

September 17, 2020

Mr. Thomas Cushing  
Bureau of Air & Waste – Air Permit Chief  
MassDEP Southeast Regional Office  
20 Riverside Drive  
Lakeville, MA 02347

RE: *Notification of Scheduled Natural Gas Release*  
*Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC*  
*Weymouth Compressor Station (Transmittal No. X266786)*

Dear Mr. Cushing:

Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC (Algonquin) was issued Air Quality Plan Approval - Transmittal No. X266786 (the Plan Approval) by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) on August 26, 2019. The Plan Approval authorizes the construction and operation of the Weymouth Compressor Station, 50 Bridge Street, Weymouth, Massachusetts.

As part of the ongoing commissioning work at the Weymouth Compressor Station, venting will occur between September 21<sup>st</sup> and September 27<sup>th</sup>. The venting will be associated with the following activities:

- Valve installation at the Weymouth M&R Station
- Emergency shutdown (ESD) system verification
- Turbine startup activities
- Ancillary equipment startup

The valve installation at the Weymouth M&R Station will require affected piping to be isolated and gas vented prior to work commencing. After work is complete, the piping will be purged of air and placed back in service.

Verification of the ESD system will result in the release of natural gas through the ESD blowdown stack and will have a mercaptan odor associated with it.

Turbine startup activities require gas venting to conduct inspection of the unit for operability and to verify performance. The gas will be vented through the case vent stack on site and will have a mercaptan odor associated with it. The turbine commissioning process involves operating the unit for approximately 100 hours intermittently with stops for inspections and adjustments. This is scheduled to occur starting next week, extending through the weekend beyond Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

As part of the startup of equipment, fuel systems will be commissioned, and their status verified to ensure they will operate in a safe manner as designed. Once the fuel systems are commissioned, various fuel

burning equipment will be started for the first time. This includes, but is not limited to, the emergency generator, and other heaters at the site. The initial firing of these units may result in temporary visible emissions as the coatings used for storage and transport are heated.

In accordance with Section 3.B., Table 11, Condition 2 of the Plan Approval for the Weymouth Compressor Station, Algonquin is required to notify MassDEP prior to any scheduled gas releases at the Weymouth Compressor Station that are expected to exceed 10,000 standard cubic feet (scf) of natural gas. The estimated total volume of natural gas anticipated to be released during commissioning activities occurring between September 21<sup>th</sup> and September 27<sup>th</sup> is 542,000 scf.

Date	Activity	Anticipated Time of Release	Expected Duration of Release	Estimated Volume of Gas Release (scf)	Estimated VOC Emissions (lbs)	Mitigation Measures
9/21/2020	M&R valve installation	Intermittent throughout the day	Periodic	115,000	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize vented equipment to only that which is necessary for safe work.</li> <li>Pressure will be reduced as much as possible prior to venting to atmosphere.</li> </ul>
9/22/2020	Emergency Shutdown verification	One Time	10 minutes	265,000	36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One test to demonstrate operation of the equipment</li> </ul>
9/22/2020 through 9/27/2020	Case venting associated with turbine startup activities	Intermittent as needed	5 minutes for each release	150,000	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limiting the number of case vents to those that are required to bring the unit in service.</li> </ul>
9/21/2020 through 9/27/2020	Commissioning of ancillary equipment	Intermittent throughout the week	Periodic	12,000	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize venting to volumes required for safe commissioning.</li> </ul>

If Algonquin revises its timeline for these scheduled natural gas releases, Algonquin will promptly inform MassDEP.

If you should have any questions, please call the landowner information line at (888) 331-6553.

"I certify that I have personally examined the foregoing and am familiar with the information contained in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including possible fines and imprisonment."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roy Taylor".

Roy Taylor – Director Field Operations, Northeast Region

Cc: Frank Pike, Enbridge  
Town of Weymouth  
City of Quincy  
Town of Braintree  
Town of Hingham