DOCKET NO. D-2014-022-1

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Special Protection Waters

Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company, LLC
Leidy Southeast Expansion Project – Franklin Loop

Natural Gas Pipeline and Temporary Discharge
Tunkhannock and Tobyhanna Townships, Monroe County, Pennsylvania and Buck Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

PROCEEDINGS

This docket is issued in response to two (2) applications submitted to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC or Commission) by URS Corporation on behalf of Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC ("Transco" or "docket holder") on October 6, 2014 (collectively, "the Application"), for the approval of a temporary withdrawal of surface water and discharge of wastewater for the purpose of hydrostatic testing of a portion of the Leidy Southeast Expansion Project. The project is also referred to as the "Franklin Loop." The withdrawal and discharge meet regulatory thresholds that subject the project to Commission review. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) prepared an Environmental Assessment dated August 11, 2014 for the project. FERC issued its Order Issuing Certificate and Granting Abandonment Docket No. CP13-551 and issued its Certification of Public Convenience and Necessity on December 18, 2014. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) approved Transco's Environmental Management Plan for discharges from hydrostatic testing of new pipelines on December 30, 2014. Additional approvals are pending, including a permit for waterway and wetland crossings from the United States Army Corps of Engineers; Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permits from PADEP; and a Pennsylvania Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit from the Monroe County Conservation District, covering construction and post-construction activities in Monroe and Luzerne counties.

The Application was reviewed for approval under Section 3.8 of the *Delaware River Basin Compact*. The Monroe County Planning Commission and Luzerne County Planning Commission have been notified of pending action on this docket. A public hearing on this project was held by the DRBC on March 10, 2015.

A. DESCRIPTION

1. Purpose. The purpose of this docket is to approve the construction of an 11.45 mile natural gas pipeline and appurtenances within the DRB, as described below, including:

a. the withdrawal of up to 1.7 million gallons (mg) of surface water from Lehigh River and up to 0.415 mg from Tobyhanna Creek (combined total withdrawal of 1.7 mg) for hydrostatic testing and cleaning of the pipeline and dust control purposes during construction of the new pipeline loop; and

b. the temporary discharge of up to 1.7 mg of pipe cleaning water and hydrostatic testing water to the land surface at one (1) location after completion of cleaning and hydrostatic testing of the pipeline.

c. The docket also constitutes a special use permit in accordance with Section 6.3.4 of the Commission's Flood Plain Regulations.

2. Location. The Franklin Loop of the Transco Leidy Southeast Expansion Project begins at Long Pond Road approximately ¼ mile northeast of State Route 115 in Tunkhannock Township, Monroe County, Pennsylvania (Leidy Mile Post [M.P.] 57.51) and continues northwest through Tobyhanna Township parallel to Transco's existing Leidy Gas lines and ends at existing Compressor Station 515 (M.P. 68.95) located in Buck Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. The project also includes new mainline valves (MLV) and pig launchers at two existing above ground facilities located in Tunkhannock Township, Monroe County and Buck Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania and new mainline valve at a new facility located in Tobyhanna Township, Monroe County, Pennsylvania and modifications to existing Compressor Station 515 in Buck Township Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. The Franklin Loop project is located in the drainage area of the portions of the non-tidal main stem Delaware River known as the Lower Delaware River, which the Commission has designated as Special Protection Waters (SPW).

Specific locations of the start and end points of the pipeline loop and above ground facilities are as follows:

Franklin Loop (Monroe and Luzerne Counties, Pennsylvania)	
POINT	**TGP MILEPOST**
Start of Loop	57.5
End of Loop	69.0
Compressor 515	69.0
MLV505LD90	57.5
MLV505LD95	63.2
MLV515LD0	69.0

Water Source Location Information

The project will require water for dust control, pipeline cleaning and hydrostatic testing of the pipeline and mainline valves. Information concerning the water sources is set forth in the table below:

SELF SUPPLIED WATER SOURCE 1	
Source	Lehigh River
Municipality	Tobyhanna Township, Monroe County, PA and Buck Township, Luzerne County, PA
TGP Milepost	65.48
HUC12 Watershed Name	Wright Creek – Lehigh River (020401060204)
PADEP Water Use Designation	EV, MF / WTS
DRBC SPW Area	Lower

SELF SUPPLIED WATER SOURCE 2	
Source	Tobyhanna Creek
Municipality	Tobyhanna Township, Monroe County, PA
TGP Milepost	61.03
HUC12 Watershed Name	Tobyhanna Creek-Lehigh River (020401060104)
PADEP Water Use Designation	HQ-CWF, MF
DRBC SPW Area	Lower

Transco plans to purchase up to 0.110 mg of water from an existing public water supply system for hydrostatic testing of new pipe and valves at Compressor Station 515. The public water system is unknown at this time. Condition C.I.f. in the decision section of this docket requires that the docket holder submit the public water system information to the Commission at least 30 days prior to the initial purchase of the water.

Discharge Location Information

Water used for mainline pipe cleaning and flushing will be removed from the pipeline and hauled to and discharged at an overland dewatering structure to be constructed within the construction right-of-way. Hydrostatic testing water will be pushed from the pipeline and transferred directly via temporary piping to the same overland dewatering structure. Information concerning the land discharge is set forth in the table below:

Franklin Loop Overland Dewatering Structure	
Municipality	Tunkhannock Township, Monroe County, PA
TGP Milepost	57.75
Nearest Receiving Stream	Unnamed Tributary to Tunkhannock Creek
PADEP Water Use Designation	HQ-CWF, MF
HUC12 Watershed Name	Tunkhannock Creek (020401060103)
DRBC SPW Area	Lower

3. Area Served. The temporary water withdrawals and discharges will serve the project only for dust control, pipeline cleaning and hydrostatic testing purposes as described in the Description section below. For the purpose of defining Area Served, the Application is incorporated herein by reference consistent with conditions contained in the DECISION section of this docket.

