

## PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC. - PennEast Pipeline

*Project Summary- This information sheet serves as a summary overview of the project.  
For more detailed information on this project, see link at the end of this document.*

### WHAT

The overall project involves construction of one new pipeline, to convey natural gas through Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The project is currently proposed in two phases as depicted on the attached map. The pipeline is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). DEP's review will focus on environmental permitting. Safety regulations for the pipeline are administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation through the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).



### WHERE

Phase 1 of the PennEast Pipeline Project (Project) will entail the construction of approximately 68 miles of 36-inch diameter pipeline. This phase of the project spans from Dallas Township in Luzerne County to Bethlehem Township in Northampton County and includes areas in Luzerne, Monroe, Carbon and Northampton Counties. Phase 1 of the project also entails the Blue Mountain Lateral, an approximately 0.5-mile lateral of 4-inch diameter pipe, to be constructed in Carbon County. This lateral will serve as an interconnect with UGI Central Penn Gas, Inc. (Blue Mountain). Phase 1 will terminate at the Church Road Interconnects, which will be installed on the PennEast Mainline Pipeline in Bethlehem Township, Northampton County. These interconnects will provide service to Columbia Gas Transmission (TCO) and Adelpia Gateway, LLC (Adelpia). Other associated aboveground infrastructure for this phase of the project will consist of interconnect meter stations, mainline valves (MLVs), a single compressor station, and their appurtenant facilities and equipment (e.g., pig launchers/receivers, milepost markers, cathodic protection test posts, etc.). Phase 2 of the Project, which will be considered at a future time, is anticipated to continue from Bethlehem Township, Northampton County, through Bucks County and then across the Delaware River into New Jersey.

### PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS: HIGHLIGHTS

- On February 9, 2016, DEP received an application for a State Water Quality Certification which was conditionally approved on February 7, 2017.
- On February 12, 2016, Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 applications were submitted related to erosion & sediment control, and water obstruction & encroachments,

respectively. These applications were deemed complete on January 25, 2019.

- On September 29, 2020, the applicant split the project into two phases and submitted modified permit applications.
- A public hearing notice for Phase 1 of the project was posted in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on December 12, 2020. The public hearing will be held virtually on January 13, 2021.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- DEP will continue to conduct its technical review of Chapter 102 Erosion & Sediment Control Permit application and the Chapter 105 applications for Phase 1. Phase 2 of the project is currently not under review.
- DEP will hold a public hearing for the Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 permits for Phase 1. All comments will be considered and will be documented with a Comment Response Document once DEP makes a final decision on the permit applications.

#### **LEAD DEP REVIEWING OFFICE**

DEP's Regional Permit Coordination Office (RPCO) has been assigned to provide oversight of the entire project, to be a point of contact for the applicant, and to coordinate with the County Conservation Districts to ensure that the technical reviews are consistent and are being conducted in a timely manner.

#### **DEP PERMITS REQUIRED**

Multiple DEP permits and approvals are required for this proposed project. These include:

- **Section 401- State Water Quality Certification:** This certification is needed for a proposed Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulated interstate natural gas transmission pipeline project and is required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act to ensure FERC includes state law requirements in its federal authorization necessary to protect the quality of waters of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and achieve state water quality standards.
- **Chapter 105 – Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permits:** This type of permit is required for activities located in, along, across or projecting into a watercourse, floodway or body of water, including wetlands. For this project, the majority of the regulated activities are associated with crossings of wetlands, streams and floodways. A separate Chapter 105 application is required for each county where the pipeline impacts waters or wetlands
- **Chapter 102 – Erosion & Sediment Control Permit:** This type of permit is required for earth disturbance associated with oil and gas exploration, production, processing or treatment operations or transmission facilities when earth disturbance is five acres or greater. For this project, DEP staff will work closely with the County Conservation Districts to review and process the application. A single Chapter 102 application is allowable for all affected counties.
- **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Hydrostatic Test Water Discharges:** This permit is required for proposed discharges of wastewater generated as a result of pressure testing of pipes to detect any leaks before they are put into service.
- **Air Quality Permit:** This permit is required for modification(s)/addition(s) of compressor station(s) and other activities of the project that may need to comply with

federal and/or state air emissions regulations. Each DEP Regional Office where emissions are proposed will handle Request(s) for Determination or application(s) for state operating plan approval(s).

**TO PROVIDE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

Please contact Ms. Colleen Connolly, [coconnoll@pa.gov](mailto:coconnoll@pa.gov), Community Relations Coordinator, Northeast Regional Office, Wilkes-Barre or submit comments to [RA-EPPENNEAST@pa.gov](mailto:RA-EPPENNEAST@pa.gov).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Additional information, including copies of documents submitted to DEP and opportunities for public involvement, can be found on DEP's Pipeline Portal. <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/ProgramIntegration/Pennsylvania-Pipeline-Portal/Pages/default.aspx>