



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: Natural Gas
Pipeline Company of America,
LLC (NGPL)

Published: October 30, 2025
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publish date) November 12, 2025

**Galveston District
Permit Application No. SWG-2025-00592**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The Galveston District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1344). In Executive Order (EO) 14156 the President declared a national emergency under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621) based upon the finding that the United States' insufficient energy production, transportation, refining, and generation constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to our Nation's economy, national security, and foreign policy. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Galveston District has found that this permit request meets the terms of EO 14156 and is therefore subject to special emergency permitting procedures to address an energy supply situation which would result in an unacceptable hazard to life, a significant loss of property, or an immediate, unforeseen, and significant economic hardship if corrective action requiring a permit is not undertaken within a time period less than the normal time needed to process the application under standard procedures. The Galveston District will implement the special processing procedures approved by Southwestern Division in accordance with 33 CFR § 325.2(e)(4). The purpose of this public notice is to solicit comments from the public regarding the work described below:

APPLICANT: Chad Soileau
Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America LLC (NGPL)
1001 Louisiana Street
Houston, Texas 77002
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AGENT: Cal Fontenot
SWCA Environmental Consultants
10245 West Little York Road, Suite 600
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WATERWAY AND LOCATION: The project would affect waters of the United States associated with Keith Lake / Sabine Neches Waterway. The project site is located within palustrine wetlands approximately 2.1 miles northwest of Sabine Pass, in Jefferson County, Texas; at Latitude 29.747402 and Longitude -93.925117;

EXISTING CONDITIONS: The project site contains an existing upland meter station surrounded by lowlands which display wetland characteristics. Immediately south of the project area is the existing Dowling Road while further north of the project area is the large Golden Pass LNG Export Terminal infrastructure.

PROJECT PURPOSE:

Basic: The basic project purpose is to increase the natural gas capacity.

Overall: The overall project purpose is to expand the transportation volume with an additional 500,000 dekatherms per day of natural gas across the NGPL Louisiana Lines No. 1 and No. 2 to provide more opportunity and flexibility to the natural gas and LNG facilities across the Texas/Louisiana Gulf Coast markets.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant requests authorization to permanently fill approximately 1 acre of palustrine emergent wetland with an additional 3.36 acres of temporary impact to previously stated wetland. The project will consist of a new natural gas meter station, which will include a single sixteen-inch ultrasonic meter assembly, flow control and tap assembly, and 16-inch pipeline, to be made at the request of Trident Interstate Pipeline, LLC for the ability to accept gas nominations from the Trident mainline, into the NGPL Louisiana No. 1 and No. 2 mainlines.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: The applicant has provided the following information in support of efforts to avoid and/or minimize impacts to the aquatic environment: The applicant conducted an alternatives analysis for the project in which the preferred alternative would result in the least impacts to aquatic resources while still meeting the purpose and need of the project.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: The applicant offered the following compensatory mitigation plan to offset unavoidable functional loss to the aquatic environment: The applicant proposes to purchase approximately 0.666 physical functional capacity units (FCUs), 0.583 FCUs, and 0.680 FCUs from the Anahuac Wetlands Mitigation Bank.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The Corps evaluated the undertaking pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) utilizing its existing program-specific regulations and procedures along with 36 CFR Part 800. The Corps' program-specific procedures include 33 CFR 325, Appendix C, and revised interim guidance issued in 2005 and 2007, respectively. The District Engineer consulted district files and records and the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and initially determines that:

The permit area has been so extensively impacted by previous project activities and construction and maintenance of the S Gulfway Dr. that there is no potential for historic properties to exist within the permit area. Therefore, the proposed project has no potential to cause an effect to historic properties.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The Corps has performed an initial review of the application, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) and the NMFS Critical Habitat Mapper to determine if any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, as well as the proposed and final designated critical habitat may occur within the boundary of the proposed project. Based on this initial review, the Corps has made a preliminary determination that the proposed project may affect species and critical habitat listed in Table 01. No other ESA-listed species or critical habitat will be affected by the proposed action.

Table 01: Effects Determination for Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Effect	
		USFWS	NMFS
MAMMALS			
Tri-Color Bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	NE	N/A
FISH			
BIRDS			
Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	NE	N/A
Red Knot (Rufa)	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	NLAA	N/A
Whooping Crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	NLAA	N/A
Eastern Black Rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis</i>	NLAA	N/A
REPTILES			
Green Sea Turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	NE	NE
Hawksbill Sea Turtle	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	NE	NE
Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	NE	NE
CLAMS			
INSECT			
Monarch Butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	NE	N/A
PLANTS			

This notice serves as request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

The Corps has determined that the proposed action is subject to Executive Order 14156, "Declaring a National Energy Emergency" issued 20 January 2025. As such, the permit application is being expedited using emergency regulations. The Corps is requesting the U.S. Fish consult in an expedited manner described in 50 CFR 402.05 Emergencies. Pursuant to 50 CFR 402.06, the Corps is requesting consultation be consolidated with the public notice. To assure emergency consultation is completed in an expedited manner, the Corps is requesting the agency's recommendations to minimize the effects of the emergency response action on listed species and critical habitat be provided no later than **20 days** from the issuance of the public notice.

Pursuant to 50 CFR 402.05(b), formal consultation shall be initiated for listed species or critical habitat that will be adversely affected as soon as practicable after the emergency is under control.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: Pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1996, the Corps reviewed the project area, examined information provided by the applicant, and consulted available species information. The Corps has determined that the proposed action is subject to Executive Order 14156, “Declaring a National Energy Emergency” issued 20 January 2025. As such, the permit application is being expedited using emergency regulations. Pursuant to 50 CFR 600.920(h), the Corps is requesting abbreviated consultation be completed no later than **20 days** from the issuance of the public notice.

The Corps has determined the proposal would have no effect on any Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Therefore, no consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service on EFH as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1996 is required.

NAVIGATION: The proposed structure or activity is not located in the vicinity of a federal navigation channel.

SECTION 408: The applicant will not require permission under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 408) because the activity, in whole or in part, would not alter, occupy, or use a Corps Civil Works project.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: The proposed project will trigger review under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will review this application under Section 401 of the CWA and in accordance with Title 30, Texas Administrative Code Section 279.1-13 to determine if the work would comply with State water quality standards. The applicant has not yet reached out to the TCEQ to initiate the Section 401 CWA process.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: The applicant has stated that the project is consistent with the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) goals and policies and will be conducted in a manner consistent with said Program. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality will determine if the project is consistent with the goals and policies of the CMP and will review this application under Section 401 of the CWA to determine if the work would comply with State water quality standards.

NOTE: This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This information has not been verified or evaluated to ensure compliance with laws and regulation governing the regulatory program. The geographic extent of aquatic resources within the proposed project area that either are, or are presumed to be, within the Corps jurisdiction has not been verified by Corps personnel. The applicant’s plans are enclosed in 49 sheets.

EVALUATION: 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 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 including cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain 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. Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act or the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

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 determination, comments are used to assess impacts to 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 (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The Galveston District will receive written comments on the proposed work, as outlined above, until November 12, 2025. Comments should be submitted electronically via the Regulatory Request System (RRS) at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs> or to the Regulatory Division at swg_public_notice@usace.army.mil. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, Attention: **SWG-2025-00592**, at 2000 Fort Point Road, Galveston, Texas 77550. Please refer to the permit application number **SWG-2025-00592** in your comments.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing will be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

DISTRICT ENGINEER
GALVESTON DISTRICT
CORPS OF ENGINEERS