



El Paso Natural Gas
Company, L.L.C.
a Kinder Morgan company

September 14, 2026

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

Attention: Ms. Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary

Re: El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C.;
Docket No. CP26-558-000
OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Responses to Data Request

Dear Ms. Reese:

On August 28, 2026, El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. ("EPNG") received an environmental data request ("Data Request") from the Office of Energy Projects ("OEP") seeking information pertaining to the proposed McCloud Lateral Project. EPNG is herein filing its responses with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission").

Description of Proceeding

On July 30, 2026, EPNG submitted a Request for Prior Notice Authorization Pursuant to Blanket Certificate in the above-referenced docket seeking authorization to construct, install, operate and maintain an approximately 5.8-mile, 16-inch outside diameter pipeline lateral, and a new delivery meter station and related appurtenances, located in El Paso County, Texas as part of its McCloud Lateral Project.

Description of Information Being Filing

EPNG is herein submitting its responses to the Data Request.

Filing Information

EPNG is e-Filing this letter and its responses 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.

September 14, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

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

By /s/
Francisco Tarin
Director, Regulatory

Enclosures

Cc. Mr. Joel Cornwall, OEP

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
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ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REQUEST

Resource Report 1

1. Provide a summary of the boring method for the proposed crossing at the Borderland Expressway at about Station (Sta) 50+00 to Sta 60+00, including the size and depth of entry/exit pits, whether drilling mud would be used, and the depth of the bore below the land surface.

Response:

EPNG intends to utilize a horizontal directional drill (“HDD”) method for the proposed crossing at the Borderland Expressway, a Texas Department of Transportation (“TXDOT”) highway, between Station 50+00 and Station 60+00. EPNG elected this method as the preferred method to allow for the pipe installation at a safe depth under the expressway to avoid interfering with TXDOT’s construction. Attachment 1-1 attached hereto includes EPNG’s HDD Contingency Plan that provides a summary of the HDD for the proposed crossing at the Borderland Expressway, including the dimensions and depths of entry/exit pits, whether drilling mud would be used, and the depth of the HDD below the land surface.

In addition to the Borderland Expressway, EPNG is proposing a second HDD method for the proposed crossing of Stan Roberts Sr Avenue between Station 160+00 and Station 170+00. EPNG has chosen this road crossing method to avoid damaging the four-lane road and associated landscaping, and to avoid impacts to traffic flow. EPNG’s HDD Contingency Plan being provided as Attachment 1-1, also applies to the HDD crossing at Stan Roberts Sr Avenue. EPNG affirms that all workspaces required for both of the proposed HDD crossings were incorporated and planned within the workspace locations and calculations that in EPNG’s application filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) for the McCloud Lateral Project (the “Project”). No additional workspace beyond what was presented in the application will be required for these crossings.

EPNG notes that there are no noise sensitive areas (“NSA”) located within a one-mile radius of either proposed HDD crossing. The closest NSA to the crossing of Borderland Expressway is located more than 1.5 miles northeast of the crossing while the closest NSA to the crossing of Stan Roberts Sr Avenue is approximately 1.1 mile north of the crossing.

While EPNG does not anticipate nighttime operations, EPNG acknowledges that there is a potential for 24-hour HDD operations associated with the pullback portion of the HDD. However, given there are no NSAs within a 1-mile radius, EPNG believes the impact will be minimal if EPNG needs to conduct HDD operations at night.

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Response prepared by or under the supervision of:

Megan Mater
Environmental Permitting Project Manager
Kinder Morgan EHS Project Permitting
719-520-4450

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2. Provide an updated alignment sheet/profile that accurately portrays the cover depth between the land surface and the proposed pipeline for the proposed Borderland Expressway crossing.

Response:

EPNG is providing plan and profiles as part of the HDD Plan included as Attachment 1-1 for both the proposed Borderland Expressway and the Stan Roberts Sr Avenue crossings that illustrates the cover depth between the land surface and the proposed pipeline.

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Resource Report 2

3. Section 2.1.3 states there are 51 water supply wells within 3 miles of the Project. Provide a list of all water supply wells within 150 feet of the Project workspaces, including their type, status, and distance and direction from the nearest Project milepost or facility.

Response:

EPNG identified two water supply wells that are located within 150 feet of Project workspaces. Both wells are identified on the alignment sheets provided in the Application filed with FERC on July 30, 2026 (Appendix 1B of Resource Report 1). One well is located south of station 90+00 and the second well is located north and west of station 10+00. As indicated in Section 2.1.4, the water wells measure 870 and 603 feet in depth, respectively.

During project development, EPNG coordinated closely with City of El Paso officials to evaluate the proposed pipeline alignment and easements in the vicinity of these wells. Based on that coordination, the City of El Paso approved the route as currently proposed. To further minimize the potential for impacts to the wells during Project construction and operation, EPNG committed to maintaining a 150-foot setback between the pipeline centerline and each well.

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4. Summarize the procedures that EPNG would follow to prevent effects on wells within 150 feet of the Project, including pre- and post-construction testing, repair or replacement criteria, and providing an alternate water supply to well owners.

Response:

As a general measure, EPNG will implement mitigation measures and Project-specific best management practices (“BMPs”) detailed in the Environmental Construction Plan (“ECP”) (Appendix 1C of Resource Report 1) to protect groundwater resources during construction and operation of the Project. The ECP includes the FERC Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan (“FERC Plan”), the FERC Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures (“FERC Procedures”) and the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan. Additionally, EPNG is currently developing a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (“SWPPP”) to control sedimentation and erosion within the construction right of way.

