



Midwestern Gas Transmission Company

A Northern Border Partners, L.P. Company

September 1, 2005

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

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

Dear Ms. Salas:

Midwestern Gas Transmission Company (Midwestern) herein submits an original and seven (7) copies of Midwestern's response to the Greater Nashville Regional Council's letter dated August 11, 2005, attached hereto, regarding their review of the proposed Eastern Extension Project.

Any questions regarding this filing should be directed to the undersigned at (402) 492-7575.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Attachments

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



Midwestern Gas Transmission Company

A Northern Border Partners, L.P. Company

August 31, 2005

Mr. Sam H. Edwards, Executive Director
Greater Nashville Regional Council
501 Union Street, 6th Floor
Nashville, TN 37219-1705

RE: Extension of Existing Pipeline System in Sumner and Trousdale Counties
GNRC #2006-02

Dear Mr. Edwards:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Greater Nashville Regional Council's review of Midwestern Gas Transmission Company's (MGT) proposed Eastern Extension Project ("Project"). Participation by your organization is helpful in our continuing efforts to identify opportunities to minimize potential impacts resulting from the Project. MGT will continue to carefully consider all comments received on its Project and work with all cities and counties affected by our Project in order to minimize potential impacts to their anticipated projects.

MGT has met with the City of Portland (City) on several occasions to discuss the proposed project and appreciates their cooperation. MGT most recently met with City officials on July 18, 2005 at the City's water treatment plant to more fully understand the City's plans for improvements to its existing water supply system, both regarding supply and treatment capability. MGT is currently evaluating its design and construction options in the vicinity of those existing and planned facilities in an effort minimize potential conflicts with the City's plan. MGT will continue to consult with the City regarding extension and relocation of the City's water, sewer, and gas mains identified in their response letter and minimize potential impacts to those projects by incorporating them in the design of our facilities and appropriately accommodating them during our construction. As discussed in Resource Report No. 1 (General Project Description) of the application for approval of the Project filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), impacts to utilities can be minimized by carefully planning during project design and construction.

The more general concerns that Mr. Thompson expressed in his response letter were largely addressed by MGT in its application to the FERC. Resource Report No. 5 (Socioeconomics) discussed issues related to resident's concerns relative to the quality of life in Sumner County as well as the pipeline's potential effect on future development of their properties. Resource Report No. 11 (Reliability and Safety) addresses concerns about safety issues. Contrary to the statement regarding lack of alternative project routes, Resource Report No. 10 (Alternatives) describes and depicts seven alternative routes evaluated by MGT in addition to the preferred route.

Mr. Sam Edwards
August 31, 2005
Page 2

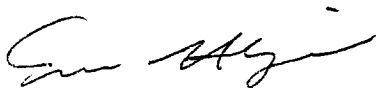
The preferred route was selected in large part to minimize environmental and landowner impacts. As you are aware, MGT chose to utilize the FERC's NEPA Pre-Filing Process for our Project to solicit comments from landowners, agencies, and the general public. As part of that process, MGT hosted "open house" meetings, participated in the FERC's scoping meetings and site visit, and met with various State and Federal agencies in its route selection efforts. To that end, please note that over 40% of landowners along the preferred route have already signed easements with MGT for the placement of pipeline and related facilities on their property.

Over 80% of the capacity on this proposed line has been purchased to serve the growing needs of the greater Nashville area. From a regional development perspective, it is important to understand that the Project is not merely increasing natural gas pipeline *capacity* in the area; rather it provides the Nashville area with a new *source* of natural gas supplies. Instead of continuing to rely solely on natural gas supplies from the Gulf Coast, the Nashville area will have access to Canadian, Rocky Mountain, Mid-Continent and, in the future, Alaskan and MacKenzie Delta, natural gas supplies via the Chicago Hub. Consequently, the Nashville area will benefit from both increased price competition among natural gas shippers and enhanced supply security.

Natural gas prices can have a profound impact on the economic stability and quality of life of families in both rural and metropolitan areas, such as those typical of the greater Nashville area. Direct effects of natural gas prices include home heating costs and farmers' abilities to purchase affordable ammonia-based fertilizer; indirect effects include the ability of local industries to retain jobs while offering lower cost products in a globally competitive environment. Projects such as MGT's Eastern Extension are vitally important in providing the opportunity for market competition to address these types of effects while meeting the growing demands for natural gas.

If you have any questions regarding MGT's Eastern Extension Project, please feel free to contact me at 402-492-7473. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Tom Halpin, Project Manager
MGT Eastern Extension Project

Cc:

David Gallo, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Mr. Kenneth Wilber, Mayor, City of Portland
Mr. R.J. "Hank" Thompson, Sumner County Executive

August 11, 2005

Mr. Jay Muschenheim
Environmental Specialist
Midwestern Gas Transmission Company
PO Box 542500
Omaha, Nebraska 68154-8500

Re: Extension of Existing Pipeline System in Sumner and Trousdale Counties
GNRC #2006-02

Dear Mr. Muschenheim:

In accordance with the Project Review Process (approved by the Executive Committee at the April 1995 Executive Board Meeting), the Greater Nashville Regional Council has reviewed the above referenced project.

