

**DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)  
AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF EXISTING  
ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

File #PL01-0843 (SHL)  
#PL01-0845 (SPU)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Skagit County:

Northwest Pipeline Corporation (NWP) filed for a Shoreline Substantial Development/Variance/Conditional Use Permit (PL01-0843) and a Special Use Permit application (PL01-0845) within Skagit County to allow the following development: 1) To allow the construction of two segments of 36" diameter natural gas lines directly adjacent to the existing 26" and 30" natural gas lines within the existing right-of-way for the majority of the route except for minor deviations to avoid sensitive areas. 2) Construction of a new compressor building (Building C) and associated gas coolers located adjacent to the two existing buildings, that will house a natural gas fired turbine compressor. 3) Install gas coolers adjacent to existing Building "A". 4) Expand auxiliary Building "B" in order to replace an existing boiler with a larger model and replace the existing 270 kW plant generator with a 460 kW plant generator.

The proposed project encompasses two loops within Skagit County: The Sedro Woolley loop (8.54 miles in length), which will start at the northern most point about ¼ mile north of Thunder Creek and about ½ mile east of Highway 9 in NWP's existing right-of-way thereby proceeding south along the existing right-of-way and ending at NWP's existing pipeline facilities directly adjacent to the north side of the Skagit River. The proposed Mount Vernon loop begins at the northern location at the compressor station on Lange Road and proceeds south on gas line right-of-way to the Snohomish County line. The proposed project is located within a portion of Sections 18, 19, 30 and 31 of Township 36 North, Range 5 East, W.M., and Sections 6, 7, 17, 18, 20 and 29 of Township 35 North, Range 5 East, W.M., and Sections 19, 30 and 31 of Township 34 North, Range 5 East, W.M., and Sections 5, 6, 8, 17, 20, 29 and 32 of Township 33 North, Range 5 East, W.M., Skagit County. The subject proposal is located adjacent to the shoreline of the Skagit River and the east fork of Nookachamps Creek. The shoreline designation is Rural.

Entire Proposal:

The entire NWP Evergreen Expansion Project consists of approximately 27.79 miles of 36" diameter, buried pipeline. Except for a few relatively short areas, the new pipeline will be constructed directly adjacent to (loop) NWP's existing 26" diameter Ignacio to Sumas Mainline or 30" diameter Ignacio to Sumas Loop Line. Collectively, these existing pipelines are known as NWP's mainline system. The 26" mainline was installed in 1956 and the 30" line was installed in 1971.

Loop pipeline construction will occur at four locations along NWP's existing mainline system in Skagit, Pierce and King Counties, Washington. Portions of the loop pipelines will be constructed within the cities of Sedro Woolley, Covington and Auburn. A portion of one of the loop pipelines will be located on NWP-owned lands on the Muckleshoot Indian Reservation.

In addition to the loop pipelines, NWP will install a number of aboveground facilities, including tie-ins (with valves and pigging facilities) to NWP's existing mainline system and its South Seattle and North Tacoma lines. NWP will also modify and/or expand the existing Sumas, Mount Vernon, Snohomish, Sumner, Chehalis, Washougal, Willard, Goldendale, Roosevelt and Plymouth compressor stations.

**PROPONENT:** Northwest Pipeline Corporation, 295 Chipeta Way, P.O. Box 58900, Salt Lake City, UT. 84108. Contact Person: Carolyn Last, PIC Technologies, (303)832-1600.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Individual jurisdiction project descriptions and locations are outlined in general below. The attached map outlines approximate locations.

Whatcom County: Sumas compressor station is located in Section 36, Township 41 North, Range 4 East.

Skagit County: The Sedro Woolley Loop Pipeline would originate in the SW ¼ of Section 29, Township 35 North, Range 5 East and extend north to the SW ¼ of Section 18, Township 36 North, Range 5 East. It would traverse Skagit County through Sections 6, 7, 17, 18, 20 and 29, Township 35 North, Range 5 East, and Sections 18, 19, 30, 31, Township 36 North, Range 5 East.

