

February 13, 2002

Ms. Robin Bray  
Supervising Environmental Analyst  
State of Connecticut  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Office of Long Island Sound Programs and  
Inland Water Resources Division  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

**RE:** Islander East Pipeline Company, L.L.C. and  
Algonquin Gas Transmission Company  
Cheshire, Wallingford, North Haven, North Branford, East Haven and Branford  
Application for Structures, Dredging and Fill / Tidal Wetlands and  
Application for 401 Water Quality Certification (Inland and Tidal)

Dear Ms. Bray:

Islander East Pipeline Company, L.L.C. and Algonquin Gas Transmission Company, pursuant to CGS § 22a-361, CGS § 22a-32 and 33 U.S.C. 1341, herewith submit one (1) original and three (3) copies of the two volume combined permit application for the captioned project. A check in the amount of \$350.00, made payable to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, is enclosed to cover the required permit application fee. The Notice of Publication of the Permit Application Filing will be forwarded to your attention under separate cover via Certified Mail. The project consists generally of the following components:

- In Cheshire, the construction of a natural gas compressor station near East Johnson Avenue and Interstate 691 (no direct wetland or watercourse impacts);
- Hydrostatic retesting of approximately 13.2 miles of two existing Algonquin Gas Transmission Company natural gas pipelines that run through Cheshire, Wallingford and North Haven;
- Installation of a new meter station within the existing Algonquin Gas Transmission Company meter station site located at 67 Laydon Avenue in North Haven;
- Installation and hydrostatic testing of approximately 10.2 miles of new 24-inch diameter buried natural gas pipeline through the towns of North Haven, East Haven, North Branford and Branford along existing Algonquin natural gas pipeline Right-of-Way and along Branford Steam Railroad Right-of-Way;
- Installation and hydrostatic testing of approximately 10.7 miles of new 24-inch diameter buried natural gas pipeline from the shoreline in Branford out into Long Island Sound to the New York State Line. The pipeline will continue across Long Island Sound to Wading River, NY.

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The two volume permit application package contains the completed permit forms and the required attachments and supporting information to allow your staff to review the environmental aspects of the project. Extensive field studies in the proposed pipeline corridor in Long Island Sound were conducted by qualified experts to assess the existing conditions and the impacts resulting from the project. The offshore studies encompassed benthic habitats, shellfish, geophysical surveys, test borings, chemical and physical analyses of sediment samples, water quality and current measurements, and archaeology. Landward of the shoreline both inland and tidal wetlands, streams and rivers, wildlife habitats, cultural resources, and land use were delineated and assessed.

In order for all work in Long Island Sound from the Connecticut shoreline to the New York shoreline to be completed before April 1, 2003 (the schedule for completion of the offshore construction phase), the project is very much dependant upon issuance of all permits prior to September 1, 2002. The construction window has been planned to minimize construction related impacts to resources including, but not limited to sensitive shellfish, finfish, and avian species during spawning and critical lifestage periods and to minimize recreational boater interference. In order to facilitate the CTDEP staff understanding of the project, the resources identified and the impacts resulting from the construction activities, we will make available at your convenience the expert environmental and construction team members that were directly involved in the assembly of the permit application document. The team will be able to present the project in an initial introductory meeting and then be available subsequently to meet as necessary during the CTDEP review process to address additional questions, comments or concerns.

If you have project related questions please contact Gene Muhlherr at our Branford, CT office at (800) 516-9997 or via e-mail at [Ghmuhlherr@duke-energy.com](mailto:Ghmuhlherr@duke-energy.com) . If you have any permit application/environmental questions or would like to schedule a meeting with the project team, please contact Joseph Reinemann at (800) 516-9997 or via e-mail at [jreinemann@duke-energy.com](mailto:jreinemann@duke-energy.com).

Very truly yours,

ISLANDER EAST PIPELINE COMPANY, L.L.C.



Gene H. Muhlherr  
Islander East Project Manager

Enclosures

**LEGALS**

**Notice of Permit Application**

**Towns: North Haven, East Haven,  
North Branford, and Branford**

Notice is hereby given that Islander East Pipeline L.L.C. and Algonquin Gas Transmission Company (the "applicant") of 454 East Main Street, Branford, Connecticut 06405, has submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection an application under Sections 22a-32 for a permit to conduct regulated activities in Tidal Wetlands; Section 22a-361 to conduct work in Tidal Coastal or Navigable Waters of the State; 33 U.S.C. 1341 (401 Water Quality Certificate) to conduct an activity which may result in a discharge to certain Waters of the State of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS).

Specifically, the applicant proposes to construct a pipeline compressor station and to install a 24" diameter interstate natural gas transmission pipeline. Compressor Station construction will take place on East Johnson Avenue, Cheshire, Connecticut. Pipeline construction will commence in North Haven at 67 Laydon Avenue, and proceed through the towns of North Haven, East Haven, North Branford, and to Branford, across Long Island Sound to the New York State line. The proposed activity will potentially affect: Inland Wetlands, Tidal Wetland, Near Shore Waters and Open Waters, Streams including the following: Stony Creek, Branford River, Burrs Brook, Farm River, Five Mile Brook, Muddy River. Interested persons may obtain copies of the application from Joseph C. Reinemann, 454 E. Main Street, Branford, Connecticut, 06405, (203) 488-1800.

The application is available for inspection at the Office of the Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Long Island Sound Programs, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut, 06108-5127, telephone (860) 424-3034 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.