Based on proximity of the Project to the existing El Paso municipal drinking water wells (i.e., the two wells are approximately 180 feet and 165 feet from the centerline), EPNG will establish 500-foot exclusion zones around each well during construction. Within these exclusion zones, refueling of construction equipment and overnight parking of construction machinery will be prohibited. The two additional temporary workspace locations within this exclusion zone will be limited to daytime construction parking, storage of excess soil, and staging of non-petroleum containing construction equipment.

EPNG will also coordinate with the City of El Paso water utility to collect pre-construction, and post-construction water samples for both of the water supply wells to verify that construction has not introduced contamination into either well. In the unlikely event that post-construction testing indicates contamination resulting from Project construction, EPNG will coordinate with the City of El Paso to come to a resolution to provide an alternate source of water as necessary. .

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5. Section 2.1.1 states “According to [the Texas Water Development Board], there is one active and two historical producing water wells in proximity to the Project being used for public supply.” Section 2.1.6 states “Based on proximity to the existing El Paso municipal drinking water wells, EPNG will create 500-foot exclusion zones around both of the wells during the construction phase,” and “The two ATWSs within this exclusion zone will be used for daytime construction parking, storage of excess soil, and staging of non-petroleum containing construction equipment.” State whether the City of El Paso or other regulatory agency has approved of the proposed activities within the 500-foot exclusion zones of these two wells.

Response:

As part of project development and easement negotiations, the City of El Paso approved the routing of EPNG’s proposed McCloud Lateral route on land owned by the City. As part of such negotiations, EPNG agreed to establish a 150-foot setback for the pipeline centerline from both the wells to minimize potential impacts resulting from construction and operation of the Project. Additionally, EPNG proactively established 500-foot construction exclusion zones around each well to provide an added level of protection for the wells. These expanded exclusion zones further restrict construction activities in the vicinity of the wells and are intended to reduce the potential for inadvertent impacts to groundwater resources.

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Resource Report 3

6. Section 3.2.4 states that shrub-scrub vegetation would be temporarily affected by temporary laydown/storage areas and temporary workspaces areas and permanently affected by the proposed right-of-way. It further indicates that post-construction restoration methods would include recontouring ground surfaces to pre-existing conditions, reseeding after ground disturbances per NRCS guidance for seeding species and rates provided in Resource Report 1, Appendix 1E, and following our Plan and Procedures. The NRCS seed recommendations only include grass species. Clarify if EPNG would re-establish shrub-scrub vegetation.

Response:

EPNG intends to use the seed mix recommended by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (“NRCS”) to facilitate rapid stabilization and revegetation of disturbed areas following construction. Based on discussions with the City of El Paso, EPNG reduced the permanent ROW to a 30-foot width to minimize restrictions on further development of the impacted parcels. While the City of El Paso did not detail any imminent or proposed projects, EPNG assumes that the currently undeveloped lands traversed by the proposed McCloud Lateral will be developed at some point in the future.

EPNG does anticipate that natural recruitment of shrub species from adjacent lands will occur along portions of the temporary workspaces and additional temporary workspaces that are not subject to future maintenance activities or future development. At the present time, EPNG is not anticipating needing to actively re-establish shrub-scrub vegetation.

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7. The laydown yards referred to in section 3.2.4 are not accounted for in land requirements and land use summaries. Provide locations, acreage, current land uses, and vegetation types for the laydown/storage areas.

Response:

The laydown yards referenced in Section 3.2.4 of Resource Report 3 are accounted for in the land requirements and land use summaries included with EPNG's Application. The laydown yards are accounted for in the Additional Temporary Workspace ("ATWS") category in Table 1.4-1 in Resource Report 1 and in Table 7.2-1 in Resource Report 7, which reflect a total of 14.52 acres of project temporary construction acres. Based on the length of the pipeline lateral, coupled with the configuration of the pipeline, EPNG designed ATWS locations at all the points of inflection in the pipeline, and included expanded workspaces inside the footprint of EPNG's existing El Paso Compressor Station to accommodate equipment staging, material storage, and laydown activities. As discussed in Section 1.4, ATWS locations are also proposed adjacent to the proposed McCloud Meter Station to provide the construction contractor with additional space for parking and staging of equipment. As such, the laydown/storage areas referenced in Section 3.2.4 are accounted for in the "Additional temporary workspace" rows in the land requirement tables and land use summaries as noted above.

EPNG is providing below an additional table, Table 7.2-3 that provides a summary of the 17 ATWS locations depicted on the Project alignment sheets, the approximate station number, the purpose of the ATWS, and the land use classification of each workspace. With the exception of portions of ATWS 1 within the existing El Paso Compressor Station that are mapped as developed land, the remaining additional temporary workspaces are classified as shrub-scrub habitat.

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Table 7.2-3 McCloud Lateral Additional Temporary Workspace Breakdown				
ATWS	Approximate Station	Purpose	Developed Land (acres)	Shrub Scrub (acres)
ATWS 1	0+00	El Paso Compressor Station Laydown, Staging, Parking Turnaround	1.12	4.75
ATWS 2	35+00	CR 2637 Road Bore South side	-	0.70
ATWS 3 & 4	35+00	CR 2637 Road Bore North side	-	0.58
ATWS 5 & 6	53+00	Borderland Expressway HDD South Side	-	0.59
ATWS 7, 8, and 9	60+00	Borderland Expressway HDD North Side Pull String, Staging, Parking Turnaround	-	1.50
ATWS 10	89+00	Staging, Turnaround	-	0.48
ATWS 11	11+00	Staging, Turnaround	-	0.52
ATWS 12 & 13 ^a	160+00	Stan Roberts HDD, South Side	-	1.89
ATWS 14	165+00	Stan Roberts HDD, North Side	-	0.84
ATWS 15	215+00	Staging, Parking Turnaround	-	0.51
ATWS 16	303+00	Staging, Parking Turnaround	-	0.50
ATWS 17	309+00	Meter Station Staging, Parking	-	0.53
Total			1.12	13.39
EPNG designed the Stan Roberts Sr Avenue Crossing to allow the contractor to conduct the HDD boring activities from either side to maintain flexibility. As presented in response to EIR question 2, the current plan is to locate the HDD drill on the south side of the road and use the proposed ROW to assemble and weld the pull string.				

