



Public Notice

**U.S. Army Corps
Of Engineers**

Galveston District

Permit Application No: _____ SWG-2012-00220

Date Issued: _____ 17 November 2020

Comments

Due: _____ 18 December 2020

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, GALVESTON DISTRICT

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE: To inform you of a proposal for work in which you might be interested. It is also to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is not the entity proposing or performing the proposed work, nor has the Corps taken a position, in favor or against the proposed work.

AUTHORITY: This application will be reviewed pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

APPLICANT: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC
1001 Louisiana Street
Houston, Texas 77002
POC: Shannon Cass
Telephone: 713-401-1041
Email: Shannon_Cass@kindermorgan.com

AGENT: Edge Engineering and Science, LLC
16285 Park Ten Place, Suite 400
Houston, Texas 77084
POC: H. Loveday
Telephone: 832-772-3000
Email: HTLoveday@edge-es.com

LOCATION: The project site is located in the Trinity River, in Goodrich, San Jacinto and Polk Counties, Texas. The project can be located on the U.S.G.S. quadrangle map titled: Schwab City, Texas.

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE (NAD 83):

Latitude: 30.546284° North; Longitude: 094.867342° West

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant is proposing to decommission in place, three 16-inch-diameter, out-of-service pipelines (TGP 100-1 West, TGP 100-1 Center, and TGP 100-1 East) under the bottom of the Trinity River. Exposed, accessible portions of the three pipelines within the river that could be removed without disturbing the bottom have already been cut and removed by divers, and the cut ends to remain in place capped with plumbers plugs. There will be no discharge of fill associated with this project.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: The applicant has stated that they have avoided and minimized the environmental impacts by cutting and capping each of the inactive pipelines (TGP 100-1 West, TGP 100-1 Center, and TGP 100-1 East) using divers at two locations from each bank. Pipe segments that could not be removed readily without disturbing the river bottom are proposed to be decommissioned in place. By decommissioning the pipelines in place, there will be no dredging to remove the pipelines and no disturbance to the bottom sediments of the river that would temporarily increase turbidity within the river and require placement of the dredged material in an upland disposal area.

CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS: The project site is located in a rural area surrounding the Trinity River that is a mix of fragmented forested land and agricultural fields. This portion of the Trinity River is approximately 10 miles downstream of Lake Livingston and has, at most, light small vessel traffic. There are no special aquatic sites within the portion of the river where the pipelines are proposed to be decommissioned in place.

This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This project information has not been verified by the Corps. The applicant's plans are enclosed in 3 sheets.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required. Since permit assessment is a continuing process, this preliminary determination of EIS requirement will be changed if data or information brought forth in the coordination process is of a significant nature.

OTHER AGENCY AUTHORIZATIONS:

The project site is not located within the Texas Coastal Zone and therefore, does not require certification from the Texas Coastal Management Program.

No water quality certification is required.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: The staff archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. The following is current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the undertaking upon these properties:

The proposed project is of such limited nature and scope that it has no potential to affect historic properties, even if present within the project area.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES: Preliminary indications are that no known threatened and/or endangered species or their critical habitat will be affected by the proposed work.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FACTORS: This application will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR 320-332, the Regulatory Programs of the Corps, and other pertinent laws, regulations and executive orders. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, 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 benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, will be considered: among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State, and local agencies and officials, Indian tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps 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 Impact Assessment and/or an EIS pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts upon which a decision by the Corps may be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition.

PUBLIC HEARING: The purpose of a public hearing is to solicit additional information to assist in the evaluation of the proposed project. Prior to the close of the comment period, any person may make a written request for a public hearing, setting forth the particular reasons for the request. The District Engineer will determine if the reasons identified for holding a public hearing are sufficient to warrant that a public hearing be held. If a public hearing is warranted, all known interested persons will be notified of the time, date, and location.

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD: All comments pertaining to this public notice must reach this office on or before **18 December 2020**. Extensions of the comment period may be granted for valid reasons provided a written request is received by the limiting date. **If no comments are received by that date, it will be considered that there are no objections.** Comments and requests for additional information should reference our file number, **SWG-2012-00220**, and should be submitted to:

North Unit
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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
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DISTRICT ENGINEER
GALVESTON DISTRICT
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