

September 3, 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.

The compressor station is currently under construction and is mechanically complete. The next step in the construction process is to begin commissioning activities, which include testing and calibrating piping and equipment to ensure proper operation. Starting the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>, natural gas will be introduced into the station for the first time. The recently installed pipeline, interconnects to the existing meter station and the newly constructed compressor station will be tested to ensure the facilities will operate in a safe manner, as designed. Between September 8<sup>th</sup> and September 12<sup>th</sup>, station piping and equipment will be tested for leaks and the Emergency Shutdown System (ESD) will also be tested.

As gas is introduced, the station piping must be purged of air. Purging involves using natural gas in an existing pressurized pipeline to remove air from the new pipeline and safely bring the new section of pipeline to a functioning state. Gas will be released during the purge process, and to also reduce system pressures for testing and any other necessary adjustments. This gas will be vented through a charcoal trailer brought on site in order to minimize odor associated with mercaptan, which is injected into natural gas for safety reasons.

Testing of the ESD system will also result in the release of natural gas. The gas vented during the ESD test will not be vented through the charcoal trailer because it must be vented through the ESD blowdown stack in order to test the system. This gas will have a mercaptan odor associated with it.

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 scf of natural gas. The estimated total volume of natural gas anticipated to be released during commissioning activities occurring between September 8<sup>th</sup>

and September 12<sup>th</sup> is 675,000 standard cubic feet (scf). Natural gas will be released during commissioning activities the week of September 8<sup>th</sup> as outlined in the table below.

Date	Activity	Anticipated Time of Release	Expected Duration of Release	Estimated Volume of Gas Release (scf)	Estimated VOC Emissions (lbs)	Mitigation Measures
9/8/2020 through 9/12/2020	Station Piping Purge/Pack and Pressure Adjustments, vented through a carbon filtration system	Intermittent throughout the week	Variable dependent on site conditions	410,000	53	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce emissions by limiting duration of venting once line is purged of air</li> <li>• Carbon Filter (odor control)</li> </ul>
9/12/2020	Emergency Shutdown test vented to atmosphere	One Time	10 minutes	265,000	35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One test to ensure proper evacuation of station equipment</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 contact Barry Goodrich by phone at (713) 627-4484 or email [Barry.Goodrich@Enbridge.com](mailto:Barry.Goodrich@Enbridge.com).

"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,



Roy Taylor – Director Field Operations, Northeast Region

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