



Northern Natural Gas  
P.O. Box 3330  
Omaha, NE 68103-0330  
402 398-7200

February 14, 2020

*Via eFiling*

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20426

Re: Northern Lights 2021 Expansion Project  
Docket No. PF20-1-000  
Monthly Status Report (January 7, 2019 – February 6, 2020)

Dear Ms. Bose:

Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 157.21(f)(6) of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) hereby submits for filing in the above-referenced docket its monthly status report for the proposed Northern Lights 2021 Expansion project. On December 6, 2019, the Commission approved Northern's request to use the pre-filing environmental review procedures set forth at 18 C.F.R. Section 157.21.

Any questions regarding this filing should be directed to the undersigned at (402) 398-7103.

Respectfully submitted,

/signed/ Michael T. Loeffler

Michael T. Loeffler  
Senior Director, Certificates and External Affairs

**Northern Natural Gas Company  
Northern Lights 2021 Expansion Project  
Docket No. PF20-1-000  
Monthly Status Report – January 7, 2020 – February 6, 2020**

**Agency Consultation**

**General Consultation**

- On December 26, 2019, Margaret Everson with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stated they would participate in the pre-filing process. Ms. Everson also indicated that Nick Utrup would be the contact. A copy of the correspondence is attached.
- On January 14, 2020, Dan Miller with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) acknowledged Northern's correspondence regarding the Project and offered assistance with water appropriations permits. Mr. Miller requested he be added to the list of electronic communications. A copy of the correspondence is attached.
- On January 29, 2020, the MDNR informed Northern that Melissa Collins will replace Becky Horton representing the MDNR in the pre-filing process.
- On January 7, 2020, a USDS representative from Stearns County, Minnesota, contacted Northern and requested a map of what work Northern is proposing in Stearns County. Northern provided the map on January 7, 2020 along with project contact information.

**Wetland and Waterbody Consultation/Surveys**

- No work occurred during this reporting period due to frozen ground conditions. Additional field surveys will continue this spring as additional survey permissions are obtained.

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Consultation/Surveys**

- No work occurred during this reporting period due to frozen ground conditions. Additional field surveys will continue this spring as additional survey permissions are obtained.

**State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Consultation/Surveys**

- No work occurred during this reporting period due to frozen ground conditions. Additional field surveys will continue this spring as additional survey permissions are obtained.

**FERC**

- Northern filed draft Resource Reports 1 and 10 with FERC January 10, 2020.

**Tribal Consultations**

- No tribal correspondence was sent or received during this reporting period.

**Stakeholder Outreach**

- Open houses for the project are planned for February 17-18, 2020, in Cold Spring and Prior Lake, Minnesota, respectively. The open houses will cover the Paynesville branch line loop and the Willmar D branch line extension. Letter

invitations to open houses were mailed to affected landowners and stakeholders February 3, 2020. Notification of the open houses are scheduled to be published in local newspapers the week of February 3 and 10, 2020.

### **Right of Way**

- Northern continues to work with landowners to secure survey permission (98% acquired) and has been notifying landowners within the project area that civil and environmental surveys will be conducted on their property. Northern also has been working with landowners to obtain permission to conduct soil bores.

### **Planning and Engineering**

- Northern's engineering and design team have been evaluating route and facility alternatives for the Project and making adjustments to the route based on the results of the ongoing civil survey data and cultural, biological and environmental survey data. An evaluation of crossing methodologies for environmental features also is being conducted. The geotechnical boring program began in January 2020. Engineering is developing workspaces and access roads for the pipeline components and designing the facility layouts for the above-grade facilities.

### **Upcoming for Next Reporting Period:**

- Northern will conduct open houses.
- Northern initiated geotechnical borings for the proposed HDDs, conventional road bores, and above-grade facility locations for the Paynesville branch line loop. Northern will continue completing geotechnical borings on the remaining project components in February and March 2020.
- Adjustments to the routes will continue to be made based on new civil survey, engineering constraints, and environmental features data.
- Northern will continue to compile and assess biological and cultural field data collected during fall 2019.
- Northern will continue agency consultations, as needed.

## Martens, Donna

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**From:** Plucker, Terry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 14, 2020 9:32 AM  
**To:** Susan Knabe; Martens, Donna  
**Subject:** Fwd: [INTERNET] 2021 Northern Lights Expansion Project

Terry Plucker

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Miller, Dan W (DNR)"  
**Date:** January 14, 2020 at 8:50:11 AM CST  
**To:** "Plucker, Terry"  
**Subject:** [INTERNET] 2021 Northern Lights Expansion Project

**\*\* Remember SAIL when reading email \*\***

<b>Sender</b>	The sender of this email is <a href="mailto:dan.w.miller@state.mn.us">dan.w.miller@state.mn.us</a> using a friendly name of "Miller, Dan W (DNR)" . Are you expecting the message? Is this different from the message sender displayed above?
<b>Attachments</b>	Does this message contain attachments? <a href="#">Yes</a> If yes, are you expecting them? <a href="#">image001.png</a>
<b>Internet Tag</b>	Messages from the Internet should have <b>[INTERNET]</b> added to the subject.
<b>Links</b>	Does this message contain links? <a href="#">Yes</a> Check links before clicking them or removing BLOCKED in the browser.
<b>Cybersecurity risk assessment: High</b>	

Terry,

I have received your communication regarding the Northern Lights expansion project during 2021. Please let me know if you have any questions about water appropriations permits for this work. I look forward to hearing about the project plans as you move forward. Please add me to your list of electronic communications as they develop for this project.

Best,

Dan

**Dan Miller**

Water Use Consultant | Ecological & Water Resources

**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources**

500 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone: 651-259-5731

Email: [dan.w.miller@state.mn.us](mailto:dan.w.miller@state.mn.us)

[mndnr.gov](http://mndnr.gov)

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# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Washington D.C. 20240



DEC 26 2019

In Reply Refer To:  
FWS/D/071604

Mr. Terry Plucker  
Northern Natural Gas Company  
P.O. Box 3330  
Omaha, Nebraska 68103-0330

Dear Mr. Plucker:

Thank you for your letter of December 10, 2019 to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) requesting our Agency's participation in the FERC pre-filing process regarding the Northern Lights Expansion Project (FERC Docket No. PF20-I-000). The Service appreciates the opportunity to participate in this process. For further coordination please contact Mr. Nick Utrup of our Minnesota/Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office at (952) 252-0092 ext 204, or via email at [nick\\_utrup@fws.gov](mailto:nick_utrup@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

Margaret E. Everson  
Principal Deputy Director  
Exercising the Authority of the Director  
for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service