

### Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC



# NORTHEAST SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT MODULE S3

IDENTIFICATION & DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS
PADEP CHAPTER 105/USACE SECTION 404 JOINT PERMIT APPLICATION

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Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC

Environmental Assessment - Module S3: Identification and Description of Potential Project Impacts

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#### A. IMPACTS SUMMARY TABLE

A summary table of the proposed temporary and permanent impacts for each effected resource is included as Attachment S3-1. This table includes: resource identifiers, resource types, latitude and longitude, Chapter 93 designation, and the nature and extent of proposed temporary and permanent impacts.

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## B. POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO STANDARD INFORMATION RESPONSE RESOURCES

#### B1. National, State, or Local Park, Forest or Recreation Area

The Project will not result in impacts to federally managed parks, forests, or recreation areas. No state parks or state forests will be crossed by the Project.

The Fishing Creek Nature Preserve North owned by the Lancaster County Conservancy will be impacted minimally as a result of the Project. A total +/- 0.53 acres of construction workspace will affect the Preserve. This is located between MP 1683.53 and 1683.61. Mapping showing the location of this property can be found in Figure 8A-6 Sheet 2 of Exhibit 20

A summary of the impacts to the Fishing Creek Nature Preserve North is provided in Table 8B-2 of Appendix 8A of RR 8 (See Exhibit 17).

#### **B2.** Natural, Wild or Wilderness Areas

The Project will not result in impacts to natural, wild or wilderness areas.

#### **B3.** National, State, or Local Historic Sites

The Project will not result in impacts to national, state, or local historic sites. Transco completed consultation with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), during which the Commission requested surveys along the Quarryville loop. The surveys were completed and the results were provided to the PHMC. Based on the site findings and avoidance measures implemented by Transco, no impacts are to occur as a result of the Project. Exhibit 23 of this application provides the clearance letters associated with the PHMC consultation (See Exhibit 23). Exhibit 24 provides the associated reports completed for the PHMC, which include archaeological and architectural history surveys.

Transco developed an Unanticipated Discovery Plan (UDP) to establish a set of procedures to address an unanticipated discovery during construction activities. This plan is provided in Attachment 5 of Appendix 1B of RR 1 (See Exhibit 25).

Transco is actively coordinating with PHMC to re-confirm their determination that the Project will have no effect on cultural resources.

#### **B4.** National Natural Landmarks

The Project will not result in impacts to national natural landmarks.

#### **B5.** National Wildlife Refuge

The Project will not result in impacts to national wildlife refuges.

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#### **B6.** Cultural or Archaeological Landmarks

The Project will not result in impacts to cultural or archaeological landmarks, as consultation with the PHMC and the associated survey results do not indicate that cultural or archaeological landmarks were identified (See Exhibits 23 and 24, respectively). Transco is actively coordinating with PHMC to re-confirm their determination that the Project will have no effect on cultural resources.

Transco developed an Unanticipated Discovery Plan (UDP) to establish a set of procedures to address an unanticipated discovery during construction activities. This plan is provided in Attachment 5 of Appendix 1B of RR 1 (See Exhibit 25)

#### **B7.** State Game Lands

Muddy Run State Game Lands (SGL #423), which includes Muddy Run Recreation Area, is located at the western terminus of the Project area between MP 1681.00 and 1681.41. A total of +/-17.11 acres of the construction right-of-way (ROW) occur within SGL #423. Impacts to the SGL #423 have been minimized by co-locating the pipeline along the existing mainline pipelines. The Quarryville loop crossing is depicted in Figure 8A-6, Sheet 1, of Appendix 8A, RR 8 (See Exhibit 20). Project impacts to the Muddy Run State Game Land are summarized in Section 8.5.1.2.1 and Table 8B-2 of Appendix 8A of RR 8 (See Exhibit 17).

#### B8. Federal, State, Local or Private Plant or Wildlife Sanctuaries

The Project will not result in impacts to federal, state, local, or private plant or wildlife sanctuaries. Transco will be crossing a property enrolled in the Conservation Resource Enhancement Program (CREP). Transco will work with the landowner to comply with the terms of the CREP program.

#### B9. Areas Identified as Prime Farmland

The Project will result in impacts to prime farmland. In total, +/-125.83 acres of temporary impacts and +/-16.47 acres of permanent impacts to prime farmlands are proposed. A summary of the soils within the Project area is provided in Table 7B-1 of Appendix 7B, RR 7 (See Exhibit 26). A summary of the Project impacts on soil that will result from construction and operation is included in Tables 7B-2 of Appendix 7B, RR 7 (See Exhibit 27). Impacts to the soils, including those identified as prime farmland, are found in Table 7B-5 of Appendix 7B, RR 7 (Exhibit 28).

Impacts to agricultural lands will be minimized as much as practicable. Transco has adopted an Agriculture and Construction Monitoring Plan, which is Attachment 7 to Appendix 1B of RR 1 (See Exhibit 29).

## B10. NATIONAL WILD OR SCENIC RIVERS OR COMMONWEALTH'S SCENIC RIVER SYSTEM

The Project will not result in impacts to National Wild or Scenic Rivers or resources within the Commonwealth's Scenic River System.

