



# Midwestern Gas Transmission Company

A Northern Border Partners, L.P. Company

July 28, 2005

Ms. Magalie R. Salas, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Midwestern Gas Transmission Company  
Docket No. CP05-372-000

Dear Ms. Salas:

Enclosed for filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), in the above-referenced docket, is an original and seven (7) copies of the response of Midwestern Gas Transmission Company (MGT) to the Environmental Data Request dated July 8, 2005. MGT has identified the attachments associated with the responses to Question(s) 1, 3, and 4 as **“Contains Privileged Information – Do Not Release”**. The attachments related to Question(s) 2, 5, and 6 have been identified as **“Public Information”**.

Questions concerning this information should be directed to the undersigned at (402) 492-7575.

Sincerely,

Bambi Heckerman  
Director, Regulatory Affairs  
Northern Plains Natural Gas Company  
Operator

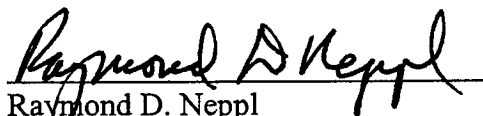
Attachment

cc: Mr. David Gallo-OEP, Room 61-44

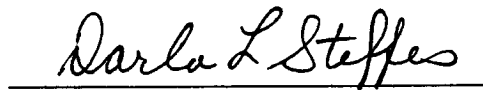
VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEBRASKA    )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS    )

Raymond D. Nepl of lawful age, being first duly sworn on oath, states that he is Vice President of Regulatory Affairs and Market Services for Midwestern Gas Transmission Company; that he has read the foregoing data response and knows the contents thereof; and that the facts set forth therein are true as he verily believes.

  
Raymond D. Nepl  
Vice President

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of July, 2005.

  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

March 18, 2006



## ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REQUEST

1. Provide a color copy of the Phase I Cultural Resource Survey report (Phase I report).

### Response

Please find enclosed a color copy of the Phase I Cultural Resource Report at Attachment 1 which is identified as "Privileged Information".

2. The Portland Compressor Station was not included in the Phase I cultural resource survey "area of potential effect" for the project. Consult the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the need for surveys of the areas involved in construction at the station. Provide the SHPO's comments, any report, and the SHPO's comments on the report.

### Response

Please find enclosed a copy of e-mail correspondence documenting consultation with the TN SHPO regarding the need for surveys of the areas involved in construction at the station and SHPO's response at Attachment 2 which is identified as "Public Information".

3. Provide a revised table 2 of the Phase I report indicating the milepost location for each archaeological site. Provide a similar table for the 30 identified architectural resources.

### Response

Please find enclosed a revised table 2 of the Phase I report that indicates the milepost location for each archaeological site at Attachment 3 which is designated as "Privileged Information". A similar table for the 30 identified architectural resources will be provided in the architectural report discussed in the response to Question No. 5.

4. Provide any site forms for the archaeological sites and any architectural recording forms for the architectural resources.

### Response

Please find enclosed copies of the site forms for the archaeological site at Attachment 4 which is designated as "Privileged Information". Architectural recording forms for architectural resources will be provided in the architectural report discussed in response to Question No. 5.

5. Unless there is a separate architectural report, the Phase I report needs to include a more detailed discussion of the architectural resources identified including descriptions, age (or estimates), field or formal number, photos, National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility assessment, etc., of each resource.

Response

MGT is developing a separate architectural report that will include the identified topics as well as that information requested in Questions Nos. 3 and 4. Copies will be provided to FERC Staff and appropriate parties upon completion.

6. The "old railroad grade" at approximate milepost 22.8 is not discussed in the Phase I report. Is it historic/potentially eligible for the NRHP? Please discuss this.

Response

The "old railroad grade" is within an area that has not yet been surveyed due to lack of access. The Tennessee SHPO's current policy is to register such linear transportation features as archaeological sites only if they feature prominent engineering/architectural elements or can be related to specific significant events. After a survey is complete through this area, a recommendation as to the appropriateness of recording the feature as an archaeological site will be made based on the visual integrity at the pipeline crossing or the association with some historically significant event.

7. Provide all previously unfiled correspondence (including any figures/attachments) to and from the Native American tribes contacted. Please indicate what follow-up (telephone, email, etc.) MGT has conducted to determine whether the Native American tribes contacted received MGT's initial letters, do not require any additional information, or do not have any comments on/concerns about the project. Provide all documentation.

Response

MGT's follow-up with Native American tribes regarding initial contacts is outlined in Attachment IA to Resource Report No. 1. More recently, MGT provided a courtesy copy of the Eastern Extension Project application to all previously identified Native American Tribes, only two of which have responded (neither indicated objections or new requirements). Please see enclosed copies of the previously unfiled letters from these two Tribes at Attachment 5 which is designated as "Public Information".

8. Provide the SHPO's comments on the Phase I report.

Response

Please find enclosed correspondence received from the Tennessee SHPO's office at Attachment 6 which is designated as "Public Information".

