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Staff Investigation Report and Recommendation

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Project Description: This project replaces two existing 18-inch gas transmission lines with a single 24-inch line. Approximately 3,800 feet of new line would be installed within existing or newly acquired easements. The existing bare steel lines would be replaced as part of the Applicant's ongoing Pipeline Infrastructure Replacement program. Approximately 1,300 feet of the 24-inch line will be reduced to a 20-inch segment that will be installed via HDD under the Cuyahoga River, the Ohio-Erie Canal and the CSX Railroad. The Applicant has requested expedited treatment to enable the HDD installation to be accomplished during low-flow river conditions, which comports with EPA recommendations and guidelines.

Site Description: A majority of this project parallels an active railroad near an industrial area. The project is located in Independence and the villages of Cuyahoga Heights and Brooklyn Heights, Cuyahoga County.

Discussion/Comments/Concerns: The construction of this project should pose only minimal negative social and ecological impacts.