



# SEPA THRESHOLD DETERMINATION

## Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS)

**FILE NAME:** CNG ARLINGTON HP PIPELINE

**FILE NUMBER:** PLN #533

**LEAD AGENCY:** City of Arlington Community and Economic Development Department

**DESCRIPTION:** Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (CNGC) proposes to replace approximately 1 mile of existing 4-inch diameter high-pressure natural gas line with a 6-inch diameter high-pressure pipeline. The original pipeline was constructed in 1961 and is in need of replacement and increased capacity to support growth in the region.

The pipeline would connect to the existing gate station at its eastern end and would tie in to the existing pipeline at its western end. The existing gate station at the eastern end of the pipeline, adjacent to the interstate Northwest Pipeline operated by the Williams Companies, would be upgraded to support additional capacity. The existing and proposed pipelines follow similar alignments and are located primarily within existing road rights-of-way in the City of Arlington. A 1,300-foot segment of the pipeline alignment in the Tveit Road right-of-way is within unincorporated Snohomish County. The new section of pipeline would be installed and brought into operation before the existing pipeline sections are decommissioned. To minimize the need for ground-disturbing work, the existing pipeline would be decommissioned in place.

The new pipeline would be buried the standard depth below the existing ground surface, with at least 3 feet of cover above the pipe. Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) methods would be employed to install the pipe underneath a stream crossing on S Stillaguamish Avenue

**LOCATION:** The project area is in Sections 11 and 12, Township 31, Range 05E, Willamette Meridian. The western terminus of the project alignment is on 207th Street NE, approximately 750 feet west of the intersection with S Stillaguamish Avenue. The alignment meets S Stillaguamish Avenue and is in the western portion of the existing road right-of-way for approximately 0.25 mile and before turning east on Tveit Road, remaining within the right-of-way on the northern side of the roadway for approximately 0.6 mile. The alignment then enters the private right-of-way for 92nd Avenue NE. Approximately the last 600 feet of the alignment, before it reaches its eastern terminus at the Northwest Pipeline gate station, crosses a private parcel immediately north of the 92nd Avenue NE right-of-way. Except for short segments near the intersection of 207th Street NE and S Stillaguamish Avenue and along Tveit Road west of 89th Avenue, the new alignment is within 15 feet of the existing alignment.

**APPLICANT:** Cascade Natural Gas Corporation

**STAFF CONTACT:** Josh Grandlienard [joshg@arlingtonwa.gov](mailto:joshg@arlingtonwa.gov)

**DATE CHECKLIST PREPARED:** February 26, 2019

**APPROVALS REQUIRED:** City of Arlington: SEPA and Right-of-Way Permit. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife: Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA).

**SEPA THRESHOLD DETERMINATION:** The City has determined that with the mitigation measures identified herein, this proposal would not have a probable and unavoidable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2) (c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request. However, we have identified impacts by the proposed project that requires mitigation. In addition to the requirement that the development must comply with all City of Arlington zoning and development regulations, the following conditions of approval of the permit decision apply:

**(B)(1) Earth:** In order to mitigate for potential earth impacts, the Applicant shall implement Best Management Practices per Department of Ecology for Stormwater Pollution Prevention and TESC Controls to prevent erosion during and after construction.

**(B)(2) Air:** In order to mitigate for potential air impacts, the Applicant shall implement dust control measures to reduce fugitive dust emissions during construction. A Construction Management Plan shall be submitted to the City prior to commencement of construction to ensure these measures. Construction equipment emissions shall comply with all State and Federal regulations for emissions.

**(B)(3)(b) Ground Water:** In order to mitigate for potential impacts to ground water the Applicant shall employ best design practices meeting the current D.O.E Stormwater Manual.

**(B)(3)(c) Water Runoff:** In order to mitigate for potential impacts to water runoff the Applicant shall follow the current edition of the Department of Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington and Best Management Practices used to protect groundwater.

**(B)(6) Energy:** The project will comply with the latest Washington State Energy Code requirements.

**(B)(7)(A) Environmental Health:** Applicant shall comply with current codes to reduce or control environmental health hazards. A spill prevention plan shall be in place according to local, State and Federal policies.

**(B)(7)(B) Environmental Health:** City of Arlington noise standards found in AMC 9.20.060 shall be complied with. Specifically, in section 9.20.060(8) noises resulting from any construction or development activity or the operation of heavy equipment from 7:00pm to 7:00am Monday through Saturday shall be prohibited UNLESS specifically permitted by the city's building official.

**(B)(13) Historic and Cultural Preservation:** The project site may be within the vicinity of historic and cultural activity; therefore, the applicant shall submit a completed Unanticipated Discover Plan (UDP). If any historic or archaeological items are discovered during the grading of the site, the State Historical Preservation Officer, Stillaguamish Tribe, and the City of Arlington shall be contacted and measures taken to implement the UDP.

**DISCLAIMER:** The determination that an environmental impact statement does not have to be filed does not mean there will be no adverse environmental impacts. The City of Arlington codes governing noise control, land use performance standards, construction and improvements of roads, off site road improvement obligations, drainage control, traffic, school, park, stormwater, and utility mitigations, fire protection; and building practices will provide substantial mitigation of the aforementioned impacts. The issuance of this MDNS should not be interpreted as acceptance or approval of this proposal as presented. The City of Arlington reserves the right to deny or approve said proposal subject to conditions if it is determined to be in the best interest of the city and/or necessary for the general health, safety, and welfare of the public to do so.

**DATE OF MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE:** March 22, 2019

**COMMENT PERIOD:** There is a 14-day comment period for this MDNS. If you would like to comment on this Application or Threshold Determination, written comments must be received prior to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 5, 2019. The Responsible Official may incorporate any substantial comments into the MDNS. If the MDNS is substantially modified, it will be reissued for further public review.

**SEPA Responsible Official:** Marc Hayes, Director of Community and Economic Development

March 22, 2019

DATE



SIGNATURE OF SEPA RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL

**TO APPEAL A DECISION:** An agency or person may appeal the City's procedural compliance with WAC Chapter 197-11 (SEPA) for issuance of this MDNS. Appeal of the final MDNS must be made to the Hearing Examiner within 10 days of the date the MDNS is final (see WAC 197-11-390(2) (a)). The MDNS is a final MDNS when the City issues the land use permit. Appeal of the land use permit must be made to the Hearing Examiner within 14 days of the date the permit is issued.