Our evaluation had two responses in opposition to your proposed project. We are attaching copies of these responses.

We are notifying you that your proposal was discussed during the Executive Committee meeting and we are asking you to consider all comments received and to work with all the cities and counties to be impacted in order to coordinate their anticipated projects.

If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Sam Edwards
Executive Director

SHE/pyc

Enclosures



MAYOR:
Kenneth Wilber

VICE-MAYOR:
Luther Bratton

BOARD OF ALDERMEN:
Mike Callis
Bill Caudill
Tim Coker
Phil Hobdy
Jody McDowell



100 South Russell, Portland, Tennessee 37148
615-325-6776

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Fax 615/325-5345

Mayor's Email Address: Kmayor@cityofportlandtn.com

July 1, 2005

Mr. Sam Edwards
Greater Nashville Regional Council
501 Union Street – 6th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37219-1705

**RE: Midwestern Gas Transmission
Eastern Extension Project
Docket No. CP05-372-000**

Dear Mr. Edwards,

I received your letter regarding the above-mentioned project.

You may or may not be aware of the controversy this proposed project has generated among property owners in the Portland area and other parts of Sumner County.

I understand your inquiry to be about any conflict that may result from the proposed project with any scheduled local government plans. From our

2005 TACIR Infrastructure Needs Listing we see possible conflicts with the following:

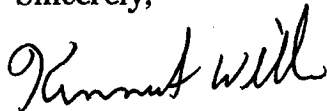
Project	Projected Beginning	Projected Completion
Water, Sewer & Gas Main Relocations for Widening of SR 109	2004/2005	2005
Sewer Main Extension Along SR 52W to U.S. 31W	2004/2005	2006
Sewer Main Extension Along TGT Road	2005	2006
Provision of an Additional Raw Water Supply for Portland Water System	2002	2006
Water Main Extension in Rural North Sumner County	2006	2007

I am enclosing a copy of correspondence from the City of Portland to the Secretary of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in opposition to Midwestern's *Eastern Extension Project*.

Just as you indicated that our input is critical to your project review process, any help that you might provide to the City of Portland in this issue would also be critical, and very much appreciated.

Please call my office should you have questions or comments regarding the enclosure.

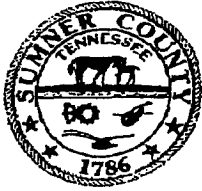
Sincerely,



Kenneth Wilber
Mayor

KW:tk

ENCL



R.J. "HANK" THOMPSON
SUMNER COUNTY EXECUTIVE

July 19, 2005

Mr. Sam H. Edwards
Executive Director
Greater Nashville Regional Council
501 Union St., 6th Floor
Nashville, TN 37219

Re: Extension of Existing Pipeline in Sumner County by Midwest Gas Transmission
GNRC #2006-2

Dear Sam:

On Dec. 13, 2004, the Sumner County Commission passed Resolution No. 0412-09, stating opposition to the construction of a transmission gas line through Sumner County. A copy accompanies this letter.

One of the greatest considerations regarding the proposed gas transmission project is the impact it will have on the quality of life in Sumner County.

Our residents have expressed compelling concerns about safety issues. Many are justifiably apprehensive about the pipeline's potential effect on future development of their properties.

In response to objections to the proposed pipeline route through Sumner County, Midwestern Gas Transmission Company presented to me personally and to the hundreds of residents at the Feb. 24, 2005 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hearing in Gallatin five alternate routes for the pipeline project.

However, in its application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (Docket No. CP05-372-000) filed with FERC, only the original proposed route is shown.

For the above listed reasons, I oppose the Midwestern Gas Transmission Eastern Extension Project in Sumner County.

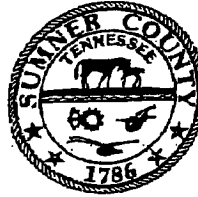
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R.J. 'Hank' Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

R.J. "Hank" Thompson
Sumner County Executive

RJT/sp

STATE OF TENNESSEE
Sumner County



DECEMBER 13, 2004

Date

Board of County Commissioners
RESOLUTION

No. 0412-09

TITLE

**A RESOLUTION STATING OPPOSITION TO THE
CONSTRUCTION OF A TRANSMISSION GAS LINE
THROUGH SUMNER COUNTY**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Sumner County Board of County Commissioners meeting in regular session on this the 13th day of December, 2004, that this body opposes the proposed construction by Midwestern Gas Transmission Company of a transmission gas line through Sumner County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to each of Sumner County's State Representatives and respectfully request that the General Assembly approve a joint resolution in opposition of the said transmission gas line.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to each of Sumner County, Tennessee's Congressional members encouraging that body to appropriately state its opposition.

CERTIFICATION OF ACTION

COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

12-14-04

DATE

Ayes 21 Nays 0 Abs 1

APPROVED:

REJECTED: