



Northern Natural Gas Company
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402 398-7200

June 4, 2021

Via eFiling

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

Re: Northern Natural Gas Company
Northern Lights 2021
Docket No. CP20-503-000
Bi-weekly Environmental Inspector Report #2

Dear Ms. Bose:

Pursuant to Condition 8 of the Order Issuing Certificate and Approving Abandonment issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission May 20, 2021, Northern Natural Gas Company hereby submits for filing in the above-referenced docket its bi-weekly environmental inspector report for the period ending June 2, 2021.

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

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael T. Loeffler

Michael T. Loeffler
Senior Director, Certificates and External Affairs

Northern Natural Gas Company
Northern Lights 2021 (CP20-503-000)
Bi-weekly Status Report No. 2
Period between May 20, 2021, and June 2, 2021

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Northern Natural Gas (Northern) will construct the Project, which will consist of (1) a 0.80-mile-long extension of its 24-inch-diameter Willmar D branch line; (2) a 0.63-mile-long 24-inch-diameter Carlton interconnect loop; (3) replacement of the 0.08-mile-long 8-inch-diameter Viking interconnect branch line with a 12-inch-diameter branch line of the same length; (4) a greenfield Hinckley compressor station; (5) modifications of the Pierz compressor station and interconnect; and (6) additional above-grade facilities including a launcher, receiver and valve setting.

FEDERAL AUTHORIZATION STATUS

The status of all federal authorizations, as well as local and state permits required, are listed in the table below.

Responsible Agency	Permit or Clearance Required	Status of Permit/Clearance	Permit Receipt Date
Federal			
FERC	Certificate for construction and operation of interstate natural gas transmission pipeline facilities and authorization to abandon interstate natural gas transmission pipeline facilities	Approved for pre-filing process in December 2019. Section 7 application filed July 2020.	Order issued May 20, 2021
EPA	Clean Air Act permits and approvals	Delegated to the state (MPCA)	N/A
	CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification	Delegated to the state (MPCA)	N/A
	CWA Section 402 permits for wastewater or stormwater discharges	Delegated to the state (MPCA)	N/A
NRCS	No permit required – consultation for ROW restoration and seeding recommendations	Informal outreach initiated November and December 2019	Responses received March 2020

Responsible Agency	Permit or Clearance Required	Status of Permit/Clearance	Permit Receipt Date
USACE – St. Paul District	CWA Section 404 – Dredge and Fill Permit	Informal outreach initiated November and December 2019. PCN submitted September 1, 2020.	Wetland impacts will qualify under the Regional General Permit 3 – Pre-construction notification. Utility Regional General Permit received February 3, 2021.
USFWS – Twin Cities Field Office	Endangered Species Act and MBTA – consultation clearance request for Minnesota	Informal outreach initiated November and December 2019. Section 7 consultation submitted July 23, 2020. RPBB surveys complete. Northern submitted floristic survey reports and RPBB presence/absence report with USFWS along with updated Section 7 request October 7, 2020.	On October 13, 2020, USFWS responded with concurrence of Northern’s determinations.
Native American Tribes	NHPA Section 106 consultation to determine if the project will have impact on resources of Native American cultural importance	Informal outreach initiated November and December 2019. Submission of cultural reports and unanticipated discoveries plan completed July 21, 2020. Follow-up calls completed September 2020.	The Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa THPO responded that the tribe had received the data and requested shapefiles for the project. Northern provided the shapefiles October 14, 2020. The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community THPO requested confirmation of site determinations from the State Archeologist Office. Upon confirmation, the THPO requested tribal cultural monitors approved by the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council be present during significant ground disturbing activities.
State – Minnesota			

Responsible Agency	Permit or Clearance Required	Status of Permit/Clearance	Permit Receipt Date
MPCA	Clean Air Act, Prevention of Significant Deterioration Minor/Title V Major Air Construction Permit	Informal outreach initiated November and December 2019. Permit application was submitted August 5, 2020	Air emission permit for the Hinckley compressor station was received January 13, 2021.
	Section 401 Water Quality Certification	Authorization concurrent with USACE Section 404 Approval	Wetland impacts will qualify under the Regional General Permit 3 – Pre-construction notification. The MPCA indicated February 1, 2021, that their wetland conditions will be included in the RFP from the USACE; the MPCA has no further comments under the 401 program.
	NPDES Stormwater Permit	Permit application for Carlton submitted March 10, 2021; permit application for Willmar submitted March 9, 2021, permit application for Hinckley submitted March 17, 2021, permit application for Pierz submitted early April 2021.	Permit received for Carlton March 11, 2021; permit received for Willmar March 10, 2021; permit received for Hinckley March 18, 2021; permit received for Pierz April 20, 2021.
	NPDES Hydrostatic Test Water Discharge Permit	Permit applications not required – Northern will not discharge onsite.	Not applicable
	NPDES Trench Water Discharge Permit	Application included with stormwater permits (see NPDES Stormwater Permit row above)	Authorization included with stormwater permits (see NPDES Stormwater Permit above)

