



August 24, 2011

To the public at large:

The Office of Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects — created by Congress in 2004 to help coordinate the federal government’s role in a pipeline project to move Alaska natural gas to the Lower 48 states — issues an Attention Items Update twice a year, tracking progress on permitting and regulatory issues for the project. The August 2011 update (attached) reports few changes in most of the items covered in the February 2011 report, and highlights several key items the project applicant is working through to stay on schedule. Those include:

- Ensuring that the applicant’s plan for data submission will meet the needs of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for preparation of the project’s environmental impact statement and of the federal agencies that will issue permits for the project.
- Finding the best route and approval process for bringing the pipeline the final few miles through Alaska for its connection point at the Canadian border.

Design, engineering and environmental data collection in preparation for an Alaska North Slope natural gas pipeline continues on schedule, in anticipation of the project sponsor (the Alaska Pipeline Project, a venture of TransCanada and ExxonMobil) submitting its application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in October 2012.

The applicant’s teams have been in the field this summer documenting soils, vegetation, streams, lakes, wetlands, water quality, fish and wildlife along much of the 745-mile pipeline corridor from Prudhoe Bay to the Canadian border. The applicant will submit its 11 draft resource reports to FERC in December 2011, covering such areas as socioeconomic impacts of the project, wetlands, geological hazards, land use, subsistence needs and resources for area residents, historic sites and air quality. The resource reports will form the base for FERC’s preparation of an environmental statement for the project. The draft environmental impact statement is then due 12 months after FERC accepts the project application as complete.

Further discussion of those items and others are available on our [August 2011 APP Attention Items Update](#) and [attention items details](#) pages at the Federal Coordinator’s website, www.arcticgas.gov. The office’s detailed listing of all of the attention items for the project traces the issues back to the original June 2010 implementation plan for the project. We urge you to review the information to learn more about the progress and substantial work under way on this project.

Thank you.

Larry Persily
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Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects