

May 1, 2025

National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation
c/o Lauren McMillan
1100 State Street
Erie, PA 16501

Re: Technical Deficiency Letter
ESC Permit Application No. ESP830024001-00
Tioga Pathways Project
Brookfield Township, Westfield Township, Deerfield Township, Chatham Township &
Middlebury Township; Tioga County
Alleghany Township & Harrison Township; Potter County
Liberty Township; McKean County

Dear Ms. McMillan:

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has reviewed the above referenced application and has identified the technical deficiencies listed below. The *Pennsylvania Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program Manual* (E&S Manual) and the *Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual* (BMP Manual) include information that may aid you in responding to some of the deficiencies listed below. The deficiencies are based on applicable laws and regulations, and the guidance sets forth DEP's established means of satisfying the applicable regulatory and statutory requirements.

The technical deficiencies void the permit decision guarantee and any agreements that have been made regarding the timeline for the permit application review. DEP will continue to follow the permit review process procedures in the review and processing of this permit application.

Technical Deficiencies

E&S Plan

1. The procedure for the removal of the existing pipe is vague. Please provide more information on how the pipe will be removed and how this will be reflected on the drawings/details. Such as, near Chapter 105 resources, recycling and disposal, timing of BMP installation etc. [25 Pa Code §102.4(b)(5)]
2. BMPs appear to be insufficient along the ROW where existing drainage swales parallel the ROW; typically from Municipal or State roadways. Please reevaluate project-wide, example on page ES-1.05. [25 Pa Code §102.4(b)(5)]

Tioga County comments:

3. Please identify trench plugs on the drawing for ES-1.13 by wetland W14 PEM by match line to ES-1.12, ES-1.14 by wetland W54 PEM by temporary access road, ES-1.15 by UNT to Cowanesque River S23, ES-1.25 stream S67 and wetland W59, ES-1.33 by wetland W32, ES-1.37 by wetland W39, ES-1.45 Stream crossing, and ES-1.47 Stream crossing as per the E&S Manual pages 284 to 290. *[25 Pa Code §102.11 (a) (1)]*
4. It is difficult to identify the silt socks and locations due to clutter and being the same color as the LOD. Please revise the plans to avoid clutter as per the E&S Manual page 397 (first paragraph). *[25 Pa Code §102.11(a)(1)]*
5. Please provide temporary and permanent access roads standard construction detail. *[25 Pa Code §102.4(b)(5)(iii)]*
6. On ES-1.24 between 510+00 and 512+00, it appears to be wetland W57 PEM and a stream (not identified) in the LOD with no Best Management Practices. Please verify and label accordingly. *[25 Pa Code §102.4(b)(5) (ii) & §102.8(f)(3)]*
7. ES-1.33 between 782+00 and 784+00, it appears to be wetland W32 PSS in the LOD with no Best Management Practices. Please verify and label accordingly. *[25 Pa Code §102.4(b)(5) (ii) & §102.8(f)(3)]*
8. Please include the manufacturers specifications for stapling of the Erosion Control Blanket. *[25 Pa Code §102.4(b)(5)(iii)]*

Application Form

9. Please include all names of receiving waters on the Stormwater Discharge Information section of the Notice of Intent (NOI). There should be consistency between the Post Construction Stormwater Management/Site Restoration Plan Narrative, Section 6.1, Stream Crossings, and the Stormwater Discharge Information Section. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(8)]*

PCSM Report

10. The Department does not accept the PCSM worksheets. Please provide the PCSM Spreadsheets for each location that is proposing PCSM BMPs. The PCSM Spreadsheets can be found in this link ([DEP_PCSM_Spreadsheet.xlsb](#)). *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(8)]*
11. Please identify within the Post Construction Stormwater Management/Site Restoration Plan Narrative which hydrograph report(s) corresponds with the appropriate site on the Post Construction Stormwater Management/Site Restoration Plan. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(8)]*
12. Please provide the infiltration period (draw down time) for each individual geocell infiltration bed. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(8)]*

13. Please provide a maximum impervious loading ratio of 5:1 (impervious area to infiltration bed area) and the maximum loading ratio of 8:1 (total drainage area to infiltration bed area) for each proposed geocell infiltration bed. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(8)]*
14. Please provide a detailed description of the proposed horizontal directional drill. The description should include all proposed work, depths of the entry and exit pits, depth of the bore, waters of the Commonwealth that are affected, etc. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(8)]*