Responsible Agency	Permit or Clearance Required	Status of Permit/Clearance	Permit Receipt Date
MDNR	MPARS Water Appropriation Permit for Pit Trench Water	Permit application for Carlton submitted March 2, 2021; permit application for Willmar submitted March 2, 2021, permit application for Hinckley submitted March 23, 2021.	Permit received for Carlton March 22, 2021; permit received for Willmar March 16, 2021; permit received for Hinckley April 6, 2021.
	State Protected Species Consultation	Informal outreach initiated November and December 2019. Follow-up consultation completed July 16, 2020	MDNR response received October 7, 2020. Final approval of Blanding's turtle avoidance plan was received on the same date in the same email.
State Historical Society of Minnesota	Section 106 Consultation, NHPA	Informal outreach initiated November and December 2019. Submission of cultural reports and UDP completed July 16, 2020	No historic properties determination received August 5, 2020
MDA	Comments on Northern's Agricultural mitigation plan and Noxious Weed Mitigation Plan	Coordination initiated in July 2020	Responses received in July 2020

Willmar D Branch Line Extension

Northern will construct and operate an approximately 0.80-mile extension of its 24-inch-diameter MNB75603 Willmar D-line in Dakota and Scott counties, Minnesota. The proposed extension will be tied in below grade via a hot tap at the current termination of the MNB75603 branch line in Section 26, Township 114 North, Range 21 West (Section 26, T114N, R21W), Dakota County, Minnesota. This location also is known as the Willmar 24-inch-diameter MNB75603 receiver site. The downstream tie-in to Northern's 12-inch-diameter MNB75601 and 12-inch-diameter MNB75602 branch lines will be via hot taps in Section 27, T114N, R21W, Scott County, Minnesota. The proposed extension will tie into MNB75601 on the east side of Huntington Way within a new valve setting site.

Northern will construct and operate an above-grade valve setting at the terminus of the proposed Willmar D branch line extension, east of Huntington Way, in Section 27,

T114N, Range 21W, Scott County, Minnesota. The new valve setting will include tie-over piping from the proposed Willmar D branch line extension to the MNB75601 and MNB75602 branch lines.

Environmental Training

One contractor will construct the Willmar D branch line extension. The environmental training totals listed below reflect all training conducted for this component.

On-site Contractor: Manhattan Pipeline, LLC

Overall Construction Start Date: TBD

Environmental Training Conducted: This reporting period: 0 Total to date: 0

Construction Status: No construction has occurred during this reporting period.

Construction Modifications: No construction modifications occurred during this reporting period.

Stream Crossings and Environmentally Sensitive Areas

No stream crossings or other environmentally sensitive areas have been impacted to date.

Rain Events

No rain events in excess of 0.5 inch occurred during this reporting period; no rain occurred during this reporting period. To date, the project has received 0.0 inches of precipitation.

Willmar D Branch Line Extension Construction Progress			
Activity	Start Date	Completed	Notes
Survey			
Clearing			
Grading			
Stringing			
Welding			
Ditching			
HDD WBL P4-1			
HDD WBL P4-2			
Lower-in			
Backfill			
Civil			
Mechanical			
Electrical			
Tie-ins			
Restoration final grade			
Clean-up			
Seeding			
*Completed totals include either percentage completed, or date all completed. All totals are approximate.			

Two-Week Projection

1. A pre-construction meeting will be determined prior to the next reporting period and reported in the next biweekly report.

Willmar D Branch Line Extension Related Spill Totals

All project derived waste will be properly managed, and every effort will be made to eliminate spills. No spills occurred during this reporting period.

This reporting period: 0
 Total to date: 0

Quantity: 0.0 gallons
 Total quantity: 0.0 gallons

Spills To Date				
Spill No.	Date	Segment	Volume	Notes
*The Minnesota Duty Officer will be notified of all spills meeting reporting requirements of the MPCA and/or MDNR. The National Response Center (NRC) will be notified as applicable.				

