South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Dominion Carolina Gas Transmission: Moore to Chappells Pipeline Project
Meeting Purpose

• Overview of DHEC’s role in evaluating the Moore to Chappells natural gas pipeline.
• Focus on the 401 Water Quality Certification process.
DHEC Public Notice for Dominion Pipeline

• January 2016, DHEC issued a Notice of General Public Interest to notify public of DHEC permitting/certification decisions related to this project.

www.scdhec.gov/dominionpipeline
DHEC – Air Construction Permit

• Issued April 8, 2016.
• Minor modification to existing permit.

Photo courtesy of Dominion Carolina Gas Transmission
DHEC – NPDES General Permit

• NPDES General Permit for Hydrostatic Test Water Discharges (pending)

• Discharge municipal drinking water or filtered river water used to test pipeline for leaks.

Photo courtesy of Dominion Carolina Gas Transmission
DHEC – Stormwater Construction Permit

• Exempt from DHEC permit

• However, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) certificate requires compliance with:
  • Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation and Maintenance Plan
  • Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures

• 401 Certification Conditions
401 Water Quality Certification

• Application received Sept. 23, 2016.

• 401 Certifications ensure projects comply with state water quality standards and ensure protection of water quality and classified uses.

• A 401 Certification review....
  • Ensures that projects don’t impair the aquatic ecosystem;
  • Determines if there are feasible alternatives with less adverse impacts to water quality;
  • Ensures waters containing rare, threatened, or endangered species will not be adversely impacted;
  • Ensures special habitats are not adversely impacted, such as National Estuarine Research Reserves, designated State Scenic Rivers, etc.
US Army Corps of Engineers Review

- The US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) granted provisional authorization of the project on September 22, 2016.
- Section 401 of the Clean Water Act states that the federal permit cannot be granted until the state issues its certification decision.
- The Corps permit is not valid until the DHEC 401 Certification is issued.
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) required FERC to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project.
  - The Environmental Assessment for this project was issued in October 2016.
Status of 401 Water Quality Certification

- **September 23, 2016** - DHEC received 401 Water Quality Certification application

- **October 18, 2016** - DHEC held first 30-day public notice period to solicit comments on the application

- **November 21, 2016** - DHEC held additional 15-day public notice period
  - **February 2, 2017** - FERC issued the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

- **Ongoing** - Evaluation of submitted information to ensure the project can meet state and federal water quality standards
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Information Stations

DHEC
  - 401 Water Quality Certification
  - Stormwater Construction Permits
  - Hydrostatic Test Water Discharge General Permit
  - Air Construction Permit

Dominion
  - Company overview
  - Project overview and waterbody crossings
  - Pipeline safety and maintenance
  - Required permits, FERC process, best practices

SCE&G
  - Need for additional natural gas usage