



Public Notice

**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers**
Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to
Notice No. below

US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. LRP-2018-363

Date: May 17, 2018

Notice No. 18-19

Closing Date: June 16, 2018

1. TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.
2. APPLICANT: National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation
1100 State Street, P.O. Box 2081
Erie, Pennsylvania 16512
3. LOCATION: Big Run, unnamed tributaries to Big Run and abutting and adjacent wetlands located in Pymatuning Township, Mercer County, Pennsylvania. Approximate center location of project is at 41.359995N, -80.419485W.
4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation (NFG) proposes to replace approximately 3,220-feet of Line HM175 west of Reynolds in Pymatuning Township, Mercer County. The existing pipeline has become exposed at several locations within the Big Run watershed. The proposed project will include:
 - installation of approximately 230-feet of 6-inch steel pipeline via open-cut excavation methods on the western end of the project,
 - installation of approximately 210-feet of 6-inch steel pipeline via open-cut excavation methods on the eastern end of the project, and
 - removal of an existing foot bridge along the existing pipeline right-of-way that crosses Big Run, and
 - installation of approximately 2,780-feet of 6-inch steel pipeline via directional drill methods (HDD) which is not regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Project will result in a temporary impact to 0.35 acre of Wetlands 2, 4, and 5 and 131 linear feet of Stream 1, 4 and 5. Wetland 7 is located within low-lying portions of an active agricultural field (was planted in corn in 2017) and is approximately 8.26 acres in size. Temporary impacts to Wetland 7 associated with the HDD receiving pit and equipment travel and layout area amounts to 2.1 acres. All of these temporary impacts will be restored upon completion of the pipeline replacement. Permanent conversion of forested and scrub-shrub wetlands to emergent wetlands upon completion of the pipeline amounts to 1,599 square feet. The Location Map and site plans may be found at the following website by clicking on Public Notice number 18-19.

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Public-Notices/>

5. ENCROACHMENT PERMIT: The applicant has obtained a GP-11 (GP114318602) on March 21, 2018 from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection - Northwest Regional Office

6. IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on endangered species or threatened species, or result in destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. While concurrence with this determination is not required, this Public Notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended). Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) dated December 18, 2017 resulted in No Known Impact and No Further Review Required for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

7. IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 - Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515). The applicant conducted an investigation of the site and received a clearance letter from the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office dated April 3, 2018.

8. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

9. EVALUATION: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and

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other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

10. RESPONSES: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Matthew Mason at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7129, or by e-mail at Matthew.R.Mason@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 2018-363 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

//SIGNED//
Nancy Mullen
Chief, Northern Branch
Regulatory Division