PCSM Plan

15. Please show on the Post Construction Stormwater Management/Site Restoration Plans the depth of the proposed Geoweb infiltration bed. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(9)]*
16. Please provide a profile of the proposed YM59 PAR-9 permanent gravel access road. The profile should include how the proposed Geoweb infiltration bed will adequately infiltrate the stormwater volume as required. Should the Geoweb infiltration bed be at an angle, calculations should be provided showing that the infiltration bed can adequately infiltrate the required stormwater volume. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(9)]*
17. The Post Construction Stormwater Management/Site Restoration Plans show the location of the proposed Lee Hill interconnect. Please provide on the Plans the location of any land cover changes associated with this interconnect (gravel, pavement, etc.). *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(9)]*
18. Please show on the Post Construction Stormwater Management/Site Restoration Plans the locations of the proposed entry and exit pits for the HDD. The Plans should show the sizes, dimensions, depth, and any support activities that may be associated with the proposed HDD. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(9)]*
19. Please show the profile of the proposed YM59 natural gas pipeline along the proposed HDD route on the Post Construction Stormwater Management/Site Restoration Plans. The profile should also include the depth of cover for the proposed pipeline. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(9)]*
20. It appears that the proposed HDD exit pit will be located within Wetland W59. Please move the HDD exit pit out of any watercourse or wetland along the pipeline route. *[25 Pa Code §102.8(f)(9)]*

Additional Technical Deficiencies

21. The project proponent should identify all properties within 450-feet of the HDD centerline to inquire as to whether a private well or other water supply (e.g. spring) is

present on the property and notify them of the proposed drilling. [25 Pa. Code § 102.11(a)(4)]

22. The Inadvertent Return Plan should be revised to include the following key information:

- a. When an IR or *loss of circulation* is discovered, the IR or loss of circulation should be immediately reported to DEP as required under 25 Pa. Code § 78a.68a(i) and § 91.33
- b. When an IR is discovered (*regardless of whether the IR is to uplands or waters of the Commonwealth*), it should be immediately reported to DEP as required under 25 Pa. Code § 78a.68a(i) and § 91.33

An example Inadvertent Return PPC Plan is provided on the Department's Trenchless Technologies Resource Page which can be found here: <https://www.dep.pa.gov/About/Regional/RPCO/Pages/Trenchless.aspx>

DEP would like you to consider the following comments on your permit application. While these are not technical deficiencies related to 25 Pa. Code Chapter 102 and will not result in a delay to your permit application, they may relate to potential issues during construction and/or implementation of the E&S and/or PCSM Plans.

- Prior to HDD advancement, surface casing should be installed within the granular unconsolidated overburden, as detailed within the HDD Feasibility Report, to isolate the problematic overburden material and reduce the risk of an inadvertent return. [25 Pa Code §102.11(a)(1)]

You must submit a response fully addressing each of the technical deficiencies set forth above. Please note that this information must be received within 30 calendar days from the date of this letter, on or before **June 30, 2025**, or DEP may deny the application. Alternatively, you may consider a voluntary withdrawal.

Please submit 2 copies of the revised information to the Tioga County Conservation District at 1867 Shumway Hill Road, Wellsboro, PA 16901, Potter County Conservation District at 107 Market Street, Coudersport, PA 16915, and McKean County Conservation District at 17137 Rte 6, Smethport, PA 16749, and an electronic copy of the revised information to DEP via Public Upload.

Resubmittal Info: yes; Reference ID: 270681; PIN: 598843.

Please be advised that if your response does not satisfy the technical deficiencies, in general your NOI or application may proceed to an Elevated Review. If you do not believe the technical deficiencies can be fully addressed within the required timeframe, you should consider a voluntary withdrawal. If a permit application is denied, there is no recovery of fees available; however, if you voluntarily withdraw the NOI or application and then submit a new NOI

or application for the same project, previously paid disturbed acreage fess will be reapplied to the new NOI or application.

If you believe that any of the stated deficiencies are not significant, instead of submitting a response to that deficiency, you have the option of requesting that DEP make a permit decision based on the information you have already provided regarding the subject matter of that deficiency. If you choose this option with regard to any deficiency, you should explain and justify how your current submission satisfies that deficiency.

If you have questions about your application, please contact Michael Luciani by e-mail at mluciani@pa.gov or by telephone at 570-826-2597, to discuss your questions or to schedule a meeting. You must attempt to schedule any meeting within the 30 calendar days allotted for your reply.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Albert, PG
Environmental Group Manager
Regional Permit Coordination Office

cc: Robin Dingle, Tetra Tech, Inc. (by email)
Northcentral Regional Waterways and Wetlands PM (by email)
Northwest Regional Waterways and Wetlands PM (by email)
Tioga County Conservation District (by email)
Potter County Conservation District (by email)
McKean County Conservation District (by email)
Brookfield Township (by email)
Westfield Township (by email)
Deerfield Township (by email)
Chatham Township (by email)
Middlebury Township (by email)
Allegheny Township (by email)
Harrison Township (by email)
Liberty Township (by email)