



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
New England District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: August 19, 2008

Comment Period Ends: September 19, 2008

File Number: NAE-2008-02176

In Reply Refer To: Richard C. Kristoff, Jr.

Or by e-mail: Richard.C.Kristoff@usace.army.mil

696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

The District Engineer has received a permit application from the applicant below to conduct work in waters of the United States as described below. The Corps is soliciting comments on both the project itself and the range of issues to be addressed in the environmental documentation.

APPLICANT:

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC
890 Winter Street, Suite 300
Waltham, Massachusetts 02451

ACTIVITY:

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC has recently been authorized to install a new pipeline segment subsequent to discovering an anomaly in the existing G-10 six-inch diameter natural gas pipeline where the pipeline crosses the Taunton River. Given the location of the anomaly, Algonquin has determined that the optimal methodology and least environmentally damaging option is to abandon the existing pipeline in place. The existing pipeline segment to be abandoned will be cut at the tie-in points, grouted, and capped. The grout material will be comprised of cement and the pipe will be filled to 50% capacity. This will require approximately 300 cubic yards of material. The proposed segment to be abandoned extends under the Taunton River between the municipalities of Taunton and Berkley, Massachusetts. The pipeline is six inches in diameter and extends approximately 580 linear feet beneath the Taunton River at a depth of three feet. Algonquin is requesting approval to seal and abandon this segment of pipe and be relieved of any further responsibility to maintain this pipe.

The applicant requires a Corps permit because their proposed work affects navigable waters of the United States. The center of the Taunton River where the pipeline is located is approximately at UTM Coordinates 15215615.42 N and 1068628.10 E

The work is depicted on the enclosed plans entitled "G-10-6" NATURAL GAS PIPELINE ABANDONMENT TAUNTON RIVER CROSSING" consisting of 1 sheet dated June 19 2008 and "Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC Taunton River Pipeline Abandonment" consisting of 1 sheet dated April 2008.

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act).

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 as amended.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

This will not affect essential fish habitat as there will be no in water work.

SECTION 106 COORDINATION

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that little likelihood exists for the proposed work to impinge upon properties with cultural or Native American significance, or listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no further consideration of the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is necessary. This determination is based upon one or more of the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work
- b. The permit area has been recently created.
- c. The proposed activity is of limited nature and scope.
- d. Review of the latest published version of the National Register shows that no presence of registered properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are in the permit area or general vicinity.
- e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s)

CENAE-R
FILE NO. NAE-2008-02176

The States of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved **Coastal Zone Management Programs**. Where applicable the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this Public Notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- Permit, License or Assent from State.
- Permit from Local Wetland Agency or Conservation Commission.
- Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

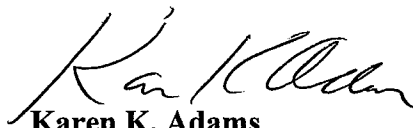
In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. **Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date.** If you have any questions, please contact Richard Kristoff at (978) 318-8171, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

For more information on the New England District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil>.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.