9. Provide a status update for the areas that remain to be surveyed due to denied access.

Response

In mid-January 2005, MGT filed a Petition for Entry on Land for Preliminary Survey for tracts located in Sumner and Trousdale Counties where survey permission was denied by landowners. MGT subsequently filed a Motion for Order Permitting Entry onto Land for Survey and Request for Expedited Hearing in late January. On February 22, 2005, this cause was heard before the Honorable C.L. Rogers, Circuit Judge, who denied MGT's Motion on March 3, 2005. MGT filed its appeal of the case on March 16, 2005 with the Court of Appeals for the State of Tennessee at Nashville and is awaiting the Court of Appeals to set a date for an Oral Argument of the appeal. MGT will re-initiate civil and environmental surveys once permission has been obtained.

10. What was the total acreage surveyed?

Response

Total acreage surveyed as reported in the Phase I report is 370.9 acres (pipeline corridor = 353.9 acres, access roads = 10. 0 acres, contractor yard = 7.0 acres).

Respondent: Ryan Childs  
Title: Environmental Coordinator

**Attachments Related to Responses to Question(s) 1, 3, and 4**

**Contains Privileged Information**

**DO NOT RELEASE**

**Attachments Related to Responses to Question(s) 2, 5, and 6**

**Public Information**

**Attachment 2 in Response to Question 2**

**Public Information**

**Childs, Ryan**

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**From:** McKee, Larry [LMcKee@TRCSOLUTIONS.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 13, 2005 8:21 AM  
**To:** Rump, JH; Childs, Ryan  
**Subject:** FW: FERC comments on the MGT Eastern Extension Pipeline draft

Here's my exchange with Jennifer Barnett re whether or not the Portland Compressor Station requires further direct archaeological investigation.

Larry

\*\*\*\*\*  
Larry McKee, Ph.D.  
Branch Manager/Senior Archaeologist  
TRC Inc.  
1865 Air Lane Dr, Suite 9  
Nashville TN 37210-3814  
Office: 615 884-4430 Fax: 615 884-4431  
Mobile: 615 482-7378  
Lmckee@trcsolutions.com  
VISIT OUR WEB SITE: TRCGarrow.com  
\*\*\*\*\*

-----Original Message-----

From: Jennifer Barnett [mailto:Jennifer.Barnett@state.tn.us]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2005 8:16 AM  
To: McKee, Larry  
Subject: Re: FERC comments on the MGT Eastern Extension Pipeline draft

Good Morning Larry,

Yes, the compound area of the line should be considered a part of the APE. Given the information in your email regarding prior disturbance, I would agree with you that it is not necessary to do additional testing in this area, provided that the landform/conditions along the route appear to be consistent. As with any Phase I survey, the archaeological contractor has latitude to make professional judgements as to areas with an extremely low probability for archaeological resources based on such things as slope, inundation, and evidence of prior disturbance. Just be sure to include a discussion in the report that provides a clear explanation and justification for limiting the testing in this area.

Let me know if I can be of any further assistance,

Jennifer

>>> "McKee, Larry" <LMcKee@TRCSOLUTIONS.com> 07/13/05 8:07 AM >>>  
Jennifer,

I'm working with the MGT Eastern pipeline project team in trying to respond to a set of comments on our draft Phase I archaeological survey report received from FERC. One particular issue requires your attention:

The western end of the proposed pipeline is at the Portland Compressor Station in Sumner County. This is an active industrial site covering probably half a square mile, including wide buffer areas around the actual large compressor facility (it looks a little like an oil refinery, but cleaner). The surveyed pipeline corridor we were asked to investigate ends at the fence around the compound, but now FERC is requesting information on whether or not there are archaeological resources within the compound. The additional APE within

the compound will run approximately 300 meters, from the fence to the area where the pipeline will hook in to the station.

We did investigate a proposed contractor's staging yard for the pipeline within the compound, measuring several acres, and found the surface here has already been thoroughly disturbed. At this point we recommend that no further surface examination/shovel testing will be required within the compound along the proposed pipeline segment, due to the fact that this is a predisturbed industrial site. FERC would like to know whether or not you will accept this recommendation, or will you require us to carry out more work along this pipeline segment?

We will revise the report to expressly identify the segment within the compound as part of the project APE.

Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Larry McKee

\*\*\*\*\*  
Larry McKee, Ph.D.  
Branch Manager/Senior Archaeologist  
TRC Inc.  
1865 Air Lane Dr, Suite 9  
Nashville TN 37210-3814  
Office: 615 884-4430 Fax: 615 884-4431  
Mobile: 615 482-7378  
Lmckee@trcsolutions.com  
VISIT OUR WEB SITE: TRCGarrow.com  
\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*  
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**Attachment 5 in Response to Question 7**

**Public Information**



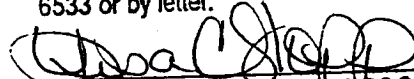
# Midwestern Gas Transmission Company

A Northern Border Partners, L.P. Company

June 13, 2004

John Ross, Chief  
2450 Muskogee Ave.,  
P.O. Box 746  
Tahlequah, OK 74465

The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians  
in Oklahoma has no objection to the referenced  
project. However, if any remains, artifacts or other  
items are inadvertently discovered, please cease  
construction immediately and contact us at 918-456-  
6533 or by letter.

