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an Agency of the Commonwealth, including the Agency name and the amount of funding or land area in acres: **N/A**

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Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
LAND			
Total site acreage	10.20		
New acres of land altered		0	
Acres of impervious area	0	0	0
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		50,657 (Temporary)	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		90,200 (LUWW, BLSF, RA)	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maximum height (feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A
TRANSPORTATION			
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A
WASTEWATER			
Water Use (Gallons per day)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Water withdrawal (GPD)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wastewater generation/treatment (GPD)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Length of water mains (miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Length of sewer mains (miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Has this project been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION – all proponents must fill out this section

Eversource proposes to replace approximately 3.71 miles of its existing 6-inch diameter natural gas pipeline (Transfer Line) with 12-inch diameter pipe in the Towns of Hopkinton and Ashland. The Transfer Line is an existing high-pressure distribution pipeline that runs from Eversource's Wilson Street Take Station in Hopkinton to the Pond Street Take Station in Ashland within a 20 – 30-foot-wide permanent easement. This approximately 25,000-foot-long pipeline includes approximately 2,200 feet of 12-inch-diameter pipe on the Hopkinton end (west), approximately 3,100 feet of 12-inch-diameter pipe on the Ashland end (east) and approximately 19,600 feet of 6-inch-diameter between the two 12-inch sections. The 6-inch diameter section of pipeline is the subject of this replacement project.

The existing 6-inch diameter portion of the Transfer Line is undersized thus creating a large pressure drop that limits the supply of gas to Framingham and Ashland. The primary purpose of the Project is to make the Transfer Line more reliable by creating a second independent gas feed to supply the Pond Street Take Station during high demand periods. This will be accomplished by improving the utilization of natural gas from the Hopkinton Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility and or Tennessee Gas Pipeline (TGP) under high demand periods through the removal of the pressure bottleneck. Under high-demand conditions, the Transfer Line alone, cannot adequately maintain the required pressure and flow rate at the Pond Street Take Station in Ashland and requires a constant supply of natural gas from additional sources. In the event of an interruption of service to one of the supplies, having two independent supplies will provide operational reliability for Eversource's nearly 20,000 customers in Framingham and Ashland. The pipe replacement work will take place within Eversource's existing 20 – 30-foot wide permanent easement.

Attachment A of the EENF contains an introduction to the Project, an inventory of existing conditions, a discussion of the Project purpose and need, a detailed Project Description, an analysis of project and route alternatives, and an assessment of potential impacts to environmental resources and proposed mitigation measures.

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN:

Is the project within or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify)

No

If yes, does the ACEC have an approved Resource Management Plan?

If yes, describe how the project complies with this plan.

Will there be stormwater runoff or discharge to the designated ACEC? Yes No;

If yes, describe and assess the potential impacts of such stormwater runoff/discharge to the designated ACEC.

RARE SPECIES:

Does the project site include Estimated and/or Priority Habitat of State-Listed Rare Species?

(see http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhesp/regulatory_review/priority_habitat/priority_habitat_home.htm)

Yes (Specify) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (Specify: Ashland Dam) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources? Yes (Specify) No

WATER RESOURCES:

Is there an Outstanding Resource Water (ORW) on or within a half-mile radius of the project site?

Yes No;

if yes, identify the ORW and its location. _____

(NOTE: Outstanding Resource Waters include Class A public water supplies, their tributaries, and bordering wetlands; active and inactive reservoirs approved by MassDEP; certain waters within Areas of Critical