The Mount Vernon Pipeline Loop would originate in the SE ¼ of Section 32, Township 33 North, Range 5 East and extend north, terminating in the NE ¼ of Section 19, Township 34 North, Range 5 East. It traverses Skagit County through Section 5, 6, 8, 17, 20, 29 and 32, Township 33 North, Range 5 East, and Sections 19, 30 and 31, Township 34 North, Range 5 East.

The Mount Vernon compressor station is located at 1539 Lange Road, Mount Vernon, WA. 98273, within a portion of the NE ¼ of Section 19, Township 34 North Range 5 East, W.M.

Snohomish County: The Snohomish County compressor station is located in Section 32, Township 27 North, Range 6 East.

King County: The Covington Loop Pipeline would originate near the northern border of the NW ¼ of Section 29, Township 22 North, range 6 East and extend north to the SW ¼ of Section 22, Township 23 North, Range 6 East. The Covington Loop pipeline traverses King County through the following the following coordinates: Sections 4, 9, 16, 17, 20, and 29, Township 22 North, Range 6 East, and Sections 22, 27, 33 and 34, Township 23 North, Range 6 East.

City of Auburn and Pierce County: The Auburn loop segment would originate in the SE ¼ of Section 7, Township 20 North, Range 5 East and extend north to the NW ¼ of Section 34, Township 21 North, Range 5 East. The Auburn Loop traverses the City of Auburn through the following coordinates: Sections 33 and 34, Township 21 North, Range 5 East.

The Auburn Loop traverses Pierce County through the following coordinates: Section 4, 5, 7, and 8 of Township 20 North, Range 5 East.

The Sumner compressor station is located in the SE ¼ of Section 7, Township 20 North, Range 5 East.

Clark County: The Washougal compressor station is located in Section 30, Township 2 North, Range 4 East.

Skamania County: The Willard Compressor Station is located in Section 1, Township 3 North, Range 9 East.

Klickitat County: The Goldendale compressor station is located in Section 3, Township 3 North, Range 16 East. The Roosevelt compressor station is located in Section 8, Township 5 North, Range 22 East.

Benton County: The Plymouth Compressor Station is located in Section 11, Township 5 North, Range 27 East.

TITLE OF DOCUMENT BEING INCORPORATED: Evergreen Expansion Project Environmental Assessment. Prepared by the Office of Energy Projects, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426.

DATE THE INCORPORATED DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED: May 3, 2002.

THE DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE TO BE READ AT: Skagit County Planning and Permit Center, City of Sedro-Woolley Planning Department, Whatcom County Planning Department, Snohomish County Planning Department, King County Planning Department, City of Auburn and Pierce County Planning Departments, Clark County Planning, Skamania County Planning, City of Covington, Klickitat County and Benton County Planning Departments, City of Mount Vernon library, City of Burlington Library.

LEAD AGENCY AND AGENCY INCORPORATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT: Skagit County Planning and Permit Center.

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable 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, critical areas checklist, and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2). The Lead agency will not act on this proposal for

15 days from the date of publication below.

Comments must be submitted by 6-7-02.

You may appeal this threshold determination by addressing those criteria as set forth in Skagit Code 14.06 and 14.12. and then by filing such with the Skagit County Planning and Permit Center, on Skagit County Notice of Appeal Application forms, for service to the SEPA responsible official. Appeals must be submitted within 14 days of the end of the comment period.

Appeals must be submitted by 6-21-02.

We have identified and incorporated by reference this document as being appropriate for this proposal after independent review. This document meets our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decision-maker.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Planning and Permit Center Director  
CONTACT PERSON: Brandon Black, Associate Planner  
ADDRESS: 200 West Washington Street, Mount Vernon, WA. 98273.  
PHONE: (360) 336-9410

Date: 5-21-02 Signature: Brandon Black  
for: Tom Karsh

cc: WDOE, Public Works, NWAPA, Fire Marshall, WSDF&W, Skagit Systems Coop., City of Mount Vernon, City of Sedro Woolly, Army Corps., Applicant, PIC Technologies, See attached list of other agencies with jurisdiction.

Please Publish 5-23-02