



ALGONQUIN GAS TRANSMISSION, LLC  
5400 Westheimer Court  
Houston, Texas 77056

June 29, 2017

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC  
Access Northeast Project - Docket No. PF16-1-000  
Withdrawal from Pre-Filing Review

Dear Ms. Bose:

New England's energy consumers are facing serious and well-documented electric reliability and price challenges, increasing air emissions from the use of coal- and oil-fired electric generation, and a lack of sufficient quickstart backstops to intermittent power sources that would support New England's renewable energy initiatives. Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC ("Algonquin") remains committed to addressing the significant need in New England for additional natural gas pipeline infrastructure for electric generation. However, recognizing that the region currently lacks the consistent energy policy across all affected states that would allow contracting for natural gas pipeline capacity by the Access Northeast Project ("Project") shippers, Algonquin is withdrawing its proposed Project from the Commission's Pre-filing review process at this time.<sup>1</sup>

As described in its monthly progress reports updating the Commission staff, Algonquin has engaged in diligent efforts to review its regional solution according to each state's energy and environmental goals and policies, and thereby provide more reliable and affordable energy service for the benefit of New England's consumers.<sup>2</sup> Notwithstanding these efforts and the strong support for the Project from certain stakeholders, New England continues to lack a uniform energy policy necessary to achieve full regional support of natural gas infrastructure for electric generation.

At this time, Algonquin has determined that it is appropriate to withdraw from the FERC Pre-filing review process until the gaps in energy policy in the New England States are resolved. Algonquin will continue working with state and federal agencies, as well as other stakeholders, to help address the energy policy inconsistencies that are currently preventing the region from achieving significant reliability and cost benefits from the utilization of affordable and environmentally friendly and reliable energy resources. Once such alignment is achieved, Algonquin will proceed with plans to bring the Access Northeast Project to New England

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<sup>1</sup> On November 17, 2015, the Director of the Office of Energy Projects issued a letter in the above-referenced docket approving the request of Algonquin to commence the Pre-filing review process for its proposed Project.

<sup>2</sup> See Monthly Progress Report, Docket No. PF16-1-000 (submitted Sep. 23, 2016); Monthly Progress Report, Docket No. PF16-1-000 (submitted Nov. 1, 2016); Monthly Progress Report, Docket No. PF16-1-000 (submitted Dec. 19, 2016)

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consumers and to re-engage in the Commission's Pre-filing review process. Furthermore, two of New England's largest utilities, Eversource and National Grid, remain committed to the New England region, and specifically to the Project.

Algonquin sincerely appreciates the work on the Project through the Pre-filing review process by the Commission staff, agencies and other interested stakeholders. The development of the Project has advanced due to these significant efforts, including extensive scoping, which Algonquin recognizes will be helpful in processing any future review of the Access Northeast Project or another similar/successor project and, to the extent applicable and timely, Algonquin proposes to use information compiled and analyzed in this proceeding in such a future docket.

Should you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact the undersigned at (713) 627-4515 or Chris Harvey at (713) 627-5113.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Leanne Sidorkewicz

Leanne Sidorkewicz

Manager, Rates and Certificates

cc: John Peconom (FERC)  
Harry Jeudy (FERC)

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