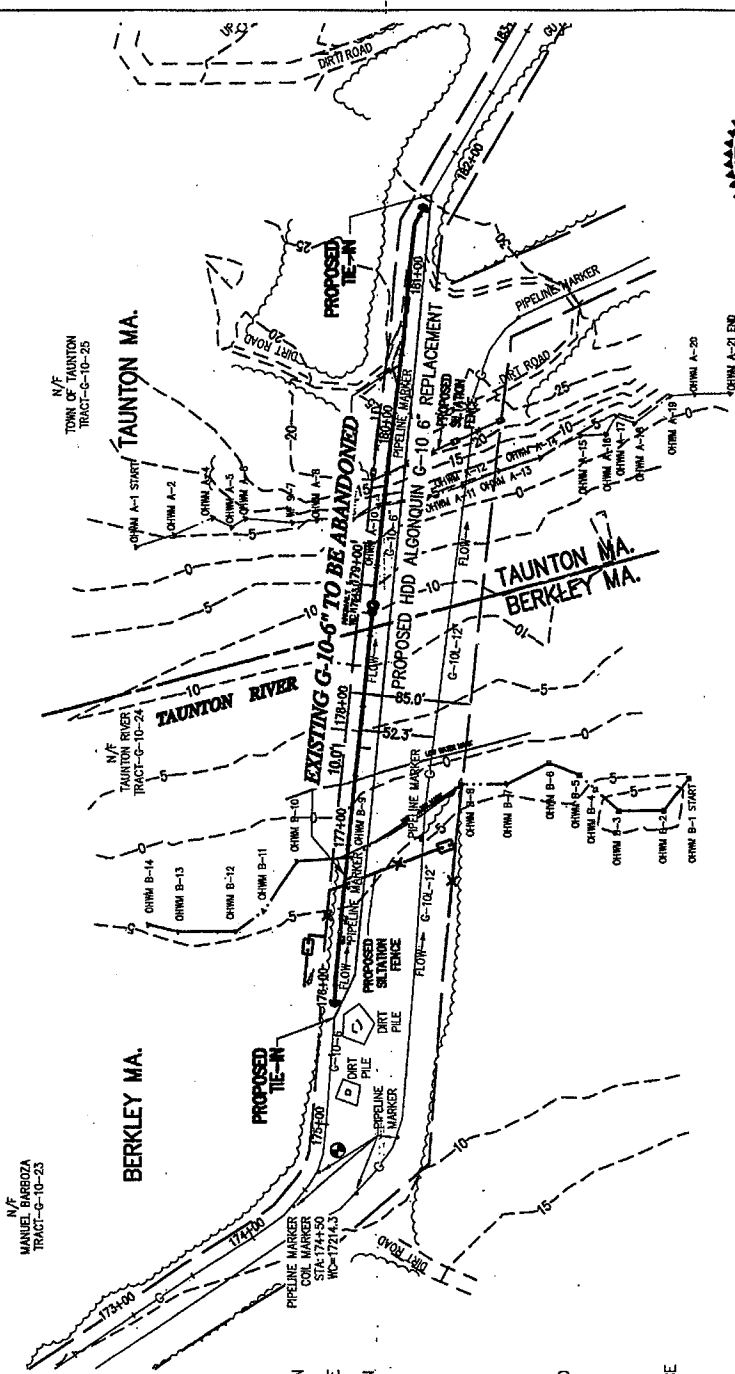
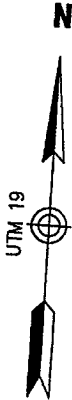


Karen K. Adams
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

BRISTOL COUNTY MASSACHUSETTS TOWNS OF BERKLEY & TAUNTON



General Notes

1. THE PROPERTY LINES SHOWN ARE FROM DEEDS AND PLANS OF RECORD. PROPERTY LINE ARE SHOWN GRAPHICALLY.
2. THE LOCATIONS OF EXISTING UNDERGROUND UTILITIES SHOWN ON THIS PLAN ARE BASED ON FIELD OBSERVATIONS AND INFORMATION OF RECORD. THEY ARE NOT WARRANTED TO BE EXACTLY LOCATED NOR IS IT WARRANTED THAT ALL UNDERGROUND UTILITIES OR OTHER STRUCTURES ARE SHOWN ON THIS PLAN.
3. HORIZONTAL DATUM IS BASED ON UTM 19, NAD 1983. ELEVATIONS SHOWN ON THIS PLAN REFER TO THE NGVD OF 1988.
4. THE WETLANDS SHOWN ON THIS PLAN WERE DELINEATED BY ENSR ENVIRONMENTAL INC. AND SURVEYED BY VHB IN OCTOBER OF 2007.
5. THE EXISTING CONDITIONS SHOWN ON THIS PLAN ARE BASED UPON AN ACTUAL ON THE GROUND INSTRUMENT SURVEY PERFORMED BY VANASSE HANGEN BRUSTLIN, INC. BETWEEN OCTOBER 2007 AND MARCH 2008.
6. ALGONQUIN GAS TRANSMISSION SHALL UTILIZE ITS EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY IN ADDITION TO THE TEMPORARY WORK SPACE THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT.
7. ALGONQUIN GAS TRANSMISSION SHALL UTILIZE ITS EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY AND PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACCESS ROADS THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT FOR ACCESS TO WORK SPACE.

