

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

In Reply Refer To:
OEP/DG2E/Gas 1
Northern Natural Gas Company
Northern Lights 2025 Expansion Project
Docket No. CP24-60-000

September 15, 2025

VIA FERC Service

Donna Martens
Senior Regulatory Analyst
Northern Natural Gas Company
1111 South 103rd Street
Omaha, NE 68124-1000

Re: Variance Approval for Temporary use of Pipeline Evacuation System

Dear Ms. Martens:

I grant Northern Natural Gas Company's (Northern) August 29, 2025 request to use a temporary evacuation system to accommodate tie-in activities for the Elk River 3rd branch line for a continuous 48-hour duration in Washington County, Minnesota. Northern states that the original plan for the tie-in is no longer viable and, therefore, is requesting use of the pipeline evacuation system to recompress gas from the existing MNB87701 branch line into the adjacent MNB87702 Elk River loop.

Your request is in compliance with Environmental Condition 1 of the Commission's February 19, 2025 *Order Issuing Certificate and Approving Abandonment* (Order) in the above-referenced docket. All federal authorizations relevant to the approved activities herein have been obtained. I remind you that Northern must comply with all applicable remaining terms and conditions of the Order. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 502-6412.

Sincerely,

Andrea Bloomfield
Environmental Project Manager
Division of Gas – Environment
and Engineering