

## **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-2011-1451

Date: December 30, 2011

Closing Date: January 28, 2012

Notice No. 11-56

1. <u>TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN</u>: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

2. <u>APPLICANT</u>: Mike Clinger

Seneca Resources Corp. 51 Zents Boulevard

Brookville, Pennsylvania 15825

3. AGENT: Stephanie Kern

Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc.

5000 Ritter Road

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055

- 4. <u>LOCATION</u>: is wetlands abutting and adjacent to Red Lick Run and its tributaries along Owls Nest Road in Highland Township, Elk County, Pennsylvania. Approximate center location of project is at 41.48091 N, -78.89137 W.
- 5. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes to remove three existing gas pipelines and replace them with one 12-inch steel gas pipeline. The pipeline extends approximately 15,800 feet along the existing utility line corridor adjacent to Owls Nest Road from a proposed compressor pad to an existing gas pipeline at a smaller proposed compressor pad. Drawings of the proposed pipeline are attached to this notice. Trenching and installation of the pipeline will temporarily impact 19 wetlands and 3 streams. These streams include 2 unnamed tributaries to Red Lick Run and Red Lick Run. The wetlands that will be impacted are located along the existing pipeline right-of-way and are all palustrine emergent wetlands as the pipeline is maintained by mowing.

Temporary impacts associated with the proposed project include 8.43 acres from the crossing of 14 jurisdictional wetlands. The temporary impacts result from either the pipeline or equipment crossing and no permanent impacts are anticipated. Three stream crossings will temporarily impact 251 linear feet of stream. A dam and pump bypass system will be temporarily used during the pipeline installation through all 3 streams. The wetland and stream crossing impacts will be restored to preconstruction conditions with no significant alternations occurring. Topsoil will be excavated and stockpiled during construction, and placed back into

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the wetland areas to establish vegetation.

Three separate wetland crossings will result in more than 1 acre of temporary impacts – Wetland 1 (1.23 acres), Wetland 4 (1.27 acres), and Wetland 11 (2.43 acres).

6. <u>ENCROACHMENT PERMIT</u>: The applicant has received a GP-11 Maintenance, Testing, Repair, Rehabilitation or Replacement of Water Obstructions and Encroachments Permit for the pipeline replacement which included 401 Water Quality Certification from the:

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Northwest Regional Office Bureau of Oil and Gas Management 230 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335

Telephone: 814-332-6860

- 7. <u>IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES</u>: The applicant has conducted an on-line review of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) records on November 9, 2010 and October 20, 2011. Search results indicate that there are No Known Impact to species of concern for the PA Game Commission, PA DCNR and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The PA Fish and Boat Commission indicated that 'Further review is required". The PA Fish and Boat Commission responded to the applicant on November 17, 2011 that they 'do not anticipate any direct adverse impacts to the timber rattlesnake from the proposed project'.
- 8. <u>IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The applicant has consulted with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation and has obtained written clearance in a letter dated November 3, 2011. 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).
- 9. <u>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</u>: 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.
- 10. <u>EVALUATION</u>: 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 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).

11. <u>RESPONSES</u>: 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: Matt 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 2011-1451 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

// SIGNED//

Nancy Mullen Chief, Northern Section Regulatory Branch