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8. Tables 3.4.1-1 and 3.4.2-1 do not include all the species listed on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Official Species List provided in Appendix 1E. The Natural Resources Assessment Report in Appendix 2A indicates that species in New Mexico were not analyzed because no construction or improvements would be required in the portion of the Project that falls within New Mexico. Include a description of these species with an effects determination in tables 3.4.1-1 and 3.4.2-1.

Response:

A revised Table 3.4.1-1 is provided below; expanded to include all the species that are presented in the United States Fish and Wildlife Information for Planning and Planning (“IPaC”) results. This revision was made because the existing access road spur extending across the Texas border into New Mexico.

EPNG is also providing a revised Table 3.4.2-1, which includes a habitat description, assessment of suitable habitat within the Project area, the potential for occurrence, and effects determination for all species identified in the IPaC.

Table Error! No text of specified style in document.-1 USFWS Federally Listed Species Potentially Present in the Project Area		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
<i>Tamias minimus atristriatus</i>	Penasco least chipmunk	Endangered
<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>	Northern aplomado falcon (in NM)	Experimental Population, Non-Essential
<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>	Northern aplomado falcon (in TX)	Endangered
<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping plover	Threatened
<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Red knot	Threatened
<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Yellow-billed cuckoo	Threatened
<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch butterfly	Proposed Threatened
<i>Cirsium vinaceum</i>	Sacramento mountains thistle	Threatened
<i>Argemone pleiakantha</i> ssp. <i>pinnatisecta</i>	Sacramento prickly poppy	Endangered
Source: USFWS 2026a.		

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Table Error! No text of specified style in document. 2 Effects Determinations for the McCloud Lateral Project						
Common Name	Scientific Name	Protection Status	Preferred Habitat	Suitable Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence	Effects Determination
Birds						
Penasco least chipmunk	<i>Tamias minimus atristriatus</i>	Federally Endangered	This subspecies encompasses two disjunct populations found in the Sacramento Mountains and White Mountains in New Mexico. Within the Sacramento mountains, habitat is generally described as mature, open ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosa) forest savanna and adjacent valley meadows. Within the White mountains, habitat is generally described as high-elevation subalpine Thurber's fescue (Festuca thurberi) meadow biotic community with large diameter sparse conifer trees (USFWS 2024)	No suitable habitat is present in Project Area	Does not occur	<i>No effect.</i>
Northern Aplomado falcon	<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>	Federally Endangered	Habitat is variable throughout the species range and includes palm and oak savannahs, various desert grassland associations, and open pine woodlands. Within these variations, the essential habitat elements appear to be open terrain with scattered trees, relatively low ground cover, an abundance of insects and small to medium-sized birds, and a supply of nest sites (USFWS 2025d).	No suitable habitat is present in Project Area	Unlikely	<i>No effect</i>
Piping plover*	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Federally Threatened	Migrant: Estuarine habitats include tidal flats/shore; Palustrine habitats include riparian wetlands; Terrestrial habitats include sand/dunes; Breeding occurs in sandy upper beaches. Found on the Great Plains on shorelines around small alkaline lakes; large reservoir beaches, river islands and adjacent sand pits, beaches on large lakes, and industrial pond shorelines (USFWS 2025c).	No suitable habitat is present in Project area.	Unlikely	<i>No effect.</i>

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Protection Status	Preferred Habitat	Suitable Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence	Effects Determination
Rufa red knot*	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Federally Threatened	Migrant: Estuarine habitats include tidal flats/shore and herbaceous wetlands; terrestrial habitats include sand/dunes and tundra. Primarily seacoasts on tidal flats and beaches, less frequently in marshes and flooded fields. On sandy or pebbly beaches, especially at river mouths; feeds on mudflats, loafs and sleeps in <i>Salinas</i> and salt-pond dikes. Nests on ground in barren or stony tundra and in well-vegetated moist tundra (USFWS 2025d).	No suitable habitat is present in Project area.	Unlikely	<i>No effect.</i>
Yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Federally Threatened	Yellow-billed Cuckoos use wooded habitat with dense cover and water nearby, including woodlands with low, scrubby, vegetation, overgrown orchards, abandoned farmland, and dense thickets along streams and marshes. In the Midwest, look for cuckoos in shrublands of mixed willow and dogwood, and in dense stands of small trees such as American elm. In the central and eastern U.S., yellow-billed cuckoos nest in oaks, beech, hawthorn, and ash. In the West, nests are often placed in willows along streams and rivers, with nearby cottonwoods serving as foraging sites (USFWS 2025d).	No suitable habitat is present in Project area	Unlikely	<i>No effect.</i>
Insects						
Monarch butterfly	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Federally Proposed Threatened	During the spring and summer months of their annual migration from central Mexico to their northern breeding grounds, Monarchs depend upon open fields and meadows that contain milkweeds (<i>Asclepias</i> spp.) and a variety of nectar-producing plant species. During the breeding season,	No suitable habitat is present in Project area.	Unlikely	<i>No effect</i>

