



RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

TDD 401-222-4462

July 31, 2015

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC
Douglas Parcher, Project Manager
Spectra Energy Transmission
890 Winter Street, Suite 300
Waltham, MA 02451

Insignificant Alteration – Permit

RE: Application No. 15-0130 and RIPDES No. RIR101299 in reference to the property and proposed project located:

Along the Algonquin Gas line right-of-way (ROW) from the Rhode Island state boundary with Connecticut to the Compressor Station on Algonquin Lane west of Wallum Lake Road (Route 100), Assessor's Plat 184, Lot 001; Assessor's Plat 185, Lot 001; Assessor's Plat 168, Lot 001; Assessor's Plat 225, Lot 022; Assessor's Plat 135, Lot 022, Burrillville, RI.

Dear Mr. Parcher:

Kindly be advised that the Department of Environmental Management's ("DEM") Freshwater Wetlands Program ("Program") has completed its review of your **Request for Preliminary Determination** application. This review included a site inspection of the above referenced property ("subject property") and an evaluation of the proposed installation of a cathodic protection ground bed with associated temporary alterations along the existing gas ROW as illustrated and detailed on site plans submitted with your application. These site plans were received by the DEM on June 22, 2015.

Our observations of the subject property, review of the site plans and evaluation of the proposed project reveals that alterations of freshwater wetlands are proposed. However, pursuant to Rule 9.00 of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Fresh Water Wetlands Act (Rules), this project may be permitted as an **insignificant alteration** to freshwater wetlands under the following terms and conditions:

Terms and Conditions for Application No: 15-0130 and RIPDES No.: RIR101299

1. This letter is the DEM's permit for this project under the R.I. Fresh Water Wetlands Act, Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL) Section 2-1-18 et seq. This application review has also included review related to the RIPDES "General Permit for Storm Water Discharge Associated with Construction Activity".
2. This permit is specifically limited to the project, site alterations and limits of disturbance as detailed on the site plans submitted with your application and received by the DEM on June 22, 2015. A copy of the site plans stamped approved by the DEM is enclosed. Changes or revisions to the project that would alter freshwater wetlands are not authorized without a permit from the DEM.
3. Where the terms and conditions of the permit conflict with the approved site plans, these terms and conditions shall be deemed to supersede the site plans.

4. You must notify this Program in writing immediately prior to the commencement of site alterations and upon completion of the project.
5. A copy of the stamped approved site plans and a copy of this permit must be kept at the site at all times during site preparation, construction, and final stabilization. Copies of this permit and the stamped approved plans must be made available for review by any DEM representative upon request.
6. The effective date of this permit is the date this letter was issued. This permit expires on July 1, 2020.
7. Any material utilized in this project must be clean and free of matter that could pollute any freshwater wetland.
8. Prior to commencement of site alterations, you shall erect or post a sign resistant to the weather and at least twelve (12) inches wide and eighteen (18) inches long, which boldly identifies the initials "DEM" and the application number of this permit. This sign must be maintained at the site in a conspicuous location until such time that the project is complete.
9. Temporary erosion and sediment controls detailed or described on the approved site plans shall be properly installed at the site prior to or commensurate with site alterations. Such controls shall be properly maintained, replaced, supplemented, or modified as necessary throughout the life of this project to minimize soil erosion and to prevent sediment from being deposited in any wetlands not subject to disturbance under this permit.
10. Upon permanent stabilization of all disturbed soils, temporary erosion and/or sediment controls consisting of hay bales and/or silt fence must be removed.
11. You are responsible for the proper operation, maintenance and stability of any mitigative features, facilities, and systems of treatment and control that are installed or used in compliance with this permit to prevent harm to adjacent wetlands.
12. You are obligated to install, utilize and follow all best management practices detailed or described on the approved site plans in the construction of the project to minimize or prevent adverse impacts to any adjacent freshwater wetlands and the functions and values provided by such wetlands.
13. All construction activities involving soil disturbances within watercourses must be limited to the low flow period (i.e., the period from July 1 to October 31 of any calendar year). Soil disturbance in these watercourses must temporarily cease in the event of any abnormally high stormwater runoff event during the low flow period.
14. This Program has made specific revisions to the approved site plans. These revisions are clearly marked in red on the approved plans. This project must take place in compliance with these revisions. Specifically:
 - (1) the 12-foot wide "Temporary Work Space" (TWS) has been revised in the legend as a solid black line (to be consistent with the site plan drawings) and shall be considered the approved limit of disturbance. Furthermore "15-foot TWS" in the site plan legend has been revised to "12-foot TWS" as indicated on the site plan updates and on the site plan drawings;