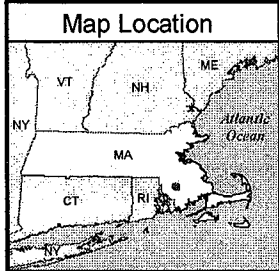
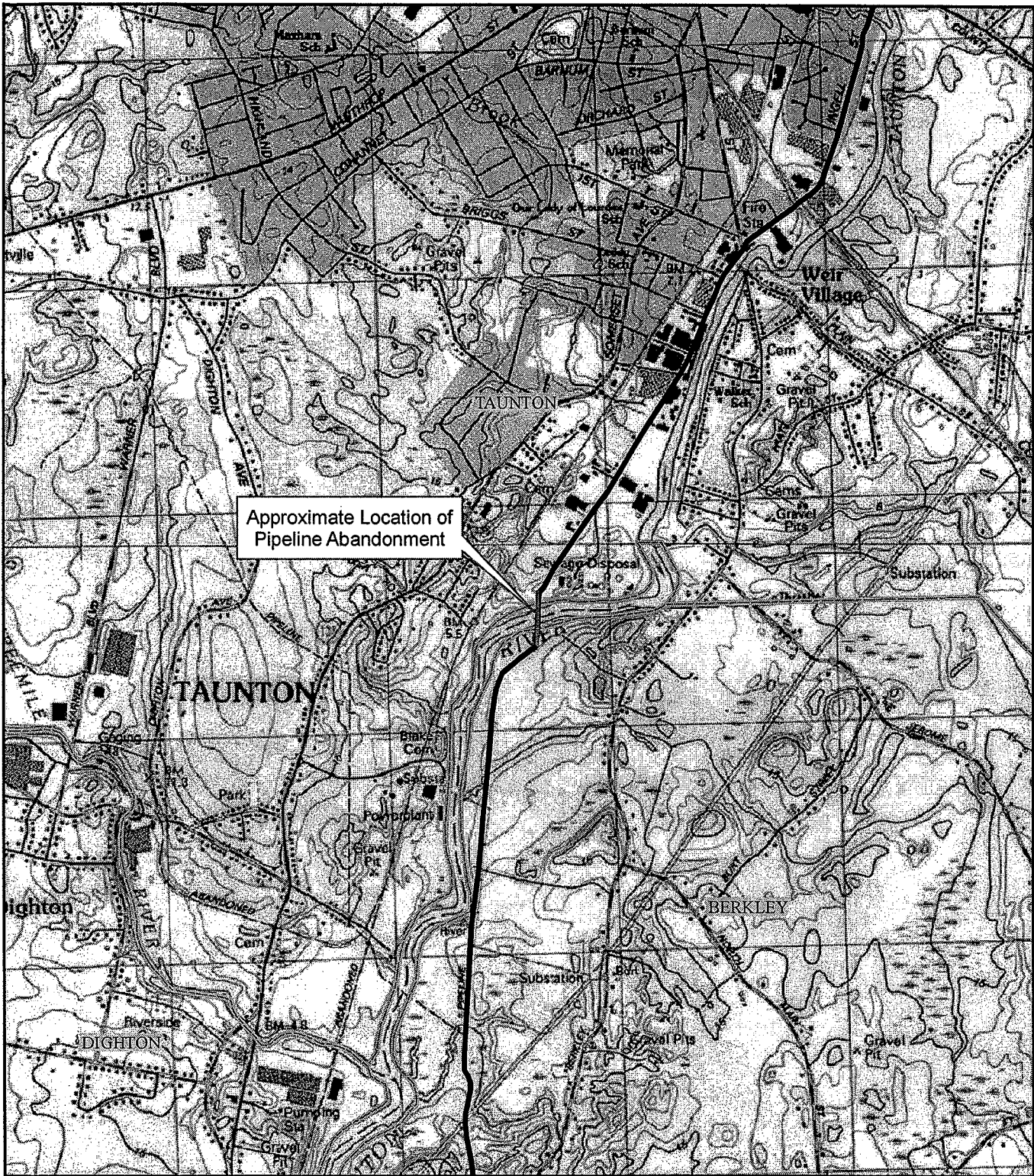


REV.#	DESCRIPTION	DATE

PROJ. ENG.	TT
CHECKED BY:	JZ
DRAWN BY:	S.L.T.
SCALE:	1"=80'
TITLE:	G-10-6" NATURAL GAS PIPELINE ABANDONMENT TAUNTON RIVER CROSSING
LOC.:	BERKLEY/TAUNTON MA
YR.:	2008
W.O.:	004120028
DWG. NO.:	R-105A
REV.:	A

Spectra EnergySM

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC
5400 Westheimer Court, Houston, TX 77056-5310



Legend

- Existing Pipeline
- Town Boundary

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Scale: 1:24,000

Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC
Taunton River Pipeline Abandonment

Site Location Map
 Taunton, Berkley, MA

Map Projection: SI Plane MA Mainland, NAD 83, Feet.
 Image Source: USGS Topographic Quadrangles:
 Taunton & Assonet, MA

Spectra Energy

ENSR | AECOM

Figure 1

April 2008

Project # 02355-178