

**Public Notice**

Pursuant to 33 USC 1251, MGL c. 21, ss 43 and 314 CMR 9.05 and 9.08, notice is given of a 401 Water Quality Certification Application and Variance Request for work proposed by Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC, 890 Winter Street, Suite 300, Waltham, MA 02451, for their HubLine/East to West Project ("Project") traversing Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, Isolated Vegetated Wetlands, Bank, Land Under Waterbodies and Waterways, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, Riverfront Area and Outstanding Resource Waters ("ORWs") in Weymouth, Braintree, Holbrook, Randolph, Avon, Stoughton, Canton, and Sharon. Isolated Vegetated Wetlands are regulated by the Towns of Canton and Holbrook. In addition, coastal resources including Land Under Ocean, Coastal Bank, Anadromous / Catadromous Fish Runs, Designated Port Area and Salt Marsh occur along proposed project facilities in Braintree and Weymouth. Work will also take place in Rehoboth. In Massachusetts, the Project will consist of 20.4 miles of 36-inch diameter pipeline and associated pipeline support facilities, including one new compressor station. Of this amount, 12.9 miles consists of new pipeline and 7.5 miles consist of upgrades to existing pipeline. The specific pipeline facilities include:

- ◆ I-10 Extension – construct approximately 12.9 miles of new 36-inch-diameter pipeline from milepost ("MP") 0.0 in the Town of Weymouth to MP 12.9 in the Town of Canton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts; and
- ◆ Q-1 System – install approximately 7.5 miles of 36-inch-diameter pipeline that will replace a segment of an existing 24-inch-diameter pipeline from MP 12.2 in the Town of Sharon to MP 19.7 in Canton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts.

New aboveground facilities in Massachusetts will include one new compressor station as follows:

- ◆ Rehoboth Compressor Station – located near Algonquin’s G-5 Tap at about MP 16.8 on the G-1 System in the Town of Rehoboth, Bristol County.

The Project involves temporary alteration of the above-listed protected resources for the installation of the listed facilities. Following construction, topsoil, contours, stream banks, and hydrologic patterns of jurisdictional areas will be restored.

The Project will permanently impact 0.1 acres of Bordering Vegetated Wetland for a permanent access road that leads to the aboveground facilities (launcher and valve) at MP 12.24 of the Q-1 System in the Town of Sharon. Temporary impacts to wetland resource areas include: Bordering Vegetated Wetlands - 35.9 acres, Isolated Vegetated Wetland – 1.2 acres, and Land Under Waterbodies and Waterways – 0.3 acres. Construction of the proposed pipeline facilities will impact nine (9) vernal pools, located in the towns of Braintree, Holbrook, Stoughton, Canton and Sharon. These vernal pools are designated as ORWs, and as such, the proposed Project does not conform to the regulatory requirements of 314 CMR 9.00 that prohibits discharge of dredged or fill material to ORW without a variance from the Commissioner.

Individuals wishing to comment on the above-referenced applications are requested to submit comments to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Waterways Program, 1 Winter Street, Boston, MA 02108, Tel. (617) 292-5695 within 21 days of this notice. Any ten persons of the Commonwealth, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment that has submitted written comments may also appeal the Department’s certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing. All comments provided as relevant information shall be considered. Additional information may be obtained from Michael Lychwala, TRC Environmental Corporation, 650 Suffolk Street, Lowell, MA 01854 (978) 502-2646.