Carlton Interconnect Loop

Northern will construct and operate an approximately 0.63-mile, 24-inch-diameter pipeline loop (MNB59002) of its existing 16-inch-diameter MNB59001 Carlton interconnect branch line in Carlton County, Minnesota. The loop takeoff will be located at Northern’s interconnect within the Great Lakes Gas Transmission station yard in Section 10, T48N R17W, Carlton County, Minnesota. The downstream tie-in within Northern’s Carlton compressor station yard will be in Section 9, T48N, R17W, Carlton County, Minnesota. The proposed loop takeoff and tie-in locations will include a launcher and receiver facility, respectively. Approximately 10 to 20 feet of pipeline will be removed at the takeoff for the Carlton branch line interconnect. Approximately 140 feet of station piping will be removed at the tie-in for the interconnect loop, which will occur within the Carlton compressor station yard.

Northern will construct and operate a launcher adjacent to the Great Lakes interconnect facility, located on the north side of County Highway 61, in Section 10, T48N, R17W, Carlton County, Minnesota. The 24-inch by 30-inch launcher and associated tie-in valves will be located at the take-off point of the proposed Carlton interconnect loop.

Northern will construct and operate a receiver inside its Carlton compressor station yard, located south of Highway 35 N, in Section 9, T48N, R17W, Carlton County, Minnesota. The 24-inch by 30-inch receiver and associated tie-in valves will be located at the tie-in point of the proposed Carlton interconnect loop.

Environmental Training

One contractor will construct the Carlton Interconnect Loop and associated aboveground facilities. The environmental training totals listed below reflect all training conducted for this component.

On-site Contractor: Charps, Inc.

Overall Construction Start Date: TBD

Environmental Training Conducted: This reporting period: 0 Total to date: 0

Construction Status: No construction has occurred during this reporting period.

Construction Modifications: No construction modifications occurred during this reporting period.

Stream Crossings and Environmentally Sensitive Areas

No stream crossings or other environmentally sensitive areas have been impacted to date.

Rain Events

No rain events in excess of 0.5 inch occurred during this reporting period; no rain occurred during this reporting period. To date, the project has received 0.0 inches of precipitation.

Carlton Interconnect Loop Construction Progress			
Activity	Start Date	Completed	Notes
Survey			
Clearing			
Grading			
Stringing			
Welding			
Ditching			
HDD CIL P4-1			
Lower-in			
Backfill			
Civil			
Mechanical			
Electrical			
Tie-ins			
Restoration final grade			
Clean-up			
Seeding			
*Completed totals include either percentage completed, or date all completed. All totals are approximate.			

Two-Week Projection

1. A pre-construction meeting will be scheduled and reported in the next biweekly report.

Carlton Interconnect Loop Related Spill Totals

All project derived waste will be properly managed, and every effort will be made to eliminate spills. No spills occurred within this reporting period.

This reporting period: 0
 Total to date: 0

Quantity: 0.0 gallons
 Total quantity: 0.0 gallons

Spills To Date				
Spill No.	Date	Segment	Volume	Notes
*The Minnesota Duty Officer will be notified of all spills meeting reporting requirements of the MPCA and/or MDNR. The National Response Center (NRC) will be notified as applicable.				

Hinckley Compressor Station

Northern will construct and operate an ISO-rated 11,153-horsepower (HP) greenfield compressor station in Section 19, T41N, R20W, Pine County, Minnesota. The proposed

Hinckley compressor station will require a new communications line, and the office will require water and sanitary facilities, which will be provided via an on-site private well and a mound septic system. A new six-foot tall fence, topped with three rows of barbed wire, will surround the perimeter of the new compressor station yard. Northern will install a visual buffer, consisting of native evergreen plantings, along the north side of the proposed Hinckley compressor station. A permanent stormwater control system including a pond, swales and a discharge point will be constructed.

Environmental Training

One contractor will construct the Hinckley compressor station. The environmental training totals listed below reflect all training conducted for this component.

On-site Contractor: Manhattan Pipeline, LLC

Overall Construction Start Date: TBD

Environmental Training Conducted: This reporting period: 0 Total to date: 0

Construction Status: No construction has occurred during this reporting period.

Construction Modifications: No construction modifications occurred this reporting period.

Stream Crossings and Environmentally Sensitive Areas

There are no stream crossings or other environmentally sensitive areas located within the workspace for the Tescott compressor station.

Rain Events

No rain events in excess of 0.5 inch occurred this reporting period; no rain occurred this reporting period. To date, the project has received 0.0 inches of precipitation.

