

Information Request:

Refer to the Comprehensive Safety Assessment Implementation Plan, Exh. EGMA-WJA/JPD/JKD-3, at 68. (Area of Focus #11: System Reliability and Resiliency) - Sharon Gate to Brockton 265# Line Reliability project; 49 CFR Part 192, Subpart P (Gas DIMP); and G.L. c. 164, 145(c) (eligible GSEP infrastructure). Provide:

- a. a summary of this project with a timeline;
- b. the reasons for this reliability project;
- c. a summary of alternatives considered;
- d. reasons demonstrating that the Sharon Gate to Brockton 265# Line Reliability Project is superior all alternative approaches in terms of safety, cost, environmental impact, and ability to meet the identified need;
- e. a list of facilities in the Western Massachusetts Reliability project that include GSEP eligible infrastructure;
- f. the applicable section of EGMA's DIMP plan that assigns a risk classification for the GSEP eligible infrastructure in the Western Mass Reliability project and the specific plans for remediating this risk.

Response:

- a. A project has been proposed to build a 265 MAOP, 20-mile pipeline from the Sharon Gate Station, served by Algonquin Gas Transmission ("AGT"), to the Brockton Gate Station to provide a second source of gas to the seacoast area (the "Sharon to Brockton Connector"). Importantly, the Sharon to Brockton Connector will be able to work both directions, supplying gas to both the Sharon Gate Station and the Brockton Gate Station in the event of a contingency during winter peak periods. The Sharon to Brockton Connector is still in the design, evaluation and planning phase and a schedule for its permitting and construction has not yet been developed.
- b. The Sharon to Brockton Connector would interconnect these two stations, providing alternative sources of supply to customers at both stations, that are currently at risk. Specifically, under winter peak conditions, model analysis indicates approximately 68,000 customer meters would be at risk if there is a disruption of gas supply at the Brockton Gate. If there is a service disruption at the Sharon Gate, approximately 27,000 customer meters could be impacted on a winter peak design day. Thus, the Sharon to Brockton Connector would provide resiliency and ensure supply to approximately 95,000 customer meters.

- c. The Company is in the process of evaluating potential alternatives to the Sharon to Brockton Connector.
- d. Please see response to (c), above.
- e. Because the Sharon to Brockton Connector would involve the installation of entirely new pipeline facilities, there is no GSEP-eligible infrastructure associated with this project.
- f. As indicated in the response to (e), above, because there is no GSEP-eligible infrastructure, the risk classification associated with the Company's DIMP plan is not applicable to the Sharon to Brockton Connector.