4. Physical features.

a. Design criteria. The Leidy Southeast Expansion Project is designed to expand the natural gas delivering capacity to the northeast region of the United States by installing additional pipeline loops, adding compression and modifying existing compressor stations and modifying existing mainline valves and pig launchers and receivers in North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. The portion of the project located in the DRB, consists of the installation of 11.45 miles of new 42-inch diameter coated steel pipeline (Franklin Loop), modifications to existing Compressor Station 515 (addition of one new gas turbine compressor unit, modifications of existing compressor units and yard piping modifications), modifications to two existing MLV facilities and the installation of one new 42-inch MLV assembly along the pipeline loop. Modification of the existing MLV sites noted above include the installation of new MLV's, tie-in facilities and bi-directional pig launchers/receivers.

The Franklin Loop will be installed approximately 25 feet from the existing Leidy Lines using standard pipeline construction procedures. Special construction procedures will be implemented within wetland areas and waterbody crossings to reduce overall project impacts. In upland areas the temporary construction right-of-way is 105 feet wide and in wetlands the construction right-of-way is reduced to a 75 foot width with some exceptions due to site conditions. The project will also require temporary facilities to be constructed or modified including contractor and pipe storage yards and access roadways. Following construction, the permanent right-of-way of the new pipeline loop will be approximately 50 feet wide, consisting of 25 feet of existing right-of-way already retained for operation of the Leidy Line and 25 feet of new right-of-way for the loop. Contractor/pipe yard and access roads used only for construction will be restored to previous conditions or in accordance with land owner agreements. Land disturbance and stream crossings are discussed in the Findings section of this docket.

The majority of water needed for the project will be used for hydrostatic testing of the mainline. During construction approximately 5,000 gallons of water will be withdrawn from the Lehigh River or Tobyhanna Creek and used for dust control. Once the pipeline installation is complete, cleaning and hydrostatic testing of new pipe and valves will be performed. Approximately 12,000 gallons of water will be needed to clean the pipeline and pig traps. No additives will be used in the wash or fill water. After cleaning, the water will be removed from the pipeline hauled to the overland dewatering structure. The mainline pipe will be hydrostatically tested in three (3) sections. Test Section 1 (the northwestern most section of pipe) will require 1.274 million gallons of water which will be sourced from the Lehigh River. After testing of Test Section 1 is complete, the water will be pushed into Test Section 2 and supplemented with an additional 0.330 mg of water which will be sourced from the Lehigh River or Tobyhanna Creek. After testing of Test Section 2 is complete, the water will be pushed into

Test Section 3 (the southeastern most portion of pipe). This section will require 1.220 mg of water; therefore, approximately 0.384 mg of water from Test Section 2 will be discharged to the overland dewatering structure during the filling of the test section. In summary, testing of Sections 1, 2 and 3 described above will result in the withdrawal of 1.274 mg, 0.330 mg and 0.0 mg of water, respectively.

The two proposed MLV fabrications will also be hydrostatically tested and will require 0.068 mg of water which will be sourced from the Lehigh River or Tobyhanna Creek. Hydrostatic testing of the two MLV fabrications will occur at the respective MLV sites. These tests will occur prior to the hydrostatic testing of the mainline and the large dewatering structure will not be in place. Water for the MLV fabrication tests will be collected in tanks and hauled to the overland discharge location and discharged to a smaller dewatering structure consisting of hay bales and geotextile fabric as depicted in the draft Erosion and Sediment Control Plan and the discharges will be subject to the same requirements identified below for the discharge from the pipeline. PADEP has requested that Transco submit supplemental information clarifying that the discharge of the MLV test water will occur separate from the mainline test discharge and will utilize a smaller dewatering structure.

Water for hydrostatic testing of the Compressor Station 515 piping (0.110 mg) will be sourced from a public water supply and discharged to a municipal sewer system. The docket holder shall submit the name, address, and contact information for the public water supplier and municipal sewer system that will serve the hydrostatic testing of new pipe and valves at Compressor Station 515 at least 30 days prior to the purchase of water for said purpose. The docket holder shall not purchase or receive any water from sources not approved by this docket or convey wastewater to any facility not approved by this docket prior to receiving written approval by the DRBC Executive Director (see Condition C.I.f.).

Water from hydrostatic testing will be gradually discharged from the pipeline at a maximum rate of 1,000 gpm through an overland discharge structure and allowed to infiltrate in an upland, vegetated area. Water used for cleaning the pipeline will be temporarily stored in tanks and discharged through the overland discharge structure. The discharge structure will be constructed with double lined hay bales and hog wire fencing and will measure 75 feet by 300 feet. The discharge will be staffed at all times and the discharge will only occur during daylight hours to allow for visual inspection of the discharge. It is anticipated that all water will be discharged from the pipeline within 98 hours. Transco will ensure that the discharge infiltrates the subsurface and all discharges will cease if the discharge is observed to be flowing more than 500 feet from the discharge structure. The distance limit will be staked in the field. Water samples will be collected at the beginning and end of each hydrostatic discharge event in accordance with PADEP requirements.

b. <u>Facilities.</u> The project surface water withdrawals will have the following characteristics:

WITHDRAWAL WATER BODY	PUMP CAPACITY	7Q10 FLOW AT INTAKE	DRAINAGE AREA	TOTAL WITHDRAW
Lehigh River	2,500 gpm (5.6 cfs)	12.9 cfs	90 Sq. Mi.	1.700 mg
Tobyhanna Creek	2,500 gpm (5.6 cfs)	19.5 cfs	82 Sq. Mi.	0.415 mg

The combined total withdrawal is limited to 1.7 million gallons.

