

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

In Reply Refer To:
OEP/DG2E/Gas 4
Northern Natural Gas Company
Northern Lights 2019 Expansion/
Rochester Projects
Docket No. CP18-534-000

May 17, 2019

Michael T. Loeffler
Senior Director, Certificates and External Affairs
Northern Natural Gas Company
1111 South 103rd Street
Omaha, NE 68124-1000

**Re: Notice to Proceed with Construction and Approval of Variances for the
Alexandria Branch Line Loop Extension and Rochester Greenfield Lateral**

Dear Mr. Loeffler:

I grant Northern Natural Gas Company's (Northern) May 15 and 16 requests to commence construction of the Alexandria Branch Line Loop Extension and the Rochester Greenfield Lateral. Additionally, I approve the requested variances for the Alexandria Branch Line Loop Extension and the Rochester Greenfield Lateral, filed February 27, 2019. The approved variances are identified in the attached table A.

In considering this notice to proceed and approvals, we have reviewed your Implementation Plan, also filed on February 27, 2019, along with your supplemental filings of March 13 and 27, 2019, April 4 (refiled on April 5) and 19, 2019, and May 15, 16, and 17, 2019, which included the information necessary to meet the construction conditions of the Commission's February 21, 2019, *Order Issuing Certificate* (Order) in the above-referenced docket. In addition, we have confirmed the receipt of all federal authorizations relevant to the approved activities herein.

I remind you that Northern must comply with all applicable remaining terms and conditions of the Order. If you have any questions regarding this approval, contact me at 202-502-8130.

Sincerely,

Julia Yuan
Environmental Project Manager
Division of Gas – Environment
and Engineering

Table A: Approved February 27, 2019 Variances for the Northern Lights 2019 Expansion and Rochester Projects		
Project Component	Milepost	Reason for Change
Alexandria Branch Line Loop Extension		
	All	In compliance with Condition 12 of the Order, Northern reduced the centerline to parallel the existing pipe offset from 50 feet to 25 feet; this changed additional temporary workspace (ATWS) and staging area dimensions; changes made only when necessary.
	All	Due to the reduction in the pipeline offset, the horizontal directional drill (HDD) profiles were updated to reflect the new pipeline alignments.
	12.5	Workspace on the east side of 140th Ave. was removed from project scope.
	12.9	Width of access road was increased from 25 feet to 50 feet.
	13.0	The pipe pull section workspace for the HDD under wetland ABL-29W1 was straightened.
	13.5	ATWS was extended through the valve site safely install the proposed receiver.
	13.5	ATWS was extended through the valve site to safely install the proposed receiver.
	13.9-14.06	Two proposed HDDs (MP 13.9-13.97' and MP 13.02-14.06 on P3-5) were combined into one HDD.
	14.5	Additional Temporary Workspace (ATWS) was increased to accommodate Point of Inflection and longer HDD.
	14.6	Extended the HDD and combined with the typical HDD under Highway 238 to maintain a 25-foot depth below an environmentally sensitive area.
	14.9	Workspace added to accommodate HDD pullback and Point of Inflection.
Rochester Greenfield Lateral		
	0.0	ATWS was extended into the valve site to safely install the proposed launcher.
	1.2	Access road added.
	0.8-1.2	The HDD crossing the wetland at the North Branch Root River was combined with a typical HDD crossing County Road 108.
	3.1	The ATWS was reduced to minimize environmental impacts.
	3.2	A staging area removed to reduce landowner impacts.
	4.9-5.9	ATWS was added to accommodate landowner request that Northern install the pipeline at a 6-foot-depth instead of the originally planned 4-foot-depth to avoid interfering with the landowner's planned drain tile installation.
	5.1-5.6	The pipeline centerline was shifted due to landowner request.
	5.5	Staging area removed to accommodate landowner request.
	6.9-7.9	The pipeline centerline was shifted to accommodate landowner request.
	8.8	Access road added. The access road is required to access the temporary workspace during construction.

Table A: Approved February 27, 2019 Variances for the Northern Lights 2019 Expansion and Rochester Projects		
Project Component	Milepost	Reason for Change
	9.3	Access road removed.
	9.4	A staging area was removed to accommodate landowner impacts.
	9.77	An access road off 35th Street (County Road 3 SW) was added to maintain access to the temporary workspace with the extended drill length.
	9.4-9.95	The pipeline centerline was shifted due to landowner request.
	11.68	Access road was adjusted to reduce environmental impacts.
	12.2	Access road was adjusted to reduce environmental impacts.
	12.4	A staging area was removed to reduce landowner impacts.
	12.5	ATWS was extended into the valve site to safely install the proposed receiver.

Document Content(s)

CP18-534 NL2019_Alexandria_Rochester_NTP.PDF.....1-4