UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC Docket No. CP14-96-000

NOTICE OF SCHEDULE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
OF THE ALGONQUIN INCREMENTAL MARKET PROJECT

(June 23, 2014)

On February 28, 2014, Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC (Algonquin), an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Spectra Energy Corporation, filed an application in Docket No. CP14-96-000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to sections 7(b) and 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act to construct, operate, and maintain certain natural gas pipeline facilities. The proposed project is known as the Algonquin Incremental Release Market Project (AIM Project), and would expand Algonquin's existing pipeline system to deliver up to 342,000 dekatherms per day of natural gas to the Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts markets.

On March 18, 2014, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) issued its Notice of Application for the AIM Project. Among other things, that notice alerted other agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on the request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the AIM Project. This instant notice identifies the FERC staff's planned schedule for completion of the final EIS for the project.

Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of Notice of Availability of the final EIS	December 19, 2014
90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline	March 19, 2015

If a schedule change becomes necessary, an additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the project's progress.

Project Description

The AIM Project includes about 37.6 miles of pipeline composed of the following facilities:

- replacement of 29.2 miles of existing pipeline with a 16-inch and 42-inch-diameter pipeline;

- extension of existing loop[1] pipeline with about 3.3 miles of additional 12- and 36-inch-diameter pipeline within Algonquin's existing right-of-way; a
- installation of about 5.1 miles of new pipeline.

The AIM Project's proposed aboveground facilities consist of modifications to six existing compressor stations, adding a total of 81,620 horsepower, in New York, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

Background

On June 28, 2013, the Commission staff granted Algonquin's request to use the FERC's pre-filing environmental review process and assigned the AIM Project Docket N PF13-16-000. On September 13, 2013, during the pre-filing review, the Commission iss a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Planned Algonq Incremental Market Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice Public Scoping Meetings* (NOI). The NOI was sent to federal, state, and local governme agencies; elected officials; affected landowners; environmental and public interest group Native American tribes and regional organizations; civic organizations; commentors and other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. Major issues raised during scoping include: impacts on the New York City drinking water supply and associated facilities, construction traffic impacts, impacts of blasting, and conflicts with other developments.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration federal cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.

Additional information about the AIM Project may be obtained by contacting the Environmental Project Manager, Maggie Suter, by telephone at 202-502-6463 or by electronic mail at magdalene.suter@ferc.gov.

Lauren O'Donnell, Director
Division of Gas – Environment
and Engineering

[1] A pipeline loop is constructed parallel to an existing pipeline to increase capacity.