

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

Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only

EEA#: 15879

MEPA Analyst: Alex Steysky

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: 261 Upgrade Projects		
Street Address: Multiple public ways and existing pipeline right-of-way.		
Municipality: Agawam	Watershed: Connecticut River	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: Start: 18T 695819.37 m E 4656291.51 m N End: 18T 695240.14 m E 4659393.01 m N	Latitude: Start: 42.034291°; End: 42.062360° Longitude: Start: -72.634335°; End: -72.640291°	
Estimated commencement date: March 2020	Estimated completion date: November 2020	
Project Type: Natural gas infrastructure	Status of project design: 75 %complete	
Proponent: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C.		
Street Address: 1001 Louisiana Street, Suite 1000		
Municipality: Houston	State: TX	Zip Code: 77002
Name of Contact Person: Rebecca Weissman, PWS		
Firm/Agency: SWCA Environmental	Street Address: 15 Research Drive	
Municipality: Amherst	State: MA	Zip Code: 01002
Phone: (413) 256-0202	Fax:	E-mail: Rebecca.weissman@swca.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)) Yes No

a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09) Yes No

a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No

a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes 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)?
 Wetlands, Waterways & Tidelands; Land

Which State Agency Permits will the project require?
 401 Water Quality Certification; Non-major Comprehensive Plan Approval; Order of Conditions under Wetlands Protection Act; Conservation & Management Permit

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: Not applicable

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Alex Stepanov

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
LAND			
Total site acreage	36.91 ac (MA only)		
New acres of land altered		18.40 acres (temp) 6.64 acres (perm) ¹	
Acres of impervious area	N/A (linear project)	0.06	N/A
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		289,000 sf (temporary) 38,300 sf (veg cover type conversion) 0 sf (loss or fill)	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		IVW = 7,800 sf (temp.) LUWW=6,500 sf (temp) RFA=200,000 sf (temp) and 71,900 sf (veg cover type conversion)	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0	
STRUCTURES			
Gross square footage	N/A (linear project) ²	2,470 sf	N/A
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maximum height (feet)	N/A	25.5 feet	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
<p>Has this project been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>			
<p>Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # 15205 _____) <input type="checkbox"/> No; Portions of the HP Replacement Project and the Hickory Street Yard are located on the same parcel as portions of the CT Expansion Project (EEA #15205).</p>			

¹ Represents land disturbance outside Tennessee's existing rights-of-way.

² Tennessee has other structures at CS 261 that are not applicable to this Project.

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION – all proponents must fill out this section

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed 261 Upgrade Projects (“Projects”) consist of (i) the Line 261B Pipeline Looping Project (“Looping Project”), which involves approximately 2.1 miles of pipeline loop, and (ii) the Compressor Station 261 Horsepower Replacement Project (“HP Replacement Project”), which involves equipment upgrades at Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C.’s (“Tennessee”) existing Compressor Station 261 (“CS 261”). Both projects are located in Agawam, Massachusetts. Figure 2-1 in Appendix A depicts the general location of the Projects’ components.

The Looping Project consists of installation of 12-inch-diameter pipeline installed adjacent to Tennessee’s existing 8-inch-diameter 261BP-100 pipeline and/or Tennessee’s existing 10-inch-diameter 261B-100 pipeline, to the extent practicable. Where the pipeline loop will be installed adjacent to the 261B-100 pipeline, Tennessee proposes to remove an inactive 6-inch-diameter pipeline from this location and replace it with the 12-inch-diameter loop upgrade. The proposed HP Replacement Project involves the replacement of two existing turbine compressor units with one new, cleaner-burning turbine compressor unit and auxiliary facilities.

These Projects are proposed in response to the request of Tennessee’s customers, Columbia Gas of Massachusetts (“CMA”) and the Holyoke Gas and Electric Department (“Holyoke”). The Projects are separate and distinct and will have independent utility to Tennessee’s customers; however, for Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (“MEPA”) review purposes, Tennessee is including both in this Expanded Environmental Notification Form (“EENF”).

A separate project to serve CMA is the construction of a new meter station in Longmeadow, Massachusetts. The Longmeadow Meter Station will provide a needed delivery point for CMA (the nearest delivery points are in Agawam and East Longmeadow), specifically on the east side of the Connecticut River.¹ The Longmeadow Meter Station will enhance system reliability to 55,000 existing CMA customers and supports the ability of CMA to serve future customers. The Longmeadow Meter Station is scheduled to be constructed beginning in June 2019 and placed into service in November 2019 (CMA requires this additional point of delivery to be operational by November 2019). The volume of natural gas supplied to the proposed Longmeadow Meter Station will come from Tennessee’s existing mainline and is not influenced by the Looping Project or HP Replacement Project, each described above. Tennessee provides this description of the new meter station for informational purposes only as the new meter station does not trigger any MEPA review thresholds and has independent utility from the Looping Project and HP Replacement Project, each described above. The Longmeadow Meter Station is separate and distinct from the Projects submitted with this EENF (and Tennessee reserves all rights with respect to this position); however, Tennessee includes this description to avoid any claim regarding segmentation.