- (2) "Additional Temporary Work Space" (ATWS) ROW for the installation of erosion controls and at dam and pump waterbody crossings such as illustrated on Sheet 14 of 16 is authorized only as needed provided it takes place within the maintained ROW, all measures to protect wetlands are incorporated where needed and disturbed areas are restored in kind;
- (3) No grade changes are authorized; and
- (4) Site plan Sheet Nos. 15 and 16 of 16 have been renumbered sequentially.

Additionally, the Program has reviewed this project in accordance with the standards of the RIPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharge Associated with Construction Activity ("CGP"). Construction Activities which disturb one (1) or more acres of land and where storm water runoff is directed, via a point source, into a separate storm sewer system or into the waters of the State, are required to seek coverage under the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (RIPDES) storm water permit. Our review has determined that the project has been designed to meet the requirements of the 2013 GP. This determination therefore includes your final authorization to discharge storm water associated with construction activity under the CGP. For future references and inquiry, your permit authorization number is RIPDES No. **RIR101299**.

Both the owner and the contractor retained to undertake the construction activity are required to comply with all terms and conditions of the CGP. This includes maintaining the Soil Erosion and Sediment Control (SESC) Plan, performing the required inspections and maintenance of the selected Best Management Practices (BMPs), and retaining inspection records. Further information on the requirements of the CGP is available at:

<http://www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/water/ripdesca.pdf>.

Please be aware that the RIDEM's Rules and Regulations Governing the Establishment of Various Fees require that RIPDES CGP permit holders to pay an Annual Fee of \$100.00. An invoice will be sent to the owner on record in May/June of each year if the construction was still active as of December 31st of the previous year. The owner will be responsible for the Annual Fee until the construction activity has been completed, the site has been properly stabilized, and a completed Notice of Termination (NOT) has been received by the RIPDES Program. A copy of the NOT can be found attached to the CGP on the web page referenced above.

This Permit also constitutes your authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the work proposed. Your project qualifies as a Category (2) activity under the Rhode Island General Permit (General Permit No. NAE-2011-2402), (RI GP). You can view this permit at http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Regulatory/SGP/RI_PGP.pdf. You are, therefore, not required to file a separate application with the Corps.

Please note that the General Conditions within the RI GP apply to all activities authorized under the RI GP. Please review them carefully to thoroughly familiarize yourself with their contents. You may wish to discuss all permit conditions with your contractor to ensure that the work can be accomplished in a manner which conforms to all requirements.

You are required to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit and to carry out this project in compliance with the Rules at all times. Failure to do so may result in an enforcement action by this Department and/or subject you to the enforcement provisions of the Corps' regulations.

In permitting the proposed alterations, the DEM assumes no responsibility for damages resulting from faulty design or construction.

Kindly be advised that this permit is not equivalent to a verification of the type or extent of freshwater wetlands on site. Should you wish to have the types and extent of freshwater wetlands verified, you may submit the appropriate application in accordance with Rule 8.03.

This permit does not remove your obligation to obtain any local, state, or federal approvals or permits required by ordinance or law and does not relieve you from any duties owed to adjacent landowners with specific reference to any changes in drainage.

Please contact of this office (telephone: 401-222-6820 x 7408) should you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Nancy L. Freeman

Nancy L. Freeman, Senior Environmental Scientist
Office of Water Resources
Freshwater Wetlands Program
NLF/nlf

Enclosure: Approved site plans

cc: Traci Pena, RIPDES Program

Michael J. Elliott, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Denis Blais, Project Manager, TRC

xc: Jeffrey McCormick, P.E., Burrillville Director of Public Works

Selby Turner, VHB

Christopher C. Danforth, PLS