All withdrawals will be metered.

Transco has informed DRBC that the water will not contain any additives prior to use.

The temporary project intakes are located within the 100-year floodplain.

The intakes will be screened to minimize the potential entrainment of fish and the rate will be maintained to protect aquatic life. The water will be withdrawn from the waterbodies at a planned rate between 1,500 gpm and 2,500 gpm and all withdrawals will be metered. Pumps located within 100 feet of a wetland or waterbody will be located within secondary containment. As discussed in the Findings Section of this docket, the docket holder must submit final withdrawal site construction and operations plans for approval by the DRBC Executive Director (ED) prior to any site clearing, site preparation, construction or withdrawals at the withdrawal sites.

c. Hydrostatic Test Water Discharge Approval. On December 30, 2014, PADEP approved the Environmental Management Plan for Discharges from Hydrostatic Testing of new pipelines for Transco's Leidy Southeast Expansion Franklin Loop, dated December 2014. Because the discharge will occur in a vegetated area away from watercourses and wetlands and a trained environmental inspector will be on-site at all times during discharge activities to monitor and control the rate of discharge to prevent overtopping of the dewatering structure and ensure proper function of erosion controls, a PADEP permit is not required for the release of hydrostatic test water. As required by PADEP and this docket, water samples (grab) shall be taken at the beginning and end of each discharge period and tested for the parameters specified in Table A-1 and A-2 below:

EFFLUENT TABLE A-1: PADEP Required Parameters

Franklin Loop Mainline and MLV Fabrication Overland Discharge Structures		
PARAMETER	**LIMIT**	**MONITORING**
Flow (gpm)	n/a	Monitor and report
Duration (hours)	n/a	Monitor and report
pH (Standard Units)	6 to 9 at all times	2 grab samples per discharge
Total Suspended Solids	60 mg/l	2 grab samples per discharge
Dissolved Oxygen	5 mg/l (minimum at all times)	2 grab samples per discharge
Oil and Grease	30 mg/l	2 grab samples per discharge

Franklin Loop Mainline and MLV Fabrication Overland Discharge Structures		
PARAMETER	**LIMIT**	**MONITORING**
Iron	7 mg/l	2 grab samples per discharge
Total Residual Chlorine*	0.05 mg/l	2 grab samples per discharge

*Only if chlorinated water is used.

EFFLUENT TABLE A-2: Additional DRBC Required Parameters

Franklin Loop Mainline and MLV Fabrication Overland Discharge Structures		
PARAMETER	**LIMIT**	**MONITORING**
Total Dissolved Solids	1,000 mg/l	2 grab samples per discharge

d. **Cost.** The total cost of this project is $137,845,527.

B. FINDINGS

The purpose of this docket is to approve the construction of a 11.45 mile natural gas pipeline and appurtenances project, the withdrawal of up to 1.7 million gallons (mg) of surface water from Lehigh River and up to 0.415 mg from Tobyhanna Creek (combined total withdrawal of 1.7 mg) for hydrostatic testing and cleaning of the pipeline and dust control purposes during construction of the new pipeline loop, the temporary discharge of up to 1.7 mg of pipe cleaning water and hydrostatic testing water to the land surface at one (1) location after completion of cleaning and hydrostatic testing of the pipeline; and, a special permit for pipeline construction in accordance with Section 6.3.4 of the Commission's Flood Plain Regulations.

Special Protection Waters

In 1992, the DRBC adopted Special Protection Waters requirements, as part of the DRBC *Water Quality Regulations* (WQR), designed to protect existing high water quality in applicable areas of the Delaware River Basin. One hundred twenty miles of the Delaware River from Hancock, New York downstream to the Delaware Water Gap were classified by the DRBC as SPW. This stretch includes the sections of the river federally designated as "Wild and Scenic" in 1978 -- the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area -- as well as an eight-mile reach between Milrift and Milford, Pennsylvania which is not federally designated. The SPW regulations apply to this 120-mile stretch of the river and its drainage area.

On July 16, 2008, the DRBC approved amendments to its *Water Quality Regulations* that provide increased protection for waters that the Commission classifies as Special Protection Waters. The portion of the Delaware River and its tributaries within the boundary of the Lower Delaware River Management Plan Area was approved for Special Protection Waters designation and clarity on definitions and terms were updated for the entire program.

Article 3.10.3A.2.e.1). and 2) of the *Water Quality Regulations, Administrative Manual - Part III,* states that projects subject to review under Section 3.8 of the Compact that are located in the drainage area of Special Protection Waters must submit for approval a Non-Point Source Pollution Control Plan that controls the new or increased non-point source loads generated within the portion of the project's service area which is also located within the drainage area of Special Protection Waters. The project is located within in the drainage area of Special Protection Waters. Since this project entails construction, there are potentially new or increased non-point source loads associated with this approval, and accordingly the non-point source pollution control plan requirement is applicable at this time.

The docket holder will construct, restore, and maintain the Project according to the measures described in its Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan (SPCC Plan), and FERC's *Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan* (Plan) and *Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures*, except in areas where the docket holder obtains a waiver from FERC from specific conditions such as temporary workspace encroachments on wetlands and waterbodies where these are unavoidable. Temporary and permanent soil erosion and sedimentation controls will be installed in accordance with Monroe and Luzerne County Conservation Districts-approved Erosion and Sediment Control (E&S) Plans, and maintained throughout construction.