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Protection Status	Preferred Habitat	Suitable Habitat Present	Potential for Occurrence	Effects Determination
			Monarchs lay their eggs on their obligate milkweed host plant (primarily <i>Asclepias</i> spp.) – the sole food source of the Monarch caterpillar (UFSWS 2025f).			
Flowering Plants						
Sacramento Mountain thistle	<i>Cirsium vinaceum</i>	Federally Threatened	This species is an endemic species to the Sacramento Mountains and is only found in elevations between 2,460 and 3,020 meters; this species is a wetland-obligate species confined to wet travertine deposits on springs and seeps, and water saturated alkaline soils in open valley bottoms (USFWS 2022a).	No suitable habitat is present in Project Area	Does not occur	<i>No effect.</i>
Sacramento prickly poppy	<i>Argemone pleiacantha</i> spp. <i>pinnatisecta</i>	Federally Endangered	This species is endemic to the Sacramento Mountains with its entire range estimated at 230 square kilometers along the western face of the mountain range; this species occurs in steep, rocky canyons between the pinyon/juniper zone of the Chihuahuan Desert and the ponderosa pine community (USFWS 2022b).	No suitable habitat is present in Project Area	Does not occur	<i>No effect</i>
*= This species is only considered for wind energy projects.						

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Environmental Permitting Project Manager
Kinder Morgan EHS Project Permitting
719-520-4450

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9. Table 3.4.2-1 indicates that the Project area contains marginal northern Aplomado falcon habitat, and that there is a low potential for occurrence for the species within the Project area. However, the table indicates that the Project would have no effect on the northern Aplomado falcon. The “no effect” determination is not consistent with the potential for individuals to occur within the Project area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a statewide determination key to streamline informal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Provide an updated Information for Planning and Consultation Report and completed determination key for all species covered by the key. Consider evaluating the section of the Project in New Mexico separate from the section of the Project in Texas.

Response:

As presented in response to question No. 8, EPNG modified the response with respect to the northern Aplomado falcon and its presence of suitable habitat within the Project area. EPNG’s environmental contractor, Tetra Tech, notes that although the northern Aplomado falcon may occur incidentally throughout west Texas due to its wide-ranging avian habits, any occurrence within the Project area would be expected to be transient in nature, limited primarily to occasional flyovers. Further, Tetra Tech determined that the habitat traversed by the Project lacks the key characteristics typically associated with northern Aplomado falcon habitat. The northern Aplomado falcon prefers open grassland dominated habitats with scattered trees from which the species can perch. As described in Resource Report 3, vegetation within the Project area is predominantly shrub-scrub in nature, dominated by mesquite and creosote bush. Neither expanses of grassland nor scattered trees were present in the Project area. Based on the lack of suitable habitat in the Project area, Tetra Tech concludes that construction and operation of the Project will have no effect on the northern Aplomado falcon.

As part of this response, Tetra Tech re-ran the USFWS IPaC tool, excluding the New Mexico portion, to allow use of the statewide determination key. The most recent IPaC (inclusive of the determination key) is being provided herein as Attachments 9-1A and 9-1B. Based on the most recent run of the determination key, the northern Aplomado falcon yielded a “no effect” determination. Conversely, the yellow-billed cuckoo yielded a “not likely to adversely affect” determination. While the yellow-billed cuckoo may migrate through the Project area, the key aspects of yellow-billed cuckoo habitat, namely, willows and riparian vegetation along stream corridors, are absent in the Project area. Based on the lack of suitable habitat in the Project area, Tetra Tech concludes that there will be no effect to the yellow-billed cuckoo from either the construction or operation of the Project.

As discussed in Section 3.4.2, and consistent with multiple recent projects under the jurisdiction of the USFWS Austin Ecological Services Field Office, the USFWS does not provide concurrence in writing regarding IPaC no effect determinations.

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Resource Report 4

10. The New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office's finding of effects letter lacks the signature of the approving official. Provide a complete copy of the effects determination letter.

Response:

The New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office's finding of effects letter, including the digital signature, is provided as Attachment 10-1.

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Resource Report 9

11. Identify and describe all federal, state, and local air quality regulations and air quality permits that would apply or be required for the equipment installed at the McCloud Meter Station.

Response:

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (“TCEQ”) regulates air quality and is responsible for issuing any air quality permits that would apply or be required for the equipment installed at the proposed McCloud Meter Station.

In Texas, natural gas meter stations generally do not require a separate air permit if they are considered “*de minimis*” sources under the state’s air permitting rules. TCEQ defines a *de minimis* facility as one that emits pollutants below certain thresholds and meets specific operational and equipment standards.

Based on the anticipated minimal emissions associated with the McCloud Meter Station, EPNG determined that a separate permit would not be required and the meter station would be considered a *de minimis* source. While no air permit is needed, the facility must still comply with applicable air quality standards.

The specific regulations applicable to the McCloud Meter Station include:

- 30 Texas Administrative Code (“TAC”) Chapter 111, Subchapter A for Visible Emissions controls.
- 30 TAC Chapter 115, Subchapter B for VOC vent gas controls.
- 30 TAC Chapter 106 & Chapter 116 for air permitting.

No federal “air” rules apply to the equipment associated with the Project.

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12. Describe the number of blowdown events and the volume of gas released during construction activities for methane and greenhouse gas in tons of carbon dioxide equivalence (CO₂e).

Response:

The connection of the lateral to the EPNG mainline systems will be completed as hot taps. Therefore, there are no planned blowdown events during construction of the Project.