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#### **B11. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY WELLS AND SPRINGS**

During the initial contact with landowners to acquire survey access permission, Transco's land agents requested information on the locations of water supply wells and springs. To the extent practicable, this information was used to reconfigure workspace or modify the pipeline alignment to avoid potential effects on these features. Transco has identified 53-68 private water supply wells and three springs with a potential for providing water supply that are located within 150 feet of the construction workspaces. Transco has contacted the owners of public water supply (PWS) wells located within 0.25 mile of the Project to identify precise locations of PWS wells. Transco will consult with these landowners to determine the ability to avoid these wells or compensate landowners for any construction-related damage.

Within the Quarryville Loop, six private water supply wells and three private springs are located within or less than 10 feet from Project workspaces. Three wells are located less than 10 feet from Compressor Station 200 workspaces. Prior to construction, Transco will seek landowner permission to test all wells within 150 feet of the construction footprint before and after construction.

Transco will conduct pre- and post-construction monitoring of water quality and yield using a qualified, independent consultant to conduct well sampling. Samples will be sent to an approved, state-certified laboratory for analysis. Water samples typically will be analyzed for total dissolved solids, total coliform, nitrates and nitrites, chloride, pH, specific conductance, iron, and sulfate. The analytical laboratory will adhere to the prevailing EPA and state sampling and analytical procedures in place at the time of construction. All samples will be collected such that properly preserved water samples are delivered to the laboratory and tested within the holding times required by the EPA, the American Public Health Association, and applicable state groundwater quality standards. Samples will be analyzed in accordance with parameters outlined by Pennsylvania drinking water standards.

After the sample analysis has been conducted, a Transco representative will contact landowners to provide the sample results. In the unlikely event that construction of the Project temporarily affects the water quality or yield of a private or public well/spring, Transco will provide alternative water sources and/or other compensation to the well owner(s). In the unlikely event that a well/spring is permanently affected by construction activities, Transco will repair, replace, or provide alternative sources of potable water.

#### C. PROPOSED WATER OBSTRUCTION AND ENCROACHMENT TABLE

A table of all proposed water obstruction and encroachment activities is included in Requirement H. This table includes resource identifiers, latitude and longitude, and the proposed temporary and permanent impacts.

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#### D. DIRECT AND INDIRECT RESOURCE IMPACTS

A discussion of how the proposed Project components individually and in combination directly and/or indirectly impact identified resources and the effects of the applicable resource functions is included by resource in Module S1: Project Summary and Section B of this Module. The effects on functions include discussions of hydrologic, biogeochemical, habitat, recreation, the effects on the property or riparian rights of adjacent property owners.

#### E. ANTIDEGRADATION ANALYSIS

A discussion of how the Project has been planned and designed to ensure consistency with State antidegradation requirements is included as Section 5.0 of the alternatives analysis which is included as Exhibit 22.

#### F. ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

A comprehensive alternatives analysis is included as Exhibit 22.

#### G. POTENTIAL SECONDARY IMPACT ANALYSIS

Potential secondary environmental impacts on adjacent land and water resources associated with, but not a direct result of the project are discussed in Module S1: Project Summary and Section B of this Module.

#### H. CUMULATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Transco considered the cumulative impacts of the Project for the following categories: surface water, groundwater, wetlands, vegetation, fisheries resources; wildlife; cultural resources, socioeconomics; transportation; geology; soils; land use (recreational areas), air quality, and; noise. Appendix 1E of Resource Report 1 provides an in-depth cumulative effects analysis for the aforementioned categories (See Exhibit 39).

As stated in Exhibit 39, the cumulative impacts analysis compares the incremental impacts of the onshore components of the Project with the potential cumulative impacts of the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future activities considered. Publicly available information, including applications filed with federal and state agencies, desktop analysis, and best professional judgment provided quantitative and qualitative information on the magnitude and nature of the impacts of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future activities to determine the potential for cumulative impacts on the resources affected. Trends in past and current activities, such as ongoing operation and maintenance, and their environmental impacts were projected into the future for the expected life of the Project.

The assessment of cumulative effects assumes that Project effects will be minimized by the successful implementation of the environmental protection and mitigation measures described in the Plans and Procedures and compliance with applicable standard practices and federal, state, and local regulations and permit requirements. The assessment area for potential cumulative impacts includes the area directly affected by construction of the Project facilities in addition to

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the anticipated area of effect the Project may have on each resource. Further information regarding the cumulative effects can be found in Exhibit 39.

#### REFERENCES

- Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey. Available online at www.dcnrstate.pa.us/topogeo/. Accessed March 2014.
- Cowardin LM, Carter V, Golet FC, LaRoe ET. 1979. Classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats of the United States. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Pub. FWS/OBS-79/31, Washington, DC.
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. (4/17/2017): n. pag. *Existing Use Classification*. 17 Apr. 2017. Web. 19 Apr. 2017.
- The Pennsylvania Code. Title 25 Environmental Protection, Chapter 93. Water Quality Standards. Available online at http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/025/025toc.html/. April 2017.