

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
 Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: *13474*
 MEPA Analyst: *Rick Bourke*
 Phone: 617-626-*1130*

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC Northeast Gateway Pipeline Lateral		
Street: The 16.4-mile long Pipeline Lateral is located entirely offshore in the waters of Massachusetts Bay. Approximately 12.5 miles of the Pipeline Lateral is in state waters of the Commonwealth and approximately 3.9 miles of the Pipeline Lateral is in federal waters.		
Municipality: Offshore waters of Marblehead, Salem, Beverly and Manchester-by-the-Sea. Existing aboveground facilities located in Methuen, Salem and Weymouth.	Watershed: Massachusetts Coastal and Merrimack	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: Start = 1160612.49, 15434807.57 Stop = 1208690.70, 15403653.98	Latitude: Start = 42 28.764 Stop = 42 23.792	Longitude: Start = 70 46.755 Stop = 70 35.932
Estimated commencement date: Summer 2006	Estimated completion date: Spring 2007	
Approximate cost: approx. \$180 million	Status of project design: 50 %complete	
Proponent: Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC (Attention: George A. McLachlan)		
Street: 890 Winter Street, Suite 300		
Municipality: Waltham	State: MA	Zip Code: 02451
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Tanya Howard		
Firm/Agency: TRC Environmental Corporation	Street: Boott Mills South, Foot of John Street	
Municipality: Lowell	State: MA	Zip Code: 01852
Phone: 978-970-5600	Fax: 978-453-1995	E-mail: thoward@trcsolutions.com

- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No
 - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301 CMR 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

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**

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?

- Yes (Specify: **United States Coast Guard/Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**)
 No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: **See Table in Attachment A for a complete list of applicable permits and approvals for the Pipeline Lateral.**

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:
Total site acreage	1.8 (aboveground facilities)			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	0	0	0	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		N/A		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		Temp. impact to Land Under the Ocean Approx.: 121 acres		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	15,000	2,000	17,000	
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)	20	0	20	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A			
GPD water withdrawal	N/A			
GPD wastewater generation/treatment	N/A			
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/A			

CZM Federal Consistency Certification

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

Yes (Specify _____) No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

Yes (Specify _____) No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

Yes (Specify **Estimated Habitat – Existing Methuen Meter Station site only**) 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

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify _____) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (*You may attach one additional page, if necessary.*)

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC (“Algonquin”) is proposing to construct and operate a new approximately 16.4-mile long, 24-inch diameter natural gas pipeline lateral that will connect the proposed Northeast Gateway Energy Bridge L.L.C. (“Northeast Gateway”) offshore deepwater port (the “NEG Port”) with Algonquin’s existing offshore (“HubLine”)¹ natural gas pipeline system in Massachusetts Bay (see Figure 1-1 and 1-2 in Attachment D). Algonquin’s pipeline lateral to the NEG Port (the “Pipeline Lateral”) will enable the delivery of regasified liquefied natural gas (“LNG”) from the NEG Port to onshore markets in New England. Approximately 12.5 miles of the Pipeline Lateral is proposed in waters of the Commonwealth and approximately 3.9 miles of the Pipeline Lateral is proposed in federal waters.

Algonquin’s proposed Pipeline Lateral begins at the existing HubLine Pipeline in waters approximately 3.0 miles to the east of “Marblehead Neck” in Marblehead, Massachusetts. From this point (milepost [“MP”] 0.0), the Pipeline Lateral extends to the northeast, crossing the outer reaches of the territorial waters of the Town of Marblehead, the City of Salem, the City of Beverly, and the Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea for approximately 6.3 miles. At MP 6.3, the Pipeline Lateral heads to the east and southeast, exiting Manchester-by-the-Sea waters and entering waters regulated by the Commonwealth. The Pipeline Lateral continues to the south/southeast for approximately 6.2 miles, where it exits Commonwealth waters and enters federal waters (MP 12.5). The Pipeline Lateral then extends to the south for another approximately 3.9 miles in federal waters, terminating at the NEG Port.

In addition to constructing the Pipeline Lateral, Algonquin will also need to make minor modifications to the metering equipment and valves at its existing aboveground facilities in Salem, Weymouth and Methuen in order to accommodate the new gas supplies from the NEG Port.

The siting objectives of the NEG Port encompass several factors, including that it be located at least 10 miles offshore of the Massachusetts shoreline. Given the NEG Port’s offshore siting criteria, the HubLine is the preferred

¹ HubLine is an existing 30-inch diameter interstate natural gas pipeline that was constructed by Algonquin in 2002/2003. HubLine starts at its connection with the Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, L.L.C. Phase III Pipeline in Salem Harbor and runs offshore to the south to the Algonquin “T” System Pipeline in Weymouth.

gas transmission facility to transport natural gas to the heart of the New England market. Bypassing HubLine and interconnecting the NEG Port to an existing land based pipeline would entail considerable additional environmental, landowner, and societal impacts that preclude further consideration of this option. Therefore, the beginning and ending points of the Pipeline Lateral are fixed as the HubLine and the NEG Port. Section 2.0 in Attachment D contains additional information on the route alternatives evaluated for the Pipeline Lateral.

The NEG Port proposed by Northeast Gateway is subject to review and approval by the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation ("USDOT"), who has delegated his responsibilities to USDOT's Maritime Administration ("MARAD") and to the United States Coast Guard ("USCG") within the Department of Homeland Security. The USCG is the lead federal agency for National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") review and is responsible for matters related to review of security, navigation safety, engineering and facility inspections. Northeast Gateway expects to file an application with the USCG for the NEG Port in late May 2005.

Algonquin will file an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Pipeline Lateral with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") contemporaneously with Northeast Gateway's filing with the USCG. The FERC is responsible for the review and approval of interstate natural gas pipelines under the Natural Gas Act. The NEG Port and Pipeline Lateral will undergo a single NEPA review conducted by the USCG. The FERC will participate as a cooperating agency in the NEPA review conducted by the USCG.

Algonquin and Northeast Gateway are requesting a Special Review Procedure ("SRP") from the Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ("EOEA") in accordance with 301 CMR 11.09(4)(c) to establish a coordinated environmental review process that will satisfy the requirements of both the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA") and the NEPA. By combining the MEPA and NEPA processes, Algonquin hopes to establish channels of communication between all reviewing agencies that will facilitate a more efficient, thorough, and logical review process for all parties involved, especially the public at large.

Algonquin and Northeast Gateway are intentionally filing coordinated Environmental Notification Forms ("ENFs") under MEPA in advance of filing the regulatory applications for the NEG Port and the Pipeline Lateral, planned in May 2005. This will allow for an early round of formal public comment at the state and local levels prior to finalizing the federal applications and will provide the Secretary of EOEa with the opportunity for early MEPA scoping and coordination with the NEPA process. It is Algonquin's goal to coordinate the MEPA and NEPA review processes such that the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements ("EISs") prepared and issued by the USCG incorporate concerns identified during the MEPA scoping period and will serve as the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Reports ("EIRs") for the purposes of MEPA review. Both Projects, the Pipeline Lateral and the NEG Port (which is the subject of a contemporaneous ENF), will be evaluated in the same EIS/EIR documents.