



August 15, 2013

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

Re: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C., Docket No. CP11-161-000
Northeast Upgrade Project - Kittatinny Ridge and High Point State Park

Dear Ms. Bose,

This is a report addressing problems found east of Sawmill Road in High Point State Park on August 11th, 2013. Photos were taken 48 hours after a major rain event that occurred on August 8th and 9th. It does not appear that an environmental inspector has been out to visit this area or failed to report on it with several locations with noticeably deficient ECDs in the state of disrepair for quite some time.

This following album;
https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sredir?uname=105703332397473503863&target=ALBUM&id=5911226762109634529&authkey=Gv1sRgCJ-F2qnY0p_IQ&invite=CIDV564G&feat=email contains photos that offer evidence that shows there are issues that require immediate attention from TGP along the stretch of ROW that extends over the Kittatinny Ridge. The first photos are just east of Sawmill Road High Point State Park Sussex NJ

Photo 1/34 shows silt fencing not reaching the ground allowing sediment to flow into W013. Photo 2/34 shows several layers of hay covering the sediment that left the ROW and entered into the wetland. The multiple layers of hay indicate that TGP has been aware of this problem for some time but never corrected the problem. Photo 3/34 shows deficient E&S controls that appear to have been in this condition for some time. Photo 4/34 shows the accumulation of mud off the ROW in the wetlands. Photo 5/34 shows an accumulation of mud far off the ROW into the wetlands. Photos 6, 7, and 8 were taken just east of the “restored” portion of W013. Evidence in the field indicates that these controls have not been maintained for quite some time allowing the sediment to continually enter the wetlands.

Photo 9/34 shows silt fencing buried under a pile of rock and debris obviously this has been in this condition since the dirt was piled here during the clearing stage. Photo 10/34 shows ECD's that have all but disintegrated allowing sediment to leave the ROW at this location as seen in photo 11/34. Photo 12/34 is looking east showing that ECD's have already been removed prior to final grading and restoration. Photo 13/34 shows green compost sock and sediment fabric buried under the pile of rock and debris that has been in this condition since blasting occurred months ago leaving State Park lands unprotected since early in the project. Photo 14/34 is looking west on top of Kittatinny Ridge with no ECD's or stabilization

long after the pipe was buried on this steep slope. Photo 15/34 shows more controls that have failed, again with the amount of mud and hay spread this indicates TGP inspectors were aware of this problem and did not report it in TGP's weekly reports. Photo 16/34 is a pile of rock from when they blasted through the ridge and any rock that was not returned to the trench should be moved off site.

Photo 17 shows runoff exiting the ROW into a wetland area due to removal of ECD's prior to permanent stabilization. Photos 18-22 show a temporary waterbar and the deterioration of the hay bales and lack of silt fencing has allowed for sediment to enter this isolated wetland off the ROW. The many layers of hay between the ROW and wetland again indicates that TGP inspectors were aware of this and failed to report it in their weekly reports. Photos 23 and 24 are of recently installed silt fencing around a wetland and waterbody that failed, which allowed sediment to enter the wetland and stream.

Photos 25 and 26 are views looking east from the Appalachian Trail at a very steep slope that appears to be final graded, but without permanent stabilization long after the pipe was backfilled. My understanding is TGP has a restoration plan that has zero net tree loss in High Point State Park and DRN has concerns on how they will comply with that requirement on these steep slopes now that equipment bridges have been removed. Photos 27-31 show a low lying area between the two steep ridges just below the Appalachian Trail (NPS) that is flooded and carrying sediment off the ROW and into what appears to be wetland areas. The fiber mulch (green material) has been spayed on to the ground, covering every thing including the rocks, which indicates that workers did not take particular care while performing their job.

Photo 32/34 shows mud exiting the ROW down the Appalachian Trail, which is National Park Service land. The last two photos show the lack of sufficient ECD's where the heavy equipment was parked further documenting that TGP inspectors were aware of these problem areas and failed to repair or report them as off ROW occurrences and pollution events.

The last few photos are what visitors to this National Treasure will view for generations due to the destructive nature of natural gas pipeline construction on our precious landscapes all across our country. DRN respectfully requests TGP address these inadequate E&S issues in their next weekly report and on the ground and to restore these areas for the public good. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Joe Zenes
Delaware Riverkeeper Network