Commission staff have reviewed the FERC Environmental Assessment, Transco's Draft Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans and Draft Site Restoration Plans and have determined that the plans fulfill the Non-Point Source Pollution Control Plan requirements for projects located in Special Protection Waters. The docket holder shall submit final E&S Plans and Restoration Plans to the Commission and all State, County and Federal Permits prior to any site clearing or construction as required by Condition C.I.d. in the Decision section of this Docket.

Surface Water Withdrawal Locations, Procedures, and Schedule

Water used for dust control, pipeline cleaning and hydrostatic testing will be withdrawn from the Lehigh River and Tobyhanna Creek at the respective pipeline crossing locations. The Lehigh River withdrawal site is located approximately 0.5 miles upstream the existing United States Geological Survey (USGS) gage station No. 01447500, Lehigh River at Stoddartsville, Pennsylvania. The Tobyhanna Creek withdrawal site is located approximately 2.4 miles upstream from the USGS gage station No. 01447720, Tobyhanna Creek near Blakeslee, Pennsylvania gage.

The estimated area of the drainage basin upstream of the proposed Lehigh River withdrawal location is 90 square miles. Flow statistics for the USGS Lehigh River at Stoddartsville, PA gage indicate that for the period of record from 1942 to 2006 the seven-day, 10-year (7Q10) low and annual mean flows are 13.1 cubic feet per second (cfs) and 192 cfs, respectively. The ratio of drainage basin area at the withdrawal location compared to the USGS gage was used to determine estimated flow rates for the withdrawal location. The calculated 7Q10 rate at the proposed withdrawal location is 12.9 cfs. The mean flow rate for the withdrawal location is 188 cfs. The maximum allowable withdrawal rate of up to 2,500 gpm (5.6 cfs) is approximately 43 percent of the 7Q10 low flow and 3 percent of the mean annual flow.

The estimated area of the drainage basin upstream of the proposed Tobyhanna Creek withdrawal location is 82 square miles. Flow statistics for the USGS Tobyhanna Creek near Blakeslee, Pennsylvania gage indicate that for the period of record from 1955 to 2006, the 7Q10 low and annual mean flows are 28 cfs and 263 cfs, respectively. The ratio of drainage basin area at the withdrawal location compared to the USGS gage was used to determine estimated flow rates for the withdrawal location. The calculated 7Q10 rate at the proposed withdrawal location is 19.5 cfs. The calculated mean flow rate for the withdrawal location is 183 cfs. The planned withdrawal rate of up to 2,500 gpm (or 5.6 cfs) is approximately 29 percent of the 7Q10 low flow and 3 percent of the mean annual flow.

The docket holder will comply with the following operational procedures to be followed at the water withdrawals sites:

Water Withdrawal Equipment Setup

- Withdrawal rates and volumes will be measured and recorded during withdrawal operations.
- Within 24 hours preceding the initiation of any withdrawals, USGS stream flow data at the respective USGS gaging stations will be assessed via the real time data available on the USGS website. No withdrawals will be initiated if flow at the respective gage is at or below the 7Q10 flow or the withdrawal would result in the stream flow being below the 7Q10 flow (see Conditions C.I.l. and C.I.m.).
- Pumps and other equipment will be either skid or trailer mounted to facilitate relocation in the event of high water conditions.
- Pumps and other water withdrawal equipment (except for hoses and intake equipment) will be located outside of a designated floodway or in an area at least 25 feet from the top of bank at river edge if a floodway is not designated.
- Pumps will be placed in secondary containment in order to prevent potential gasoline or oil discharges from being discharged.
- The water intake and piping will be located in an area adjacent to the river bank where removal can be achieved within a few hours.

Procedures for Equipment Removal

- Upon initiation of water withdrawal activities, weather forecasts will be monitored on a daily basis to identify any forecasted rainfall events that have the potential for causing flood conditions.
- On a daily basis, river conditions at the withdrawal site will be observed.
- During forecasted storm or rainfall events that have the potential to result in out of bank flooding, river observations and staff gauge elevations will be made a minimum of a three times a day to identify the change in river elevations.
- If flood conditions are forecast, all equipment will be moved to high ground in a designated area outside the floodplain. This area will be identified prior to initiation of the project.
- Equipment removed during potential flood conditions will be returned to the withdrawal site once river elevations have dropped below flood stage; ground conditions are capable

of supporting vehicular traffic, and the water intake and piping can be placed in a safe manner.

The docket holder is planning to perform water withdrawals for hydrostatic testing between mid-June and mid-July 2015. Testing of the MLV assemblies as well as periodic water withdrawals for dust control will occur sooner, but the exact dates are not known at this time. The docket holder will notify the DRBC at least two weeks before the planned withdrawals will occur. Water will be withdrawn up to a maximum rate 2,500 gpm and shall not exceed the allocation limits at each withdrawal site and the withdrawal apparatus shall be secured at least 1 foot off the water body bottom to reduce sediment intake as provided in Condition C.I.j. in the Decision section.

Final Site Construction Plans and Operation Plans

The Lehigh River and Tobyhanna Creek withdrawal sites and the discharge site will be restricted to the operations associated with the function of water withdrawal and discharge. Prior to any site clearing, site preparation, construction or withdrawals at the withdrawal sites or discharges at the discharge site, the docket holder will submit final construction plans and operation plans for the withdrawal and discharge sites to the Commission for written approval by the Executive Director in accordance with Condition C.I.b. in the Decision section. These plans must be submitted at least 60 days prior to the initiation of any site clearing, site preparation, construction, withdrawals, or discharges at the withdrawal sites or discharge sites.