  
Lisa C. Stopp, Tribal NAGPRA POC

JUN 19 2005

Date

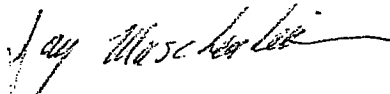
Dear Mr. Ross:

As you are aware, Midwestern Gas Transmission Company (MGT) has proposed the construction of an extension of its existing pipeline system in Sumner and Trousdale Counties in Tennessee (MGT Eastern Extension Project). Since October 27, 2004, MGT has utilized the Pre-filing procedures of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) (Docket No. PF05-2) to facilitate the identification and resolution of issues related to the MGT Eastern Extension Project. On June 6, 2005 MGT filed its application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the MGT Eastern Extension Project with the FERC. This application was assigned Docket No. CP05-372-000.

In accordance with FERC regulations, MGT is providing your Tribe notice of its application by this letter and the enclosed FERC information sheet. The enclosed information sheet and other explanatory materials are also being sent to public officials, environmental agencies, and the owners of property: 1.) proposed to be crossed by the current route of the MGT Eastern Extension, or 2.) abutting the property proposed to be crossed by the current route of the MGT Eastern Extension.

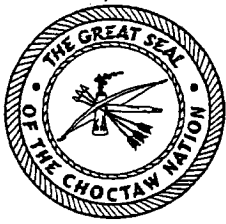
If you have any questions regarding the above or the enclosed materials, please feel free to contact me at 402-492-7464.

Sincerely,



Jay Muschenheim  
Environmental Specialist  
for Midwestern Gas Transmission Company  
Eastern Extension Project

Enclosure:



# CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

## Cultural Resources

P.O. Drawer 1210 • Durant, OK 74702-1210  
1-580-924-8280 • 1-800-522-6170 • Fax: 580-920-3102

June 13, 2005

Jay Muschenheim  
Midwestern Gas Transmission Company  
P.O. Box 542500  
Omaha, NE 68154-8500

Dear Jay Muschenheim:

We have reviewed the following proposed project (s) as to its effect regarding religious and/or cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by an undertaking of the projects area of potential effect.

Entity Requesting Service: Proposed Natural Gas Pipeline


Project Name: Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and National Environment Policy Act (NEPA)

County: Sumner and Trousdale Counties, Tennessee

Comments: After further review of the above mentioned project (s), to the best of our knowledge it will have no adverse effect on any historic properties in the project's area of potential effect. However, should construction expose buried archaeological or building materials such as chipped stone, tools, pottery, bone, historic crockery, glass or metal items, this office should be contracted immediately @ 1-800-522-6170 ext. 2137.

Sincerely,

Terry D. Cole  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

By:   
Caren A. Johnson



# CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

## Cultural Resources

P.O. Drawer 1210 • Durant, OK 74702-1210  
1-580-924-8280 • 1-800-522-6170 • Fax: 580-920-3102

June 14, 2005

Midwestern Gas Transmission Company  
P.O. Box 542500  
Omaha, NE 68154-8500

To Whom It May Concern:

The Chief for the Choctaw Nation is no longer Hollis E. Roberts. Chief Gregory E. Pyle was elected and is currently serving as Chief of the Choctaw Nation. We ask that future mail be directed to Chief Gregory E. Pyle.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Caren A. Johnson".

Caren A. Johnson  
Administrative Assistant

**Attachment 6 in Response to Question 8**

**Public Information**



**TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
2941 LEBANON ROAD  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0442  
(615) 532-1550

June 17, 2005

Mr. Jay Muschenheim  
Midwestern Gas Transmission Company  
Post Office Box 542500  
Omaha, Nebraska 68154-8500

**RE: FERC, ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT, MIDWESTERN GAS  
TRANSMISSION LINE, UNINCORPORATED, SUMNER COUNTY,**

Dear Mr. Muschenheim:

At your request, our office has reviewed the above-referenced archaeological survey report in accordance with regulations codified at 36 CFR 800 (Federal Register, December 12, 2000, 77698-77739). As acknowledged in your correspondence, our office shall withhold comment on the results of the archaeological investigations conducted thus far pending completing of a complete archaeological survey of the entire area of potential effect for the proposed transmission line.

Upon receipt of the full archaeological survey report, we will complete our review of this undertaking as expeditiously as possible. Until such time as this office has rendered a final comment on this project, your Section 106 obligation under federal law has not been met. Please inform this office if this project is not funded or is canceled by the federal agency. Questions and comments may be directed to Jennifer M. Barnett (615) 741-1588, ext. 17.

Your continued cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Herbert L. Harper  
Executive Director and  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer

HLH/jmb