

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
BUFFALO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1776 NIAGARA STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14207-3199

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

December 4, 1998

Regulatory Branch

SUBJECT: Additional Information Required for the Evaluation
of Department of the Army Application No. 97-320-0003(1)

Ms. Linda C. Shumway
Columbia Gas Transmission
P.O. Box 2002
Binghamton, New York 13902

Dear Ms. Shumway:

This pertains to the Millennium Pipeline Project which is proposed to cross multiple Section 10 and 404 waterways, located within the States of Pennsylvania and New York.

I am unable to continue processing your request because additional information is required to complete my evaluation. Please refer below for a more detailed list of the information I need. If you would like to discuss your project, or need assistance in preparing the items requested, please call me at the number listed below. If I am not available when you call, please leave your name, daytime telephone number, and a brief message for me on our "voice mail" system. Your call will be returned as soon as possible, but it may take a few days to do so.

In addition to the review being conducted by the Corps of Engineers, your application is being reviewed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). Because the NYSDEC review is separate from the Corps of Engineers review, and because their permit requirements may differ, it is your responsibility to ensure that any requests for additional information by NYSDEC are submitted directly to that agency.

After reviewing your submittal dated November 24, 1998 it is evident that several items discussed during our meeting of August 13, 1998 were not included with the submittal. More specifically, during our meeting it was discussed that all waterways will be depicted as overlays on the aerial photographs to facilitate in-house review. The submitted construction alignment sheets depict wetlands on the piping schematic that is not to scale with the aerial photographs.

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Additionally, all wetlands are depicted as being linear in nature. It is the Corps of Engineers professional opinion that the majority of naturally occurring wetlands are not linear. Please resubmit the aerial photographs depicting all delineated wetlands along the pipeline route and depict the wetlands extending off the right-of-way unless they are confined to the right-of-way.

Your application submittal does not include the location of all delineated wetlands on a plan view map. Please resubmit plan view maps (i.e. USGS maps) depicting the location of all wetlands traversed by the pipeline.

Your application submittal does not identify areas along the pipeline route consisting of existing right-of-way, new right-of-way, and sections where the existing right-of-way will be widened. Please identify by station the 86% of the pipeline that will be in existing right-of-way and the 14% of pipeline proposed in new right-of-way. Additionally, please specify by station, areas along the existing right-of-way that are proposed to be widened. The environmental construction standards indicate that average right-of-way widening within existing right-of-way will be 50 feet (Figure 2). Is this also the standard widening for work proposed in wetlands and other waters of the United States?

Lastly, please indicate by station, any areas that have not been delineated because landowners have not permitted access to the property.

Please provide the requested information by January 5, 1999. If this is not possible please contact me with a timeframe when the information can be submitted. This will prevent the return of your application.

Questions pertaining to this matter should be directed to me at (716) 879-4229, by writing to the following address:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, New York 14207-3199, or by e-mail at:
James.P.Pullano@usace.army.mil

Sincerely,

James P. Pullano
Biologist, USACOE