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13. Indicate whether construction blowdowns would occur during nighttime hours. If so, describe the number and duration of blowdown events, estimate the noise effect at the nearest noise sensitive areas (NSA), and provide a description of any noise mitigation that would be implemented during nighttime blowdown events to reduce noise effects attributable to the equipment at the NSAs below a day/night averaged level (Ldn) of 55 decibels on the A-weighted scale.

Response:

As noted in its response to Question No. 12, the connection of the lateral to the EPNG mainline systems will be completed as hot taps. Therefore, there are no planned blowdown events occurring during daytime or nighttime hours.

Response prepared by or under the supervision of:

Megan Mater
Environmental Permitting Project Manager
Kinder Morgan EHS Project Permitting
719-520-4450

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
Responses to Environmental Information Request – OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Dated August 28, 2026 in Docket No. CP26-558-000
McCloud Lateral Project

14. Describe the expected types of blowdown facilities (e.g., individual unit, full station, etc.), estimate the average number of yearly blowdowns by type, and estimate the amount of gas released per event type for methane and greenhouse gas in tons of CO₂e.

Response:

As noted above in its responses to Question Nos. 12 and 13, there are no planned blowdown events during construction of the Project given the connection of the lateral to the EPNG mainline systems will be completed as hot taps. For the purposes of estimating fugitive emissions as part of Resource Report 9, EPNG assumed four proving events per year for the meter station. These proving events involve testing the emergency shutdown system of the meter station facility to ensure it is functioning properly. These events are isolated to the meter station piping and results in limited gas release. Such proving events are not typically considered a blowdown event and will not involve an entire lateral blowdown. The minimal methane and greenhouse emissions associated with these proving events were included in Appendix 9B of EPNG's Application, which presents an estimate of the operational emissions associated with the Project.

Response prepared by or under the supervision of:

Megan Mater
Environmental Permitting Project Manager
Kinder Morgan EHS Project Permitting
719-520-4450

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
Responses to Environmental Information Request – OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Dated August 28, 2026 in Docket No. CP26-558-000
McCloud Lateral Project

15. Provide a table and topographic map of all NSAs within 0.5 miles of the Project including their distance and direction to the Project.

Response:

EPNG has prepared this response in coordination with Tetra Tech. Tetra Tech has identified NSAs located within 0.5 miles of the McCloud Meter Station, the only project component to be an operational noise source.

Figure 15-1 (a topographic map) and Figure 15-2 (an aerial map) are being provided as part of this response. These figures illustrate all identified NSAs located within 0.5 miles of the proposed McCloud Meter Station. These NSAs are located north of the meter station and located in the unincorporated community of Chaparral, New Mexico. EPNG is opting to submit only the figures in lieu of a table because they better illustrate NSAs in the vicinity of the meter station.

Tetra Tech used the USA Structures dataset provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”), the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (“ORNL”) and the United States Geological Survey (“USGS”) to mark known residences and commercial businesses. Structures that were unmarked or uncertain of occupancy type, were marked based on the best available imagery and information. Where definitive conclusions could not be drawn, Tetra Tech erred on the conservative side and considered a structure to be residential.

Based on this review, Tetra Tech estimates that 94 residences and 9 commercial business structures are located within 0.5 miles of the proposed McCloud Meter Station.

The closest residence, NSA 1, is located approximately 780 feet northwest from the meter station. A second residence, NSA 2 is approximately 910 feet from the McCloud Meter Station. A third residence, NSA 3, is located approximately 900 feet northeast of the meter station.¹ Additionally, Tetra Tech estimates that eight residences are located within approximately 1,320 feet, or 0.25 miles of the proposed meter station. As shown on the attached figures, the two closest structures are commercial businesses located approximately 750 feet north of the McCloud Meter Station.

Response prepared by or under the supervision of:

Megan Mater
Environmental Permitting Project Manager
Kinder Morgan EHS Project Permitting
719-520-4450

¹ NSAs 1, 2, and 3 referenced here are depicted and referenced in the McCloud Meter Station acoustical analysis being provided as Attachment 16-1 below.

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
Responses to Environmental Information Request – OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Dated August 28, 2026 in Docket No. CP26-558-000
McCloud Lateral Project

16. Provide an acoustical analysis for the McCloud Meter Station identifying the noise impacts for maximum flow at NSAs within 0.5 mile and identify any mitigation to ensure that noise impacts from the meter station do not exceed 55 A-weighted day-night averaged decibels.

Response:

EPNG is providing an acoustical analysis as prepared by Tetra Tech, for the proposed McCloud Meter Station as Attachment 16-1 that demonstrates that noise impacts from the proposed meter station do not exceed 55 A-weighted day-night averaged decibels at the closest NSA.

Response prepared by or under the supervision of:

Megan Mater
Environmental Permitting Project Manager
Kinder Morgan EHS Project Permitting
719-473-2300

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
Responses to Environmental Information Request – OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Dated August 28, 2026 in Docket No. CP26-558-000
McCloud Lateral Project

Attachment 1-1

HDD Contingency Plan

HDD Contingency Plan and Feasibility Assessment



El Paso Natural Gas
Company, L.L.C.
a Kinder Morgan company

HDD CONTINGENCY PLAN AND FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT

McCloud Lateral Project FERC Docket CP 26-558-000

El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C.
Two North Nevada
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

September 2026

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. (EPNG) proposes to construct approximately 5.8 miles of 16-inch outside diameter pipeline lateral (McCloud Lateral) and associated measurement facilities to deliver natural gas from EPNG's existing pipeline system to an interconnect point near the planned McCloud Generation facility in El Paso County, Texas herein referred to as the McCloud Lateral Project (Project). The proposed lateral includes two planned Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) crossing near the middle of the alignment to facilitate installation under existing or planned road/highway crossings and reduce surface disturbance impacts to the road and highway to the extent practicable.

