



October 2, 2020

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20426

Attention: Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary

Re: El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C.;  
Docket No. CP20-483-000  
Carlsbad South Project  
Weekly Environmental Inspector Report No. 5

Commissioners:

El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. ("EPNG") is hereby filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission") in Docket No. CP20-483-000, its weekly status report related to the Carlsbad South Project ("Project").

### **Description of Proceeding**

On June 19, 2020, EPNG filed a prior notice request pursuant to Sections 157.205, 157.208(b), and 157.210 of the Commission's regulations under the Natural Gas Act for authorization to construct an approximate 17.1-mile sixteen-inch (16") outside diameter ("O.D.") loop line of its existing sixteen-inch (16") O.D. Line No. 3191 in Eddy County, New Mexico as well as to undertake minor appurtenant facility modifications at an existing compressor station at Lea County, New Mexico. This project is referred to as the Carlsbad South Project. At the conclusion of the notice period for the Carlsbad South Project on August 24, 2020, the project was deemed approved.

### **Submittal of Status Report**

In compliance with Section 157.208(c)(10) of the Natural Gas Act, EPNG is providing Environmental Inspector Report No. 5 for the period of September 21, 2020 through September 27, 2020.

**Filing Information**

EPNG is e-Filing this letter and report with the Commission's Secretary in accordance with the Commission's Order No. 703, *Filing Via the Internet*, guidelines issued on November 15, 2007 in Docket No. RM07-16-000.

Respectfully submitted,

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.

By \_\_\_\_\_ /s/  
Francisco Tarin  
Director, Regulatory

Enclosures

**Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that I have this day caused a copy of the foregoing documents to be served upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Commission's Secretary in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of Section 385.2010 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado as of this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2020.

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<b>EPNG's Weekly Environmental Inspector Report No. 5</b>		
<b>Docket No. CP20-483-000</b>		
<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Carlsbad South Project</b>	
<b>County/State:</b>	Eddy and Lea Counties, New Mexico	<b>Date: 10/02/2020</b>
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	09/21/2020 – 09/27/2020	
<b>Environmental Inspectors:</b>	Raymond Patton, Mark Cosby, Danny Day, Adam Eddy	
<p><b>1. SUMMARY OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY FOR INSPECTION PERIOD:</b></p> <p><u>Line No. 31113:</u> Fencing, grading and grubbing activities continued. Erosion control devices (ECD) were installed along ROW. Ditching of pipeline trench continued. HDD at Longhorn Road (Station No. 888+75) started. Additional construction spread was added.</p> <p><u>Eunice Compressor Station Modifications:</u> Eunice Compressor Station modifications work continued.</p> <p><u>Ancillary Facilities:</u> No updates during this reporting period.</p> <p><b>2. RELEVANT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES:</b> During this reporting period, sixty-eight (68) people received environmental training. A total of three-hundred thirty-one (331) people have received the training.</p> <p>Water trucks operating on Permanent Access Road (PAR) 1 and 3 for dust control.</p> <p><b>3. ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS/ISSUES AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN:</b> A total of four karst features were identified during the reporting period. Three (3) features were located at Station Number 189+00, and one (1) feature at Station Number 303+70. Silt fence and ECDs were installed around all the features to protect them from sediment and construction impacts. The karst monitor is coordinating with the contractor regarding working in the vicinity of these features at Station Number 189+00. Of the three sites at Station Number 189+00, one site is within the trench line and will require an adjustment to the trench line, the other two are located within the temporary workspace. The site at Station Number 303+70 will be inspected by the karst geologist during the next reporting period. The karst monitor will be present to oversee any construction activities near those features.</p> <p>On September 25, 2020 an inadvertent return occurred at Station Number 888+75 where the project crosses Long Horn Road via HDD. Approximately 25 gallons of drilling fluid was released within a rock construction entrance (RCE). The inadvertent return occurred in an upland area and was cleaned up by contractor. The rock and geotec fabric used for the RCE were removed and replaced, in addition to the subsoil. All the material was placed in a container for sampling and disposal.</p> <p>Note that the following HDD incidental release occurred this week. However, EPNG is including a description of this incidental release in this report to more timely disclose the incident.</p> <p>On September 28, 2020, an inadvertent return occurred in the ROW at Station Number 104+78. Upon identifying the return, HDD drilling was immediately stopped. Approximately 64 gallons of drilling mud spilled into a project access road. EPNG estimates that one gallon of drilling mud entered an adjacent irrigation canal located in the vicinity of the incidental release. The drilling mud was contained with straw bales and removed by a vacuum truck and by hand. The collected drilling mud was sampled and disposed. The affected landowner and respective agencies were notified within 24 hours of the incident.</p>		

After reviewing the incident, EPNG's drilling contractor initiated activities to seal the fracture on September 29, 2020. Drill mud with Magfiber and Super Swell additives was pumped into the drill hole. At this point, EPNG and the drilling contractor are evaluating the current HDD drill location.

**4. ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE ISSUES/RESOLUTIONS:**

No compliance issues or concerns were identified during this reporting period.

**5. ISSUES AND CONCERNS IDENTIFIED BY LANDOWNERS:**

No landowner issues or concerns were identified during this reporting period.

**6. WORK PLANNED FOR THE FOLLOWING REPORTING PERIOD:**

Fencing, clearing, grading activities, trenching and pipe installation will continue. Eunice Compressor Station work will continue. Two additional Environmental Inspectors were added to support a second construction spread.

**Carlsbad South Project**

**Location:** Station Number 189+00 and 188+74

**Direction of Photo:** West

**Description:** Karst area with ECDs and signs.

**Date:** 9/21/2020



**Location:** PAR 03 Access Road. Station No. 218+00

**Direction of Photo:** North

**Description:** Crew installing silt fence along the edge of ROW for erosion control.

**Date:** 9/22/2020



**Carlsbad South Project**

**Location:** Station Number 476+90  
**Direction of Photo:** Northwest  
**Description:** Hydro-vac crew exposing hot line.  
**Date:** 9/25/2020



**Location:** Station Number 622+00  
**Direction of Photo:** South  
**Description:** Erosion controls installed along ROW.  
**Date:** 9/25/2020



**Carlsbad South Project**

**Location:** Station Number 888+75  
**Direction of Photo:** South  
**Description:** Inadvertent return surfacing under rock construction entrance at Longhorn Road.  
**Date:** 9/25/2020



**Location:** Station Number 888+75  
**Direction of Photo:** Northeast  
**Description:** Area of inadvertent return after clean up. No additional returns observed.  
**Date:** 9/27/2020





**Carlsbad South Project**

**Location:** Station Number 672+00  
**Direction of Photo:** Southwest  
**Description:** Crew trenching ditch line at dry wash area with ECDs in place.  
**Date:** 9/27/2020



**Location:** Station Number 104+78  
**Direction of Photo:** West  
**Description:** Drilling mud at irrigation canal.  
**Date:** 9/28/2020



**Carlsbad South Project**

**Location:** Station Number 104+78  
**Direction of Photo:** West  
**Description:** Drilling mud at access road.  
**Date:** 9/28/2020



**Location:** Station Number 104+78  
**Direction of Photo:** West  
**Description:** Installed ECD's after cleanup of drilling mud via vacuum truck at the access road.  
**Date:** 9/28/2020



**Carlsbad South Project**

**Location:** Station Number 303+70  
**Direction of Photo:**  
**Description:** Karst feature.  
**Date:** 9/26/2020



**Location:** Station Number 303+70  
**Direction of Photo:**  
**Description:** Karst feature.  
**Date:** 9/26/2020