The Final Construction Plans shall include at a minimum, any proposed improvements and erosion and sediment controls that may be employed there, the location of the withdrawal, load-out/load-in facilities to be sited there, intake design and the location of the 100-year floodplain and floodway as applicable.

The Operation Plans shall include the specifics of the site operations, including metering and recording of withdrawals and discharges, monitoring of passby flows, etc. At a minimum, the plan shall describe procedures necessary to comply with the conditions in the Decision section of this docket.

Land Disturbance

Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit approvals from The Monroe County Conservation District and Luzerne County Conservation District are pending. Construction of the pipeline components of the Franklin Loop will affect approximately 142 acres of land. This total includes the land inside and outside of the existing maintained right-of-way and additional temporary workspace located along the pipeline corridor. Following construction of the pipeline, a total of 36.0 acres of the 142 acres of affected land area will be retained as permanent right-of-way along the Franklin Loop. Of the 36 acres, approximately 14.9 acres is forest land, 15.5 acres is open land, 5.4 acres consist of waterbodies and/or wetlands, and the remainder comprise commercial or residential lands. The remaining 106 acres of affected land area will be restored to previous conditions.

During the construction of the pipeline, approximately 31 acres of additional off-site land will be required for contractor staging areas, contractor yards and pipe yards. Upon completion of pipeline construction, these sites will be restored to previous conditions. Construction of the pipeline will also require the modification of 9 existing roads and the construction of 1 new road to access the pipeline and above ground facilities. The total land disturbed by the access roads is approximately 6 additional acres. Two of the existing roads and the new road will be retained permanently for future access to the project. The existing Compressor Station 515 is a 26.5 acre site, a portion of which will be used for access to the pipeline.

Reservoir, Proposed Reservoir or Recreation Project Areas

The Franklin Loop project does not cross any reservoir, proposed reservoir or recreation project areas designated in the Commission's Comprehensive Plan.

Stream Crossings

PADEP Water Obstruction and Encroachment permits and USACE wetland and waterway crossings (Section 404) permit are pending.

The Franklin Loop will cross 21 perennial waterbodies, 7 intermittent waterbodies and 4 ephemeral waterbodies, temporarily affecting approximately 353 feet of stream channel. One additional 10 foot wide intermittent water body will be crossed by an access road. Twenty four (24) of the stream crossings are designated by the PADEP as high quality-cold water fisheries supporting migratory fishes (HQ-CWF, MF). The nine (9) other water bodies crossed are designated by the PADEP as exceptional value supporting migratory fishes (EV, MF), three of which are also listed as Wild Trout Streams.

Waterbodies will be crossed in accordance with Transco's Procedures and state and federal permit requirements. With the exception of the Lehigh River and Tobyhanna Creek Crossings, which are planned to be completed using the Cofferdam installation method described below, all flowing streams will be crossed using either the dams and flumes or dams and pumps installation method. This dry crossing method utilizes temporary dams and flumes or dams and pumps to temporarily divert stream flow around the work area to minimize contact between stream water and the pipe trench excavation and to minimize sediment suspension during construction activities. Pumps or flumes are used to convey the impounded water above the upstream dam through hoses or a flume around the active working area and discharged back into the stream channel downstream of the lower dam. After the stream has been temporarily diverted around the work area, the trench is excavated and the pipeline installed. The trench is then backfilled to pre-construction contours and the stream banks restored prior to removing the dams and pumping equipment or flumes and restoring water flow.

Two of the stream crossings (Lehigh River and Tobyhanna Creek) will be completed using the Cofferdam installation method. The Cofferdam installation method uses conventional construction techniques to prepare the 42-inch pipe in upland areas and complete the pipeline installation across the waterbody using an isolated or dry open-cut installation method. A Cofferdam installation is approved for use in the current DEP Erosion and Sediment Control BMP Manual (Technical Guidance Number 363-2134-008; see Standard Construction Detail 13-

3). This method involves the installation of a cofferdam to isolate and divert flow around the work site. This allows for construction to proceed in dry conditions, significantly reducing the potential re-suspension of sediments.

The split cofferdam system is installed in two phases as described below:

Phase 1: A temporary cofferdam structure is first installed to enclose the proposed workspace on one bank. The cofferdam will extend approximately 60% into the waterbody as measured perpendicular to the bank and approximately 100 feet to each side of the proposed pipeline and the enclosed area will be dewatered. River bed sediment and rock material will be excavated, segregated, and stockpiled separately from the remaining trench material. Water from precipitation or seepage will be removed from the isolated work area with pumps and discharged through a geotextile filter bag. The pipeline construction contractor will then begin to excavate the trench as necessary to install the new concrete coated 42-inch pipeline section. Spoil generated during the creek crossing will be stored at least 50 feet from the top of bank and outside of the delineated floodway.

The concrete coated 42-inch-diameter pipeline section will be fabricated in open areas adjacent to the bank before work within the stream channel begins. Following trench preparation, the pre-fabricated west bank pipe section will be lowered-in, temporarily capped and backfilled. The river bed and bank will be restored before the cofferdam structure is removed.

Phase 2: The cofferdam process will then be repeated for the second bank installation. The cofferdam will be installed to enclose workspace and will extend approximately 60% into the waterbody as measured perpendicular to the bank to overlap the workspace used for the first bank installation and 100 feet on each side of the proposed pipeline and the enclosed work site will be dewatered. The temporary cap on the recently installed west bank section of the concrete coated 42-inch pipe will be removed and the two sections will be welded, nondestructively inspected, and externally protectively coated at the tie-in point. The trench will then be backfilled, the east bank and creek bed will be restored and stabilized, and then the cofferdam structure will be removed.

