

**FILE**

**OPSB Staff Report of Investigation**

**Case No.:** 11-1395-GA-BNR

**Project:** Ohio Turnpike Crossing Replacement

**Applicant:** Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.

**Report Date:** April 26, 2011

**Automatic Approval Date:** May 4, 2011

**Waiver Requests:** None

**Inspection Date(s):** April 14, 2011

**Staff Assigned:** E. Steele, J. Pawley

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**Summary of Staff Recommendations (see report text for discussion):**

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

**Summary of Staff Recommended Conditions (see report text for discussion):**

1. That prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant shall examine the proposed pipeline route for the presence of wetlands by a qualified environmental professional. If found, the Applicant will need to either mark these resources for avoidance, or obtain and comply with all applicable permits and authorizations as required by federal and state laws and regulations, if impacts are necessary.
2. In order to construct the project as depicted in the application, the applicant shall prior to the commencement of construction obtain any required permits from the Ohio Turnpike and CSX Railroad and also coordinate with these entities as well as the property owners regarding the start of construction.

**Projected Docket Closure Date (if automatically approved):** September 2, 2013

**Investigation Report**

**Project Description:** This project is a condition replacement project initiated by Columbia Gas of Ohio which has an existing 16-inch bare steel natural gas main encased in an existing 20-inch steel casing crossing under the Ohio Turnpike east of the Glenwood Road overpass bridge at approximately Ohio Turnpike milepost 66.2. Columbia is proposing to replace this existing pipeline facility with a 24-inch coated steel main. The 24-inch coated steel pipeline is proposed to be installed using horizontal direction drilling (HDD) technology. The geography of the crossing location permits the profile of the HDD to be a minimum of 45' below the pavement of the Ohio Turnpike.

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805 feet of 24" coated steel line and 95 feet of 20" coated steel line will be installed, along with two 20" valve settings.

**Site Description:** This project is located in Perrysburg Township, Wood County, on the east side of the Glenwood Road overpass bridge at approximately Ohio Turnpike milepost 66.2. The proposed valve facilities, and portions of the mainline facilities will be installed within existing Columbia easements. The remaining segment of the pipeline facility will be installed in the Ohio Turnpike right-of-way.

**Discussion/Comments/Concerns:** The construction of this project should pose only minimal negative social and environmental impacts. During our field visit, a gas leak was noted on the line that was to be repaired. Gas Pipeline Safety staff were notified about this leak and they did follow up with Columbia. It was noted that the leak was a Grade 2+ leak and was required to be repaired within 20 days of our field visit. In a subsequent phone call, Gas Pipeline Safety staff informed us that the leak was repaired on April 21, 2011.