

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATE

Permittee: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company LLC
1001 Louisiana Street
Houston TX 77002

Attn: James Flynn

Permit No: WQC 201502861

Town: Suffield, East Granby

Project: Installation of 24-inch diameter natural gas pipeline, 8.26 miles

Waters: Muddy Brook, Stony Brook, Clay Brook, Degrayes Brook and associated wetlands

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341), Certification is hereby granted for activities, including but not limited to construction or operation of facilities, which may result in any discharge into the waters of the state associated with the above referenced project. The purpose of said activities is to install 8.26 miles of 24-inch pipeline adjacent to the existing 300-1 Line Right of Way to increase natural gas delivery capacity to the northeast region of the United States by 72,100 Dth (dekatherms) per day.

AUTHORIZED ACTIVITY

Specifically, the permittee is authorized to: permanently fill 0.01 acres of wetland for access road improvements, and temporarily impact 44.61 acres of wetlands during construction. In addition, 6.85 acres of wetlands will be indirectly impacted while converting from forested wetland to scrub shrub wetlands, and from scrub shrub wetland to emergent marsh, for maintenance of the Right of Way. A total of 0.37 acres of watercourses are temporarily impacted during construction for water control and erosion and sedimentation controls.

The activities proposed will impact 44.64 acres of wetlands during construction, 0.01 acres of wetland permanent fill, 0.37 acres temporary watercourse impacts during construction, and 6.85 indirect wetland impacts during operation.

All activities shall be conducted in accordance with plans entitled: "*Connecticut Expansion, Connecticut Loop 300, Proposed 24" Natural Gas Pipeline, Hartford County Connecticut, Hamden County, Massachusetts*" prepared by BL Companies, dated 1/22/14 revised through 11/13/15,

submitted as a part of the application.

This authorization constitutes the licenses and approvals required by Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341).

This authorization is subject to and does not derogate any present or future property rights or other rights or powers of the State of Connecticut, conveys no property rights in real estate or material nor any exclusive privileges, and is further subject to any and all public and private rights and to any federal, state, or local laws or regulations pertinent to the property or activity affected thereby.

Said discharge(s) will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the Federal Clean Water Act (33 USC 1311, 1312, 1313, 1316 and 1317, respectively) and will not violate Connecticut's Water Quality Standards.

The permittee's failure to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit shall subject the permittee, including the permittee's agents or contractor(s) to enforcement actions and penalties as provided by law.

This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

CONDITIONS:

1. **Expiration.** This permit shall expire upon expiration of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) Section 404 permit for the same activity.
2. **Construction Commencement and Completion.** If construction of any structures or facilities authorized herein is not completed within three years of issuance of this permit or within such other time as may be provided by this permit, or if any activity authorized herein is not commenced within three years of issuance of this permit or within such other time as may be provided by this permit, this permit shall expire three years after issuance or at the end of such time as may be authorized by the Commissioner.
3. **Notification of Project Initiation.** The permittee shall notify the Commissioner in writing two weeks prior to commencing construction or modification of structures or facilities authorized herein.
4. **De minimis Alteration.** The permittee may not make any alterations, except de minimis alterations, to any structure, facility, or activity authorized by this permit unless the permittee applies for and receives a modification of this permit. The permittee may not make any de minimis alterations to any structure, facility, or activity authorized by this permit without written permission from the Commissioner. A de minimis alteration means a change in the design, construction or operation authorized under this permit that does not increase environmental impacts or substantively alter the construction of the

project as permitted.

5. **Maintenance of Structures.** All structures, facilities, or activities constructed, maintained, or conducted pursuant hereto shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit, and any structure, facility or activity not specifically authorized by this permit, or exempted pursuant to section 22a-377 of the General Statutes or section 22a-377(b)-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, or otherwise exempt pursuant to other General Statutes, shall constitute a violation hereof which may result in modification, revocation or suspension of this permit or in the institution of other legal proceedings to enforce its terms and conditions.

Unless the permittee maintains in optimal condition any structures or facilities authorized by this permit, the permittee shall remove such structures and facilities and restore the affected waters to their condition prior to construction of such structures or facilities.