Although the Cofferdam installation method is the preferred crossing method planned at this time, the docket holder has retained the wet open cut method as a backup contingency plan. In order to complete a wet open cut crossing, the docket holder would construct a temporary equipment bridge to facilitate the installation of the pipeline and provide a means of travel across the flowing waterbodies and decrease in-stream traffic. The pipeline trench would then be excavated across the stream bed to a depth to allow for 5 feet of cover over the pipeline when backfilled. The pipeline would then be backfilled, the stream banks restored and the temporary bridge removed. The docket holder estimates that all in-stream work for a wet open cut crossing would be completed within 48 hours assuming favorable conditions. If a wet open cut crossing method is determined to be necessary at the Lehigh River or Tobyhanna Creek, the docket holder must notify the Commission and receive written approval from the DRBC Executive Director prior to conducting any activities related to the wet open cut crossings (See Condition C.I.e).

Wetland Disturbance

Transco will implement wetland construction procedures including reduced workspace corridors where possible, use of timber mats where necessary to reduce rutting, topsoil segregation and expediting construction and restoration activities to minimize impacts to wetlands. The construction right-of-way in some wetland areas is the 75 feet ordinarily allowed by FERC; however, in order to avoid unnecessary trips through other wetland areas, FERC has approved a right-of-way of 90 feet for additional spoil storage. A total of 36 wetland areas totaling approximately 17.4 acres will be disturbed during construction of the Franklin Loop. After construction, approximately 13.4 acres of the 17.4 acres of disturbed wetlands will be restored to preconstruction contours, vegetation and hydrology in accordance with Transco's Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures. Because of the location above the newly installed pipeline, approximately 4.0 acres of forested wetlands within the new permanent easement will be permanently maintained in an herbaceous or emergent vegetation cover type. The EA jointly issued by the USACE and FERC indicates that mitigation for the 4.0 acres of permanent conversion of forested wetlands to emergent wetlands within the Philadelphia District is expected to be completed at the Bleiler Farm mitigation site, located in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

The PADEP and USACE permits cited in the previous section of this docket (Stream Crossings) are required to authorize the wetland disturbance described above.

Floodplain Regulations

Section 6.3.4 of the Commission's Floodplain Regulations allows certain uses, including pipelines constructed within the floodway when authorized by special permit. The Franklin Loop will cross 21 perennial water bodies, 7 intermittent waterbodies and 4 ephemeral waterbodies. Although FEMA mapped only one floodway (Lehigh River) and 100-year floodplains at 4 water body crossings, it is assumed that each waterbody crossed by the pipeline contains a floodway at least as large as the steam bank width. Temporary equipment, such as dams, flumes and equipment bridges will be located in the floodway during construction of the pipeline. However, the construction within floodways will be expedited and the equipment will be removed as soon as the pipeline has been installed through the stream channel. Transco plans to install the pipelines at a depth of 5 feet below each stream channel and no permanent structures are proposed on the ground surface within the floodway or FEMA mapped 100-year floodplain areas. Additionally, the pipeline sections beneath the stream channels will be weighted as necessary to negate any potential buoyancy effects. Following the construction of the pipelines, the stream channel bed and banks are required to be restored to preconstruction contours, vegetation and hydrology. No spoil or fill material will remain in the floodway following construction of the pipeline. This docket constitutes a special use permit for the pipeline in accordance with Section 6.3.4 of the Commission's Flood Plain Regulations for a pipeline within floodway and flood fringe areas. Floodways crossed by the pipeline project are presented in the following table.

DRB FLOODWAYS CROSSED BY the FRANKLIN LOOP			
WATERBODY NAME	**MILEPOST**	**BANK WIDTH (FEET)**	**FLOW TYPE**
Tunkhannock Creek	58.4	30	Perennial
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	58.7	9	Perennial
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	58.6	4	Intermittent
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	58.8	6	Intermittent
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	59.2	3	Ephemeral
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	59.4	8	Intermittent
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	59.5	3	Perennial
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	59.6	4	Ephemeral
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	59.6	10	Perennial
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	59.6	10	Perennial
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	59.6	10	Perennial
UNT to Tunkhannock Creek	59.6	10	Perennial
UNT to Tobyhanna Creek	60.1	11	Perennial
Tobyhanna Creek	61.0	70	Perennial
UNT to Two Mile Run	62.3	3	Perennial
Two Mile Run	63.1	15	Perennial
UNT to Two Mile Run	63.2	5	Ephemeral
Stony Run	63.7	11	Perennial
UNT to Lehigh River	65.0	9	Perennial
Lehigh River	65.5	55	Perennial
UNT to Lehigh River	65.9	3	Perennial
UNT to Kendall Creek	66.7	4	Ephemeral
UNT to Kendall Creek	66.7	3	Perennial
Kendall Creek	67.2	5	Intermittent
Kendall Creek	67.4	5	Intermittent
UNT to Kendall Creek	67.6	6	Perennial
UNT to Kendall Creek	67.8	6	Perennial
UNT to Stony Run	67.9	15	Perennial
UNT to Stony Run	67.9	9	Perennial
UNT to Stony Run	AR	10	Intermittent
UNT to Stony Run	68.2	9	Perennial
Unknown	68.9	1	Intermittent
Unknown	69.0	1	Intermittent

Other Federal, State, and Local Permits/Approvals

The following table lists approvals related to water resources in the Delaware River Basin for the Transco Franklin Loop Project.

