

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

In Reply Refer To:
OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 4
Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC
Atlantic Coast Pipeline
Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc.
Supply Header Project
Docket Nos. CP15-554-000,
CP15-554-001, and CP15-555-000

February 16, 2018

Mr. Matthew R. Bley
Director, Gas Transmission Certificates
Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc.
707 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Partial Notice to Proceed with Tree Felling

Dear Mr. Bley:

I grant Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC's (Atlantic) and Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc.'s (DETI) February 16, 2018 request to commence certain limited tree felling activities. Specifically, this authorization grants approval to cut trees and vegetation in wetlands, the 50-foot setback from wetland and waterbodies, and upland areas that were previously inaccessible due to being landlocked between two wetlands or waterbodies and excluded in our January 19, 2018 approval. These areas are limited to Spreads 1-1, 2-1, 2A, 3A, 8, and 10 in West Virginia and North Carolina and as more fully described in Attachment A of your request.

As described in your request, Atlantic's and DETI's may only fell trees via non-mechanized methods. Non-mechanized cutting is defined as the use of equipment that can be operated and carried by hand, by an individual; and that use of wheeled, tracked, or other similar types of ground-disturbing equipment is **not** authorized for clearing-related activity. Activities may only occur on lands where easements have been obtained, surveys have been completed, and where no additional state or local permits are required for the activity. Felled trees and vegetation debris shall be left in place until further

authorization for any earth-disturbing activities is granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Improvement or modification of approved access roads is not authorized as part of this limited notice to proceed. This approval does **not** authorize use of U.S. Forest Service access roads until Atlantic obtains the applicable road use permit(s). Additionally, this approval solely relates to the activities described in your February 16, 2018 request and does **not** grant authorization to conduct mechanized activities as described in your February 12, 2018 request or in any additional areas described in that request.

In considering this limited notice to proceed, we have reviewed Atlantic and DETI's Implementation Plan, filed on October 17, 2017, construction constraint maps, and tree-felling maps. Based on our review, Atlantic and DETI have provided the necessary information to meet the environmental conditions of the Commission's October 13, 2017 *Order Issuing Certificates* (Order) solely as it relates to the activities approved herein. In addition, we have documented the receipt or waiver of all required federal authorizations relevant to the approved activities herein.

I remind you that the area authorized is for tree felling only, and that Atlantic and DETI must comply with all applicable terms and conditions of the Order, as well as the conservation measures identified in other agency authorizations required by federal law. As noted above, Atlantic must successfully obtain easements prior to commencement of cutting on individual tracts.

If you have any questions regarding this authorization, please contact Kevin Bowman at 202-502-6287.

Sincerely,

Rich McGuire, Director
Division of Gas -- Environment
and Engineering

cc: Public File, Docket Nos. CP15-554-000, CP15-554-001, and CP15-555-000

Document Content(s)

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