6. **Accuracy of Documentation.** In issuing this permit, the Commissioner has relied on information provided by the permittee. If such information was false, incomplete, or misleading, this permit may be modified, suspended or revoked and the permittee may be subject to any other remedies or penalties provided by law.
7. **Best Management Practices & Notification of Adverse Impact.** In constructing or maintaining any structure or facility or conducting any activity authorized herein, or in removing any such structure or facility under condition 5 hereof, the permittee shall employ best management practices to control storm water discharges, to prevent erosion and sedimentation, and to otherwise prevent pollution of wetlands and other waters of the State. Best Management Practices include, but are not limited, to practices identified in the *Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control* as revised, 2004 *Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual*, Department of Transportation's *ConnDOT Drainage Manual* as revised, and the Department of Transportation Standard Specifications as revised.

The permittee shall immediately inform the Commissioner of any adverse impact or hazard to the environment which occurs or is likely to occur as the direct result of the construction, maintenance, or conduct of structures, facilities, or activities authorized herein.

8. **Reporting of Violations.** The permittee shall, no later than 48 hours after the permittee learns of a violation of this permit, report same in writing to the Commissioner. Such report shall contain the following information:
 - a. the provision(s) of this permit that has been violated;
 - b. the date and time the violation(s) was first observed and by whom;
 - c. the cause of the violation(s), if known

- d. if the violation(s) has ceased, the duration of the violation(s) and the exact date(s) and times(s) it was corrected;
 - e. if the violation(s) has not ceased, the anticipated date when it will be corrected;
 - f. steps taken and steps planned to prevent a reoccurrence of the violation(s) and the date(s) such steps were implemented or will be implemented;
 - g. the signatures of the permittee and of the individual(s) responsible for actually preparing such report, each of whom shall certify said report in accordance with condition 12 of this permit.
- 9. Material Storage in the Floodplain.** The storage of any materials at the site which are buoyant, hazardous, flammable, explosive, soluble, expansive, radioactive, or which could in the event of a flood be injurious to human, animal or plant life, below the elevation of the five-hundred (500) year flood is prohibited. Any other material or equipment stored at the site below said elevation by the permittee or the permittee's contractor must be firmly anchored, restrained or enclosed to prevent flotation. The quantity of fuel stored below such elevation for equipment used at the site shall not exceed the quantity of fuel that is expected to be used by such equipment in one day.
- 10. Permit Transfer.** This permit is not transferable without the prior written consent of the Commissioner.
- 11. Contractor Notification.** The permittee shall give a copy of this permit to the contractor(s) who will be carrying out the activities authorized herein prior to the start of construction and shall receive a written receipt for such copy, signed and dated by such contractor(s). The permittee's contractor(s) shall conduct all operations at the site in full compliance with this permit and, to the extent provided by law, may be held liable for any violation of the terms and conditions of this permit.
- 12. Certification of Documents.** Any document, including but not limited to any notice, which is required to be submitted to the Commissioner under this permit shall be signed by the permittee or a responsible corporate officer of the permittee, a general partner of the permittee, and by the individual or individuals responsible for actually preparing such document, each of whom shall certify in writing as follows:

“I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto and I certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of the individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that a false statement in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 of the General Statutes, pursuant to Section 53a-157b and in accordance with any other applicable statute.”

- 13. Submission of Documents.** Any document or notice required to be submitted to the Commissioner under this permit shall, unless otherwise specified in writing by the Commissioner, be directed to:

Director, Inland Water Resources Division
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

The date of submission to the Commissioner of any document required by this permit shall be the date such document is received by the Commissioner. The date of any notice by the Commissioner under this permit, including but not limited to notice of approval or disapproval on any document or other action, shall be the date such notice is personally delivered or the date three days after it is mailed by the Commissioner, whichever is earlier. Except as otherwise specified in this permit, the word "day" means any calendar day. Any document or action which is required by this permit to be submitted or performed by a date which falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday shall be submitted or performed by the next business day thereafter.