AGENCY	APPROVAL	PERMIT NO.	DATE OF APPROVAL
FERC	Certificate of Public Conveyance and Necessity	Docket No. CP13-551	December 18, 2014
FERC	Order Issuing Certificate and Approving Abandonment	Docket No. CP13-551	December 18, 2014
USACE	Section 404 Permit	Pending	Pending
PADEP	Chapter 105 Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit	Pending	Pending
Monroe County Conservation District	Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit – Franklin Loop	Pending	Pending
Luzerne County Conservation District	Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit – Compressor Station 515	Pending	Pending
PADEP	Hydrostatic Testing of Tanks and Pipelines	Letter Approval	December 30, 2014

Docket Approval Duration

The withdrawals and discharges described in this docket are temporary. No additional withdrawals or discharges are permitted under the terms of this docket. Commission approval by special permit within floodway areas will remain in effect for the life of the project. Therefore, the docket has no expiration date.

Other

The docket holder estimates that the project withdrawals, used for the purpose of hydrostatic testing, result in a consumptive use of 2 percent of the total water use for that purpose. The DRBC definition of consumptive use is defined in Article 5.5.1.D of the *Administrative Manual – Part III – Basin Regulations – Water Supply Charges*.

The project is designed to conform to the requirements of the *Water Code* and *Water Quality Regulations* of the DRBC.

The project does not conflict with the Comprehensive Plan and is designed to prevent substantial adverse impact on the water resources related environment, while sustaining the current and future water uses and development of the water resources of the Basin.

C. DECISION

I. Effective on the approval date for Docket No. D-2014-022-1, the project and appurtenant facilities as described in Section A. (Physical features) are approved pursuant to Section 3.8 of the *Compact*, subject to the following conditions:

a. Docket approval is subject to all conditions, requirements, and limitations imposed by FERC, the PADEP, DCNR Bureau of Forestry, County Conservation Districts and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and such conditions, requirements, and limitations are incorporated herein, unless they are less stringent than the Commission's. Commission approval of the project is contingent on the issuance of these approvals.

b. Prior to any site clearing, site preparation, construction or withdrawals at the withdrawal sites or discharges at the discharge sites, the docket holder shall submit Final Construction Plans and Operation Plans for the withdrawal and discharge sites to the Commission for written approval by the Executive Director. At minimum, the plans shall include the features listed in Section A.4.b. (Facilities) and Section B. (Findings) of this docket. These plans shall be submitted at least 60 days prior to the initiation of any site clearing, site preparation, construction, withdrawals, or discharges at the withdrawal sites or discharge sites.

c. The intakes shall be designed to minimize to the greatest extent possible, impingement and entrainment impacts in the vicinity of the withdrawal sites. The docket holder shall provide the Commission with a copy of the intake design, and shall provide the Commission with copies of all correspondence between the docket holder and the other government agencies reviewing the intake design at the time the correspondence is sent or received.

d. Sound practices of excavation, backfill and reseeding shall be followed to minimize erosion and deposition of sediment in streams from any new facilities or repair related construction. Prior to any site clearing or construction, the docket holder shall: (a) submit for approval by the Executive Director of the DRBC, a Non-Point Source Pollution Control Plan (NPSPCP) in accordance with Article 3.10.3A.2.e.1). and 2). of the *Water Quality Regulations,* which plan may include elements of plans required by other agencies; and (b) submit to DRBC the final erosion and sediment control and restoration permits issued by State, County and Federal agencies.

e. If a wet open cut crossing method is determined to be necessary at the Lehigh River or Tobyhanna Creek, the docket holder must notify the Commission and receive written approval from the DRBC Executive Director prior to conducting any activities related to the wet open cut crossings.

f. The docket holder shall submit the name, address, and contact information for the public water supplier and municipal sewer system that will serve the hydrostatic testing of new pipe and valves at Compressor Station 515 at least 30 days prior to the purchase of water for said purpose or discharge to the municipal sewer system. The docket holder shall not purchase

or receive any water from sources not approved by this docket or convey wastewater to any facility not approved by this docket prior to receiving written approval by the DRBC Executive Director.

g. The docket holder shall notify the Commission at least fourteen (14) days prior to conducting the withdrawals and discharges described in this docket.

h. The withdrawal and discharge sites and operational records shall be available at all times for inspection by the DRBC.

i. The withdrawal sites and discharge facility shall be operated at all times to comply with the requirements of the *Water Code* and *Water Quality Regulations* of the DRBC.

j. The total combined withdrawal from all surface water sources shall not exceed a total of 1.700 mg. The withdrawal apparatus shall be secured at least 1 foot off the water body bottom to eliminate sediment intake. No withdrawal shall be pumped above the maximum instantaneous rates and allocations as indicated below:

INTAKE	MAXIMUM INSTANTANEOUS RATE	ALLOCATION NOT TO EXCEED A TOTAL OF
Lehigh River	2,500 gpm	1.700 mg
Tobyhanna Creek	2,500 gpm	0.415 mg

k. The project withdrawals shall be metered with an automatic continuous recording device that measures to within 5 percent of actual flow. An exception to the 5 percent performance standard, but no greater than 10 percent, may be granted if maintenance of the 5 percent performance is not technically feasible or economically practicable. A record of daily withdrawals shall be maintained, and monthly totals shall be reported to the PADEP and the DRBC.

l. Within 24 hours prior to any withdrawal from the Lehigh River, the docket holder shall assess the realtime streamflow data as recorded at USGS Gage No. 01447500, published online. No withdrawals shall be made if the discharge rate at USGS gage No. 01447500 is equal to or less than 13.1 cfs (the 7Q10 low flow value) within the 24 hour period preceding the withdrawal or if the withdrawal will result in a streamflow below the 7Q10.