The first proposed HDD for the lateral crossing extends from approximately Sta. 50+00 at the entry to Sta. 60+00 at the exit (Borderland Express Crossing), with a true drilled length of approximately 745 feet with a maximum depth of approximately 35-ft of coverage and is designed for installation of 16-inch outer diameter (OD) x 0.312-inch wall American Petroleum Institute (API) 5L Grade X52 (or greater) pipe. Based on the current plan and profile, the HDD alignment crosses features including a planned Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) highway, making trenchless installation the preferred method for this section to install the pipe at a safe depth under the expressway and avoid interfering with TxDOT's construction at this location.

The second proposed HDD for the lateral crossing extends from approximately Sta. 160+00 at the entry to Sta. 170+00 at the exit (Stan Roberts Sr Ave), with a true drilled length of approximately 804 feet with a maximum depth of approximately 38-ft of coverage and is designed for installation of 16-inch OD x 0.312-inch wall API 5L Grade X52 (or greater) pipe. Based on the current plan and profile, the HDD alignment crosses a city road, landscaped median and electrical powerlines, making trenchless installation the preferred method for this section to avoid damaging the road and landscaping. Additionally, the HDD method at this location will avoid impacting traffic flow.

HDD construction of both crossings will include pilot hole drilling, reaming, and pullback of the prefabricated pipe string. As with any HDD operation, potential risks are introduced. This contingency plan has been prepared to establish monitoring, response, containment, notification, and cleanup procedures to address abnormal drilling conditions during construction.

1.1 Purpose of HDD Contingency Plan

The purpose of this HDD Contingency Plan is to establish procedures for monitoring HDD operations, identifying abnormal drilling conditions, responding to loss of circulation or inadvertent returns (IRs), and implementing corrective actions during construction of the HDD. This plan is intended to support safe and environmentally responsible execution of the HDD by defining anticipated response actions, notification procedures, documentation requirements, and contingency measures that may be implemented if drilling complications occur.

1.2 Reference Documents and Applicable Requirements

This plan was prepared using the project HDD drawings, alignment sheets, and applicable HDD

guidance. The following documents were used as references:

- Borderland Expressway HDD Plan and Profile drawings
- Stan Roberts Sr Ave HDD Plan and Profile drawings
- FERC Guidance for Horizontal Directional Drill Monitoring, Inadvertent Return Response, and Contingency Plans, October 2019
- Applicable project permits, environmental requirements, specifications, and contractor submittals

Where permit conditions or project requirements are more restrictive than this plan, the more restrictive requirement shall apply.

2.0 FEASIBILITY STUDY

2.1 Technical Feasibility

The final HDD depth and profile may be adjusted based off contractor review and field results during drilling operations. Detailed engineering was completed based off geotechnical studies completed in August 2026.

2.2 Duration of Work and 24-Hour Operations

The duration to complete each HDD operation is expected to last approximately 10-15 days for a total of up to 30 working days. This duration range is based on a typical single-shift construction schedule of six days per week, 10 hours per day for the pilot hole.

While 24-hour HDD operations are not anticipated, if onsite conditions warrant, uninterrupted double shifts during the reaming and pull-back phases will be utilized to avoid the bore hole from collapsing. Based on the location of the two HDD crossings to the nearest noise sensitive areas (NSA), i.e., more than 1.5 miles away from the Borderland Expressway crossing, and approximately 1.1 miles away from the Stan Roberts Sr. Avenue crossing, potential noise impacts from 24-hour HDD operations will be minimal to none.

Furthermore, EPNG plans to utilize downward-directed LED light towers to ensure safe working conditions at the entry, exit, and mud-processing areas. Lights will be shielded and aimed precisely at the work zones to minimize glare and ambient light spillover.

As noted above, double shifts may be utilized for 24-hour operations. Operational handovers will include safety and environmental compliance briefings to ensure continuous oversight of mud pressures and borehole integrity. The environmental inspector or designated inspector will conduct visual inspections of the drill path every 2-4 hours during nighttime operations using high-powered portable spotlights. All standard containment equipment-including vacuum trucks, will remain staged on-site and fully operational under artificial lighting to ensure immediate response in the event of an overnight IR.

EPNG confirms there are no waterbodies or wetlands in the vicinity of the HDD locations and no residences or NSAs within a 1-mile radius of the HDD locations.

3.0 SITE PREPARATION

3.1 Rig Site and Pull Section

Based on the length and diameter of the HDD installations, EPNG has provided sufficient workspace for the equipment anticipated to be utilized to complete the crossings. Positioning of equipment within this work area will vary due to differing contractor preferences and setup requirements, the entry point determines the location of the rig, control cab, and drill pipe. The rig must be aligned with the drilled segment and generally will be positioned no more than 25-feet back from the entry point. The control cab and drill pipe must be positioned adjacent to the rig.

The rig site must be cleared and graded as necessary to allow movement and erection of equipment. Equipment typically is supported on the ground surface although timber mats may be used if soft ground is encountered. The perimeter of the workspace will be lined with sediment barriers to prevent sediment or drilling fluids from leaving the site.

Wheeled vehicle access to the rig site must be maintained throughout the course of construction for delivery of fuel and supplies. If soft ground is encountered, access will be maintained with timber mats or geotextile fabric underneath rock.

Pull section fabrication is accomplished using the same construction methods used to lay a pipeline; therefore, similar workspace is required. It is preferable to have workspace in line with the drilled segment and extending back from the exit point. Workspace for pull section fabrication must be cleared but not necessarily graded level. Equipment typically is supported on the ground surface although timber mats may be used where soft ground is encountered.

