

**In the Matter of the Construction Notice Application by
Dominion East Ohio Gas Company for a Expedited
Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public
Need for the Group 2-6, Line 3362 High Pressure Storage
Line Project, Summit County, OH**

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OPSB STAFF REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: 13-1753-GA-BNR
Project Name: Group 2-6, Line 3362 High Pressure Storage Line Project
Project Location: Summit County
Applicant: Dominion East Ohio
Application Filing Date: August 7, 2013
Filing Type: Expedited Construction Notice
Inspection Date: July 30, 2013
Report Date: August 21, 2013
Automatic Approval Date: August 29, 2013
Applicant's Waiver Requests: none
Staff Assigned: E. Steele, D. Rostofer, C. Burri, G. Zeto

Summary of Staff Recommendations (see discussion below):

Application: ☐ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☒ Approval with Conditions
Waiver: ☐ Approval ☐ Disapproval ☒ Not Applicable

Project Description

Dominion East Ohio Gas (Applicant) proposes to replace 4,400 feet of existing 8-inch pipe with 12-inch coated high pressure steel pipe. It will be replaced in the same ditch as the old pipe by removing the old pipe first and placing the new pipe in the existing ditch. The pipe will run from Kleckner Station (425 West Caston Road) to 1,200 feet east of Dailey Road and 1,700 feet south of Center Road, City of New Franklin, Summit County. The Applicant will own and operate the new pipeline.

Site Description

The proposed pipeline will be installed within existing Applicant's rights-of-way and will be a "lift and lay" project where the old pipe will be removed and the new pipeline will be installed in the same ditch. Existing public roadways, private roadways and pipeline right-of-way will provide required equipment access. Land use associated with the project area is primarily agricultural with some residential.

Need

The objective of this project is to reduce the restrictions currently experienced and improve the ability to deliver gas during high demand. This will also allow for increased flexibility in operating the Applicant's Stark-Summit gas storage pool.

Nature of Impacts

The Applicant is in the process of applying for various environmental permits, including the U.S. Army Corp of Engineer's Nationwide Permit #12 (Utility Line Activities) for wetland and stream impacts, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and county or city permits as required. The proposed pipeline route will cross a portion of one wetland and one stream. It does not appear that any trees with suitable Indiana Bat habitat will need to be cut for this project. As all impacts will occur within previously disturbed right-of-way, the potential for archaeological findings is extremely low.

Conclusion

The project has minimal effect on ecological and cultural resources. Staff recommends automatic approval of this case on **August 29, 2013** provided that the following conditions are satisfied.

Conditions

- (1) If the Applicant proposes to remove potential Indiana bat roost trees between April 1st and September 30th, then the Applicant must conduct appropriate surveys to establish whether the Indiana bat is present. At least 30 days prior to construction, the Applicant shall provide the results of the survey to Staff for review and approval.
- (2) The Applicant shall submit to the Staff, for review and approval, a project construction access plan. This plan shall include all laydown areas, residential and environmentally sensitive area access points (walk in locations only), and any locations where vegetation clearing is required. The plan shall consider the location of residential fencing, private structures, streams, wetlands, and wooded areas.
- (3) Prior to construction, the Applicant shall obtain and comply with all applicable permits and authorizations as required by Federal and State entities for any activities where such permit or authorization is required. Copies of such permits shall be provided to Staff.
- (4) The Applicant will coordinate all traffic related issues with the appropriate entities to ensure that traffic will be maintained along public roadways and private drives during construction.

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Summary: Report of investigation electronically filed by Mr. Adam S Bargar on behalf of Staff of OPSB