

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DG 14-124**

**GRANITE STATE GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY, INC.**

**Petition for a License to Build and Maintain an Interstate  
Natural Gas Pipeline Beneath the Squamscott River**

**Summary Order *Nisi* No. 25,702 Granting Petition**

**August 4, 2014**

Granite State Gas Transmission Company, Inc. (GSGT), owns and operates an 86 mile long natural gas transmission line between Massachusetts and Maine that travels through southeastern New Hampshire. GSGT intends to replace a 0.9 mile section of that pipeline which crosses the Squamscott River in Exeter and Stratham. GSGT filed a petition pursuant to RSA 371:17 seeking a license from the Commission to authorize that crossing.

According to the petition, the section of pipe GSGT intends to replace is one of the original federally-authorized sections of the interstate pipeline built in the 1950s, and which is now substantially corroded. GSGT stated that that it has the appropriate approvals from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and that it is in the process of obtaining the required authority from other state agencies.

GSGT stated that the new pipe will be buried beneath the Squamscott River by horizontal directional drilling. GSGT has tentative agreements with all potentially affected parties regarding the location of the pipe. GSGT stated that the new pipe will not disturb navigation or public use of the river, and that the project is necessary for the pipeline's safe operation.

The Commission's Safety Division recommended approval of the petition with the conditions that the Commission limit its approval to this particular project and that the

Commission direct GSGT to operate and maintain the crossing in compliance with the most recent gas pipeline safety laws.

Based on GSGT's filing and the Safety Division's recommendation, the Commission granted the license. The Commission found that crossing the Squamscott River is necessary for GSGT to meet the reasonable requirements of safe and reliable service and that the project will not substantially affect the public rights in the Squamscott River.

In order to ensure that all interested parties receive notice of this docket and have an opportunity to request a hearing, the Commission delayed the effectiveness of its approval until August 15, 2014. All persons interested in responding to the Commission's approval may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing which states the reason and basis for a hearing no later than August 13, 2014. Any party interested in responding to such comments and request for hearing shall do so no later than August 14, 2014. Following consideration of any comments and request for hearing received, the Commission may further extend the effective date of its approval. The Commission's approval shall become final and effective on August 15, 2014, unless the Commission orders otherwise.