3.2 Bore Pits

Drilling fluid collection pits will be excavated near the entry and exit points to contain drilling fluid returning from the hole so that it can be pumped to a drilling fluid recycling system to separate the drilled cuttings and be reused for subsequent drilling operations. The specific locations and dimensions of these collection pits will be determined by the selected HDD contractor based on such factors as positioning of equipment and anticipated drilling fluid pumping rates. Typically, drilling fluid collection pit dimensions are on the order of 10-feet long by 6-feet wide by 6-feet deep.

3.3 Laydown Yards

Temporary workspace locations for pull section fabrication associated with the HDDs are shown on the alignment sheets provided as Appendix 1B1 of Environmental Resource Report 1. In addition, site specific HDD plan and profile drawings are provided herein as part of this Report.

3.4 Spoil Piles

Spoil resulting from HDD operations will either be stored within the limits of the temporary workspace or hauled to a remote disposal site in accordance with applicable environmental regulations, right-of-way (ROW) and workspace agreements, and permit requirements.

3.5 Depth and Diameter of Borehole

The final depth of the HDD installation is shown on site specific HDD plan and profile drawings. The minimum diameter of the prereamed boreholes for the proposed 16-inch pipeline installations are anticipated to be at least 24 inches in accordance with HDD industry standards.

4.0 DRILLING FLUID CONTINGENCY PLAN

4.1 Background

Installation of a pipeline by HDD is generally accomplished in three stages. The first stage consists of directionally drilling a small diameter pilot hole along a designed directional path. The second stage involves enlarging the pilot hole to a diameter suitable for installation of the pipeline. The third stage consists of pulling a prefabricated pipeline segment into the enlarged hole. HDD is accomplished using a specialized horizontal drilling rig with ancillary tools and equipment.

All stages of HDD involve circulating drilling fluid from surface equipment, through the drill pipe to the downhole assembly, and back to the surface through the annular space between the pipe and the wall of the hole. Drilling fluid returns collected at the entry and exit points are processed through the drilling fluid recycling system which removes spoil from the drilling fluid allowing it to be reused. The recycling system uses mechanical separation by shakers, desanders, and desilters.

4.2 Drilling Fluid Functions

The principal functions of drilling fluid in HDD pipeline installation are listed below.

- **Jetting.** On crossings through soils, soil is excavated by jetting high velocity fluid streams through nozzles on drill bits or reaming tools.
- **Power Downhole Mud Motor.** On crossings through hard soils or rock, power required to turn the bit and mechanically drill a hole is transmitted to a downhole motor by the drilling fluid flow.
- **Transportation of Spoil.** Drilled spoil, consisting of excavated soil or rock cuttings, is suspended in the fluid and carried to the surface by the fluid stream flowing in the annulus between the pipe and the wall of the hole.
- **Hole Stabilization.** Stabilization of the drilled hole is accomplished by the drilling fluid building up a "wall cake" which seals pores and holds soil particles in place. This process is critical in HDD pipeline installation as the holes are often in unconsolidated formations and are uncased.

- **Cooling and Cleaning of Cutters.** The downhole assembly gets hot during drilling. The drilling fluid cools the bits and cutters on the downhole assembly. Drilled spoil build-up on bit or reamers is removed by high velocity fluid streams directed at the cutters. Cutters are also cooled by the fluid.
- **Reduction of Friction.** Friction between the pipe and the drilled hole is reduced by the lubricating properties of the drilling fluid.

4.3 Drilling Fluid Composition

The major component of drilling fluid used in HDD pipeline installation is fresh water. In order for water to perform the required functions, it is generally necessary to modify its properties by adding a viscosifier. The viscosifier used almost exclusively in HDD drilling fluids is naturally occurring bentonite clay. Bentonite is a soft clay, formed by the weathering of volcanic ash, with the unique characteristic of swelling to several times its original volume when contacted with water. It is not a hazardous material as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's characteristics of ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or commercial chemicals. It is also used to seal earth structures such as ponds or dams and as a suspending component in livestock feeds.

The properties of bentonite used in drilling fluids are often enhanced by the addition of polymers. This enhancement typically reduces the amount of dry bentonite required to produce a given amount of drilling fluid. Non-treated pure bentonite yields in excess of 85 barrels (3,570 gallons) of drilling fluid per ton of material. The addition of small amounts of non-toxic polymers to pure bentonite is considered high yield bentonite and can increase the yield to more than 200 barrels (8,400 gallons) per ton of material. Typical HDD drilling fluids are made with high yield bentonite and are composed of less than four percent viscosifier by volume, with the remaining components being water and drilled spoil.

4.4 Disposal of Excess Drilling Fluid

Drilling fluid and cuttings will be collected and temporarily stored within the approved construction workspaces in appropriate containment systems, including frac tanks, containment pits, vacuum trucks, tankers, or other suitable storage vessels, as needed. The contractor's mud cleaning and recycling system will be used to support drilling fluid storage, recirculation, and solids separation during drilling operations. Excess drilling fluid and cuttings will be transported to a pre-approved site. Drilling fluid and cuttings will not be disposed of in wetlands, waterbodies, or other environmentally sensitive areas.

Disposal of excess drilling fluid will be the responsibility of the selected HDD contractor along with EPNG's input and approval. Prior to beginning HDD operations, the contractor will be required to submit its proposed drilling fluid disposal procedures to EPNG for approval.

Preferred disposal methods include transportation to a remote pre-approved disposal site that accepts such fluids.