Hinckley Compressor Station Construction Progress			
Activity	Start Date	Completed	Notes
Site Preparation			
Civil			
Permanent Stormwater			
Pipeline Tie-Ins			
Mechanical			
Hydrostatic Testing			
Electrical			
Commissioning			
Clean-Up and Restoration			
*Completed totals include either percentage completed, or date all completed. All totals are approximate. Percentage completed references the location at timetable was completed within this reporting period.			

Two-Week Projection

1. A pre-construction meeting will be scheduled and reported in the next biweekly report.

Hinckley Compressor Station Related Spill Totals

All project derived waste will be properly managed, and every effort will be made to eliminate spills. No spills occurred within this reporting period.

This reporting period: 0
 Total to date: 0

Quantity: 0.0 gallons
 Total quantity: 0.0 gallons

Spills To Date				
Spill No.	Date	Segment	Volume	Notes
*The Minnesota Duty Officer will be notified of all spills meeting reporting requirements of the MPCA and/or MDNR. The National Response Center (NRC) will be notified as applicable.				

Pierz Compressor Station and Interconnect and Viking Interconnect Branch Line Replacement

Northern will construct and operate an additional electric motor-driven 1,100-HP reciprocating compressor (Unit No. 3) at its Pierz compressor station located in Section 30, T40N, R30W, Morrison County, Minnesota. The unit will be tied into Northern's proposed 12-inch-diameter MNB69901 Viking interconnect branch line described below and will include an expansion of the footprint of the existing compressor station yard.

The facilities within the expanded station yard will include a compressor, unit blowdown silencer, a compressor building, a control building, and associated above and below grade piping, station valves, and instrumentation. The interconnect includes 8-inch-diameter piping and a 6-inch-diameter meter. Approximately 150 feet of station and interconnect piping will be removed and replaced with larger 12-inch-diameter pipe. The interconnect meter will be replaced with a larger meter.

Northern will replace the existing 0.08-mile, 8-inch-diameter MNB69901 Viking interconnect branch line with 12-inch-diameter branch line of the same length. The existing pipeline will be removed, and the proposed pipeline replaced in the same trench.

Environmental Training

One contractor will construct the Pierz compressor station and interconnect and the Viking interconnect branch line replacement. The environmental training totals listed below reflect all training conducted for these components.

On-site Contractor: TBD

Overall Construction Start Date: TBD

Environmental Training Conducted: This reporting period: 0 Total to date: 0

Construction Status: No construction has occurred during this reporting period.

Construction Modifications: No construction modifications occurred during this reporting period.

Stream Crossings and Environmentally Sensitive Areas

There are no stream crossings or other environmentally sensitive areas located within the workspace for the Pierz compressor station.

Rain Events

No rain events in excess of 0.5 inch occurred during this reporting period; no rain occurred during this reporting period. To date, the project has received 0.0 inches of precipitation.

Pierz Compressor Station, Interconnect and Viking Interconnect Branch Line Replacement Construction Progress			
Activity	Start Date	Completed	Notes
Site Preparation			
Civil			
Stringing			
Welding			
Ditching			
Lower-in			
Backfill			
Pipeline Tie-Ins			
Mechanical			
Hydrostatic Testing			
Electrical			
Commissioning			
Abandonment and Removal of Existing Viking Interconnect Branch Line			
Clean-Up and Restoration			
*Completed totals include either percentage completed, or date all completed. All totals are approximate. Percentage completed references the location at timetable was completed within this reporting period.			

Two-Week Projection

1. A pre-construction meeting will be scheduled and reported in the next biweekly report.

Pierz Compressor Station and Interconnect and Viking Interconnect Branch Line Replacement Related Spill Totals

All project derived waste will be properly managed, and every effort will be made to eliminate spills. No spills occurred within this reporting period.

This reporting period: 0

Quantity: 0.0 gallons

Total to date: 0

Total quantity: 0.0 gallons

Spills To Date				
Spill No.	Date	Segment	Volume	Notes
*The Minnesota Duty Officer will be notified of all spills meeting reporting requirements of the MPCA and/or MDNR. The National Response Center (NRC) will be notified as applicable.				

PROJECT-WIDE AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND SITE VISITS

There were no agency communications or site visits conducted during this reporting period.

PROJECT-WIDE LANDOWNER CONCERNS

There were no landowner concerns during this reporting period.

PROJECT-WIDE NON-COMPLIANCE CONCERNS

No project non-compliance concerns were identified during this reporting period.

Photos of this week's activities

There were no activities this reporting period.