ALTERNATIVES:

Tennessee reviewed construction, fuel source, system, and the No-Action alternatives, and determined that the proposed Projects, as designed, represent the preferred alternative. If the proposed Projects are not constructed to meet customer demand (i.e., the No-Action Alternative is selected), the market served by the customers that have executed binding precedent agreements for all of the Projects’ capacity may experience energy shortages in times of peak demand or users may revert to the consumption of alternative fuels including oil. Use of alternative fuels to supply the energy needs of Tennessee’s natural gas customers is not the best practicable alternative as compared to the use of cleaner-burning natural gas. In addition, although energy conservation is a valuable measure as part of an overall energy plan, energy conservation alone is not a solution to the current energy demand of consumers served by these Projects.

As discussed in Chapter 3 of Attachment 6, Tennessee conducted a detailed system alternatives analysis and route analysis, including consideration of efficiency improvements, a lift and relay option, an uprating option, and pipeline looping and compression options. The detailed system alternatives analysis allowed the Projects’ designers to select the best configuration of the proposed facilities, including preferred routes and siting for the proposed Looping Project, to meet the needs of the market. The HP Replacement Project and 2.1-mile, 12-

inch-diameter Looping Project were ultimately selected as the Preferred Alternatives because they meet the customers' objectives, allow for the use of existing pipeline corridors and compressor station facilities, and minimize impacts to environmental resources and landowners.

MITIGATION:

Chapter 4 of the Project Narrative of this Expanded ENF provides detailed information on mitigation measures proposed for the Project. A summary of these measures includes the following:

- Approximately 72 percent of the proposed pipeline loop will be located within the existing easement of Tennessee's 261B-100 Line, and an additional 17 percent will be co-located with other utility and roadway corridors or Tennessee's existing Compressor Station 261 facility.
- The Projects will modify Tennessee's existing compressor station facility rather than construct a new greenfield facility.
- Tennessee will develop and adhere to a Project-specific Environmental Construction Management Plan ("ECMP") that will incorporate the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's ("FERC's") *Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan* ("FERC Plan"), *Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures* ("FERC Procedures"), and all applicable Project plans, permits, and clearances, and specifies other best management practices ("BMPs") that will be used to avoid and minimize adverse environmental impacts;
- Tennessee will use specialized construction techniques and erosion control procedures to avoid and minimize Project construction impacts, including the use of timber mats, installation of sediment barriers, and flumed or dam and pump construction methods to minimize impacts to wetland resource areas at stream crossings;
- Tennessee will employ an on-site environmental inspector to ensure compliance with the Project's CMP, which incorporates the FERC Plan and Procedures, as well as federal, state, and local environmental permit conditions;
- Tennessee will regrade and reseed all disturbed upland and wetland resource areas, except at new permanent aboveground ancillary facilities;
- Tennessee will consult with the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program ("NHESP") to develop mitigation measures for crossing of priority habitats of rare species;
- Tennessee will consult with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ("MassDEP"), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE"), and the Agawam Conservation Commission to develop a mitigation plan for impacts to wetlands and waterbodies;
- Tennessee will consult with the Massachusetts Historical Commission ("MHC"), FERC, and the federally recognized American Indian tribes ("Tribes") to avoid or minimize any adverse impacts to significant archaeological resources;
- Tennessee will limit construction to daylight hours, unless limited nighttime construction is required due to site conditions, specialized construction techniques, and/or weather-related events;
- Construction vehicles and equipment will be equipped with mufflers and will be maintained in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations to minimize air and noise impacts during construction; and
- The proposed Taurus 70 turbine will be equipped with custom inlet and exhaust silencers and lube oil coolers, and Building D piping will be acoustically lagged to reduce the radiated noise transmitted through the walls of the piping.

If the project is proposed to be constructed in phases, please describe each phase:
The Looping Project will commence with tree clearing in March 2020, followed by pipeline installation beginning in June 2020, pending receipt of all applicable permits. The Looping Project is expected to be in-service in November 2020. The HP Replacement Project is expected to commence construction in May 2020 and be in-service in November 2020.

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? ___ Yes ___ No;
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 PH 780/EH 643) 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 _____) No

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

Tennessee's cultural resource consultant, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL), has conducted a cultural resources due diligence, sensitivity assessment, and archaeological and historic architectural properties surveys, under permit from the Massachusetts Historical Commission and pursuant the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. See Section 4.7 of the EENF narrative for additional information.

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 Environmental Concern, and certified vernal pools. Outstanding resource waters are listed in the Surface Water Quality Standards, 314 CMR 4.00.)

Are there any impaired water bodies on or within a half-mile radius of the project site? ___ Yes No; if yes, identify the water body and pollutant(s) causing the impairment: _____

Is the project within a medium or high stress basin, as established by the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission? ___ Yes No

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT:

Generally describe the project's stormwater impacts and measures that the project will take to comply with the standards found in MassDEP's Stormwater Management Regulations: The Projects will have negligible impacts on stormwater. The pipeline facilities will be buried below-grade and no new impervious surfaces are proposed as part of the Looping Project. In addition, there will be no change in grade, slope or elevation from the Looping Project, as all areas will be returned to pre-construction conditions after construction is complete. The HP Replacement Project will include the construction of a 2,470 square feet pre-fabricated building in a vegetated upland area, requiring minor grading to create a level surface. This additional impervious area and grading is negligible and any additional runoff will be incorporated into the site's existing stormwater runoff.