

Update

March 2005

Information about our natural gas pipeline in your area

Pipeline expansion receives federal approval

Williams received authorization from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Feb. 10 to construct approximately 3.5 miles of new 36-inch pipeline along the existing Transco pipeline system in Burlington County, N.J. Construction on the \$13 million project is scheduled to begin in July of 2005 and is expected to be completed by November 2005.

The expansion will provide an additional 101,000 million cubic feet per day of firm natural gas transportation service to South Jersey Gas, which provides natural gas service to more than 311,000 customers in southern New Jersey.

“We appreciate the cooperation we have received from landowners and other stakeholders whose assistance has helped bring us where we are today,” said Larry Dearing, project manager. “As we enter the construction phase of this project, we are committed to

working with all stakeholders to minimize any inconvenience.”

Prior to receiving federal approval, the FERC issued an environmental assessment (EA) on Nov. 22, 2004. The EA is a comprehensive assessment of the environmental impacts of the pipeline project. The FERC

concluded that the construction and operation of the proposed facilities, with the adoption of recommended mitigation measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Prior to the commencement of construction, directly affected landowners will receive a letter from Williams providing specific information on the construction schedule, a summary of what to expect to see during construction, and communication procedures for landowners to follow when questions or issues arise pertaining to construction or restoration related activities.

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What's next?

- **Spring 2005**
Complete easement acquisition
- **May 2005**
Select construction contractor
- **May 2005**
File construction implementation plan with FERC
- **June 2005**
Complete acquisition of local, state permits
- **July 2005**
Begin construction
- **November 2005**
Place facilities in service and complete restoration

Questions?

Landowners can direct questions about the project to our Construction/Land office in Princeton, N.J., at (609) 936-2405. You also may write to:

Williams Gas Pipeline-Transco
99 Farber Rd.
Princeton, NJ 08540

www.williams.com/centralnj



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Pipeline construction process involves many parts

The number of people and amount of equipment required to build a pipeline surprises many people. Pipeline construction proceeds as a moving assembly line. As one crew completes its work, it moves to a new position down the pipeline route and a new crew moves into the first crew's position to complete its piece of the construction process. The overall construction process includes the following components:

Clearing and grading – The clearing and grading crew removes debris and prepares a level working surface for the heavy equipment that follows.

Stringing – The pipe lengths typically are 40 to 80 feet long. A stringing crew using specialized trailers will move the pipe from the storage yard to the pipeline right of way.

Trenching – The trenching crew will use a wheel trencher or backhoe to dig the pipe trench. A process known as 'top-soiling' is done in cultivated areas to keep the topsoil separate.

Pipe bending – The pipe bending crew will use a bending machine to make slight bends in the pipe to account for changes in the pipeline route and to conform to the topography.

Welding – The pipe gang and a welding crew will be responsible for welding, the process that joins the various sections of pipe together into one continuous length.

Coating – Line pipe is externally coated to inhibit corrosion by preventing moisture from coming into direct contact with the steel.

Lowering in – The welded pipe is lowered into the trench under close coordination and using skilled operators.

Backfilling – Once the pipe has been placed in the trench, the trench can be backfilled. This is accomplished with either a backhoe or padding machine, depending on the soil makeup.

Testing – Before the pipeline is put into natural gas service, the entire length of the pipeline is pressure tested using water.

Restoration – The final step in the construction process is restoring the land as closely as possible to its original condition.