- 14. Rights.** This permit is subject to and does not derogate any rights or powers of the State of Connecticut, conveys no property rights or exclusive privileges, and is subject to all public and private rights and to all applicable federal, state, and local law. In constructing or maintaining any structure or facility or conducting any activity authorized herein, the permittee may not cause pollution, impairment, or destruction of the air, water, or other natural resources of this State. The issuance of this permit shall not create any presumption that this permit should be renewed.
- 15. Plans.** All activities shall be conducted in accordance with the application documentation and plans entitled: "*Connecticut Expansion, Connecticut Loop 300, Proposed 24*" *Natural Gas Pipeline, Hartford County Connecticut, Hamden County, Massachusetts*" prepared by BL Companies, dated 1/22/14 revised through 11/13/15.
- 16. Site Preparation.**
- a.** The Permittee shall visibly mark wetland clearing limits prior to construction. Flagging of wetlands and vernal pools shall be maintained throughout construction. Protected trees shall be clearly marked.
 - b.** All construction and ground disturbance shall be confined to the Right of Way, Temporary Right of Way, and Additional Temporary Right of Way.
 - c.** All brush and trees shall be felled into the construction Right of Way to minimize damage to trees and structures adjacent to the Right of Way.

17. Wetland Restoration.

- a. The permittee shall follow all methods and procedures in the report entitled, "Attachment L, Mitigation Report Sections 2.4 and 3.4.1, Wetland Restoration, submitted as part of the application.
- b. The permittee shall restore contour elevations and hydrologic patterns in the Temporary and Additional Temporary Workspaces and disturbed areas shall be seeded and planted according to the planting plan entitled, "Connecticut Expansion Project, Forested Wetland Restoration Planting Plan," dated April 23, 2015, 45 pages, and submitted as part of the application.

18. Watercourse Crossings. The permittee shall follow all methods and procedures in the report entitled, "Environmental Assessment Report for the Connecticut Expansion Project in East Granby and Suffield, Connecticut" by AECOM dated July 2014 and submitted as part of the application.

- a. Temporary erosion controls shall be implemented as necessary to prevent downstream impacts and maintained during construction.
- b. After the completion of construction, streambeds will be restored to their pre-construction elevations and grades. Spoils, debris, piling, cofferdams, construction materials and any other obstructions resulting from or used during construction of the pipeline shall be removed to prevent interference with normal stream flow.
- c. Any excavated material not used as backfill shall be removed and disposed of in accordance with local, state and federal conditions.

19. Natural Diversity Database Obligate Wetland Species:

- a. Dwarf wedgemussel (*Alasmidonta heterodon*): Best Management Practices shall be used for sedimentation control. A qualified biologist shall obtain necessary Connecticut DEEP Wildlife Division permits to relocate mussels. The relocation shall be under the direction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Connecticut DEEP Wildlife Division.
- b. Eastern box turtle and wood turtle (*Terrapene carolina carolina*, *Glyptemys insculpta*): To limit the potential for impacts to box turtles and wood turtles documented on or in the vicinity of this site, project construction activities shall be restricted to the turtles' dormant period of November 1 to April 1. If work must be done during the active period from April 1 to November 1, the permittee shall adhere to the following precautionary measures:
 - a. Silt fencing shall be installed around the work area prior to construction.

- b. The work crew shall be appraised of the species description and possible presence, and shall search the work area for turtles each day prior to construction.
- c. Any turtles encountered during construction shall be moved unharmed to an area immediately outside of the fenced work area and oriented in the same direction it was walking when found.
- d. Work conducted in these habitats during the early morning and evening hours should occur with special care not to harm basking or foraging individuals.
- e. Precautions shall be taken when machinery is traveling to the work area to avoid turtles.
- f. All silt fencing shall be removed after work is completed when soils are stable so that reptile and amphibian movement between uplands and wetlands is not restricted.

20. Invasive Plant Management: The permittee shall adhere to the invasive plant management procedures as stated in the plan entitled, "Invasive Species Management Plan, Connecticut Expansion Project" submitted as attachment L2 in the application documents.

Issued by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection on:

Date

Michael Sullivan
Deputy Commissioner