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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING

D.P.U. 16-01 **Petition of Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. before the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §§ 72A, 75B and 75D for Authority to Perform Geotechnical and Other Surveys on Certain Private Properties**

Notice is hereby given that Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. ("Company") has filed a petition ("Petition) with the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") requesting that the Department grant the Company the authority to enter upon land owned by twenty-three (23) private landowners (the landowners and property addresses are identified hereinafter as "Geotechnical Survey Properties"), who have not previously granted access to the Company to conduct surveys on their land for the purpose of performing geotechnical surveys ("Geotechnical Surveys"). The Petition has been docketed as D.P.U. 16-01. The Department will review the Petition to determine whether the requested surveys should be granted.

The Geotechnical Survey Properties are generally located on or near a major water body, a railroad crossing, or a road crossing, which may require the Company to use a horizontal directional drill ("HDD") method for construction of the proposed Northeast Energy Direct Project (the "Project"). The Project is currently pending before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") (Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C., FERC Docket No. CP16-21-000). As set forth in more detail in the Petition, the Company maintains that the surveys are needed to gather information required for FERC's environmental review of the Project. For purposes of efficiency, and to minimize disruption and inconvenience, the Company also seeks authority to perform civil, archeological and cultural resources, wetlands and endangered species surveys at the same time it enters the Geotechnical Survey Properties to perform Geotechnical Surveys.

The Department will conduct six public comment hearings to receive public comments on the Company's Petition, as follows:

Schedule of Public Comment Hearings for D.P.U. 16-03*

Tuesday, March 29 7:00 p.m.	**Berkshire Community College, Boland Theater** 1350 West Street Pittsfield, MA 01201
Wednesday, March 30 7:00 p.m.	**Greenfield Middle School Auditorium** 195 Federal Street Greenfield, MA 01301
Tuesday, April 5 7:00 p.m.	**Lunenburg High School Auditorium** 1079 Massachusetts Avenue Lunenburg, MA 01426
Wednesday, April 6 7:00 p.m.	**Lynnfield Middle School Auditorium** 505 Main Street Lynnfield, MA 01940
Wednesday, April 13 7:00 p.m.	**Dracut Senior High School Auditorium** 1540 Lakeview Avenue Dracut, MA 01826
Thursday, April 14 7:00 p.m.	**Andover High School Auditorium** 80 Shawsheen Road Andover, MA 01810

* The Department will conduct these public comment hearings jointly for three closely related survey petitions filed by the Company: D.P.U. 16-01, D.P.U. 16-02, and D.P.U. 16-03.

The Company has been directed to serve this Notice, and a copy of the Petition and property sketches for your property (but not the property sketches for the other properties in the Petition). A copy of the Company's Petition, and a complete set of exhibits is available on the Department's Website http://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoom# (Please be sure to use one of the recommended browsers). Click on "Dockets/Filings." Select "Docket by Number." Enter docket number "16-01." The Company's Petition is also available in hard-copy format for public inspection at the offices of the Department, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts. A copy will also be available for public viewing at the public libraries of each city or town where the Survey Properties are located no later than February 15, 2016. You may also obtain a complete copy of the Petition (with all exhibits and property sketch documents) by contacting the Company's attorney (see contact information below).

DPU-16-01

Any person who desires to submit written comments on the Company's Petition may do so by filing an original and two copies of such comments with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02110. An electronic copy of all comments should also be sent by email to each of the following: (1) the Company's attorney, James L. Messenger, Esq. at jmessenger@gordonrees.com; (2) the Department at dpu.efiling@state.ma.us; and (3) the Department's Hearing Officer in this proceeding, Stephen August, at stephen.august@state.ma.us. Written comments should be submitted no later than May 6, 2016.

Oral comments presented at the hearing and written comments submitted are given equal weight by the Department in its review of the Petition. Written comments should specify the property location, identify any concerns about the survey, and request any relevant conditions to be placed on the pipeline company to protect property and/or to ensure the opportunity for the landowner to be present during the survey. Commenters should not submit petitions to intervene or petitions for limited participant status because the Department will not be conducting adjudicatory proceedings in this case, but will instead be issuing its Order based on the oral and written comments received from affected landowners and the general public and responses from the Company to any written questions posed by the Department.

Any person who wishes to communicate directly with the Company should contact Attorney James L. Messenger, Gordon & Rees, LLP, 745 Atlantic Avenue, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02111; email address: jmessenger@gordonrees.com; and phone: (617) 902-0098.

Any person desiring further information regarding this Notice may contact the Hearing Officer using the contact information below:

Stephen August, Siting Division
Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities
One South Station, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02110
617-305-3622
stephen.august@state.ma.us

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