m. Within 24 hours prior to any withdrawal from Tobyhanna Creek, the docket holder shall assess the instantaneous streamflow data as recorded at USGS Gage No. 01447720, published online. No withdrawals shall be made if the discharge rate at USGS gage No. 01447720 is equal to or less than 28 cfs (the 7Q10 low flow value) within the 24 hour period preceding the withdrawal or if the withdrawal will result in a streamflow below the 7Q10.

n. The docket holder shall comply with the requirements contained in EFFLUENT TABLES A-1 and A-2 contained in Section A.4.c. of this docket. The docket holder shall submit the required monitoring results to the DRBC Project Review Section within 30 days of completion of these tests.

o. The docket holder shall pay for surface water use in accordance with Administrative Manual – Part III Basin Regulations – Water Supply Charges.

p. Within 30 days of completion of construction of the approved project, the docket holder is to submit to the attention of the Project Review Section of DRBC a Construction Completion Statement ("Statement") signed by the docket holder's professional engineer for the project. The Statement must (a) either confirm that construction has been completed in a manner consistent with any and all DRBC-approved plans or explain how the as-built project deviates from such plans; (b) report the project's final construction cost as such cost is defined by the project review fee schedule in effect at the time application was made; and (c) indicate the date on which the project was (or is to be) placed in operation. In the event that the final project cost exceeds the estimated cost used by the applicant to calculate the DRBC project review fee, the statement must also include (d) the amount of any outstanding balance owed for DRBC review. Such outstanding balance will equal the difference between the fee paid to the Commission and the fee calculated on the basis of the project's final cost, using the formula and definition of "project cost" set forth in the DRBC's project review fee schedule in effect at the time application was made.

q. This approval of the construction of facilities described in this docket shall expire three years from date below unless prior thereto the docket holder has commenced operation of the subject project or has provided the Executive Director with written notification that is has expended substantial funds (in relation to the cost of the project) in reliance upon this docket approval.

r. The docket holder is permitted to provide the water approved in this docket to the areas included in Section A.3. Area Served of this docket. Any expansion beyond those included in Section A.3. Area Served is subject to DRBC review and approval in accordance with Section 3.8 of the *Compact*.

s. The docket holder shall report to the Commission Project Review Section Supervisor any violation of the docket conditions within 48-hours of the occurrence or upon the docket holder becoming aware of the violation. In addition, the docket holder shall report in writing any violations of the pass by requirements, the instantaneous or total allocation, the approved operations plan or any other docket conditions to the Commission Project Review Section Supervisor within three days of the violation. The docket holder shall also provide a written explanation of the causes of the violation within 30 days of the violation and shall set forth the action(s) the docket holder has taken to correct the violation and protect against a future violation.

t. This docket constitutes a special use permit under Section 6.3.4 of the Commission's Flood Plain Regulations for a pipeline within floodway and flood fringe areas.

u. If the monitoring required herein, or any other data or information demonstrates that the operation of this project significantly affects or interferes with any domestic or other existing uses of ground or surface water, or if the docket holder receives a complaint by any existing ground or surface water users within the zone of influence of the withdrawal, the docket holder shall immediately notify the Executive Director of any complaints by any ground or surface users within the zone of influence of the withdrawal, and unless excused by the Executive Director, shall investigate such complaints. The docket holder should direct phone call notifications of potential well or surface water interference or complaints of interference to the DRBC Project Review Section at 609-883-9500, extension 216. Oral notification must always be followed up in writing directed to the Executive Director. In addition, the docket holder shall provide written notification to all potentially impacted users of wells or surface water supplies of the docket holder's responsibilities under this condition. Any ground or surface water user which is substantially adversely affected, rendered dry or otherwise diminished as a result of the docket holder's project withdrawal, shall be repaired, replaced or otherwise mitigated at the expense of the docket holder. A report of investigation and/or mitigation plan prepared by a hydrologist shall be submitted to the Executive Director as soon as practicable. The Executive Director shall make the final determination regarding the validity of such complaints, the scope or sufficiency of such investigations, and the extent of appropriate mitigation measures, if required.

v. Nothing herein shall be construed to exempt the docket holder from obtaining all necessary permits and/or approvals from other State, Federal or local government agencies having jurisdiction over this project.

w. The Executive Director may modify or suspend this approval or any condition thereof, or require mitigating measures pending additional review, if in the Executive Director's judgment such modification or suspension is required to protect the water resources of the Basin.

x. The issuance of this docket approval shall not create any private or proprietary rights in the water of the Basin, and the Commission reserves the rights to amend, alter or rescind any actions taken hereunder in order to insure the proper control, use and management of the water resources of the Basin.

y. Renewal of this docket does not resolve violations, if any, by the docket holder that may have occurred prior to this renewal or that may be ongoing ("prior or ongoing violations") of provisions of the Delaware River Basin Compact ("Compact") or of any rule, regulation, order or approval duly issued by the Commission or the Executive Director pursuant to the Compact. The Commission reserves its right to take appropriate enforcement action against the docket holder, including but not limited to recovery of financial penalties consistent with Section 14.17 of the Compact, for any and all such prior or ongoing violations.

z. Any person who objects to a docket decision by the Commission may request a hearing in accordance with Article 6 of the *Rules of Practice and Procedure*. In accordance with Section 15.1(p) of the Delaware River Basin Compact, cases and controversies arising under the Compact are reviewable in the United States district courts.

BY THE COMMISSION

APPROVAL DATE: June 10, 2015