5.0 HDD OPERATIONAL CONDITION AND RESPONSE ACTIONS

This section describes the procedures that will be followed during drilling operations.

5.1 Normal Drilling/Full Circulation

Normal drilling occurs when drilling fluid is circulating as expected and returning to the approved entry or exit containment areas.

During normal drilling, the contractor will monitor drilling fluid returns, drilling fluid pressures, flow rates, drill progress, torque, pull loads, and other drilling conditions. The HDD alignment and nearby sensitive areas will also be monitored for signs of drilling fluid seepage or other abnormal conditions.

5.2 Loss of Drilling Fluid Circulation

Loss of circulation occurs when drilling fluid returns are reduced or stop returning to the approved containment areas.

If loss of circulation occurs, the contractor shall notify the EPNG representative and Environmental Inspector (EI). The contractor may trip the downhole tooling out of the hole to clear any blockages, reduce pump pressures, slow drilling rate, circulate fluid to flush cuttings from the hole, adjust drilling fluid properties, or take other corrective actions.

The HDD alignment areas shall be checked for signs of an IR before drilling continues.

5.3 Inadvertent Returns

An IR is the unplanned release of drilling fluid to the ground surface or other area outside the approved entry or exit containment areas. If an IR is observed, drilling shall be slowed or stopped as needed. The contractor shall notify the EPNG representative and EI immediately. The release shall be contained and recovered to the extent practical using available equipment and materials. If the release occurs in or near wetlands, waterbodies, or ditches, additional notifications and response measures shall be completed as required.

5.4 Drilling Procedures

The contractor shall use proper HDD means and methods to reduce the potential for excessive downhole annular pressures, bore instability, loss of circulation, or IRs. The contractor shall monitor drilling progress, pressure, torque, drilling fluid properties, and fluid returns throughout the HDD. If abnormal conditions occur, the contractor shall adjust drilling procedures as needed and notify the EPNG representative.

5.5 Monitoring

Monitoring will be performed throughout HDD activities. The contractor and project inspectors will monitor the HDD entry and exit workspaces, drilling fluid containment areas, accessible portions of the HDD alignment. Monitoring will generally be performed by periodically walking accessible portions of the HDD alignment and visually inspecting for signs of drilling fluid seepage, ground movement, loss of circulation, or other abnormal conditions.

Monitoring frequency may be increased during periods of loss of circulation, suspected IRs, elevated drilling fluid pressures, or other conditions that may increase the risk of drilling fluid release. Monitoring observations shall be documented in field logs, including the date, time, area inspected, personnel performing the inspection, observations, and any corrective actions taken.

6.0 INADVERTENT RETURNS RESPONSE

This section describes the procedures that will be followed if drilling fluid is observed at the ground surface or other area outside of the intended HDD entry or exit containment areas. The purpose of these procedures is to contain the release, recover drilling fluid where practical, protect sensitive resources, and allow HDD operations to continue only after the condition has been evaluated and corrected.

6.1 General Response Procedures

If an IR is observed or suspected, the contractor shall immediately notify the EPNG representative, HDD inspector, and EI. Drilling operations shall be slowed or stopped as needed to reduce pressure and limit additional release. The location of the IR shall be evaluated to determine the affected area, approximate volume, and whether ditches, or other sensitive resources are involved. The contractor shall contain the release to the extent practical using available materials such as sandbags, straw bales, silt fence, berms, pumps, vacuum equipment, hand tools, or other suitable containment methods.

Released drilling fluid shall be recovered where practical and placed in approved containment for reuse or disposal. If the release is too small to practically recover, the area may be allowed to dry and stabilize, provided the release does not threaten sensitive resources.

The IR shall be documented, including the location, estimated volume, response actions, photographs, and any required notifications. Before drilling resumes, the contractor and EPNG representative shall evaluate the cause of the IR and determine the appropriate corrective actions.

6.2 IRs Inside Approved Workspace

If an IR occurs inside the approved construction workspace, the contractor shall contain and recover the drilling fluid to the extent practical. Containment may include sandbags, straw bales, berms, silt fence, temporary sumps, pumps, vacuum equipment, or hand tools. If the IR is contained within the approved workspace and does not threaten other sensitive areas, drilling may continue after the condition has been reviewed and corrective actions have been

implemented. If the IR cannot be controlled, and there is an increase in volume, or the IR has the potential to leave the approved workspace, drilling shall be stopped until the release is contained and the EPNG representative authorizes work to continue.

6.3 IRs Outside Approved Workspace

If an IR occurs outside the approved construction workspace, drilling shall be stopped or modified as needed to limit additional release. The EPNG representative and EI shall be notified immediately.

Access to the affected area shall be coordinated with the landowner and any required project or agency approvals. Response actions shall be limited to the minimum necessary to contain, recover, and clean up the released drilling fluid.

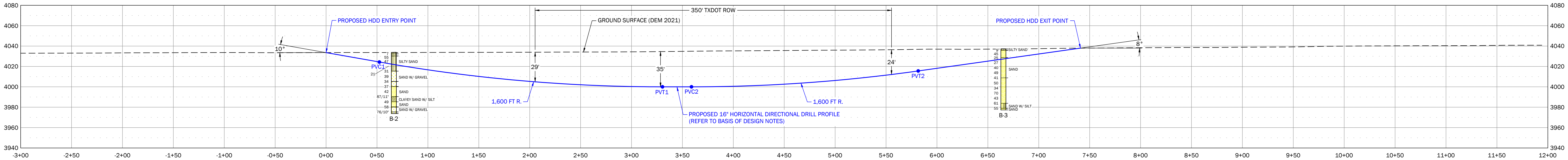
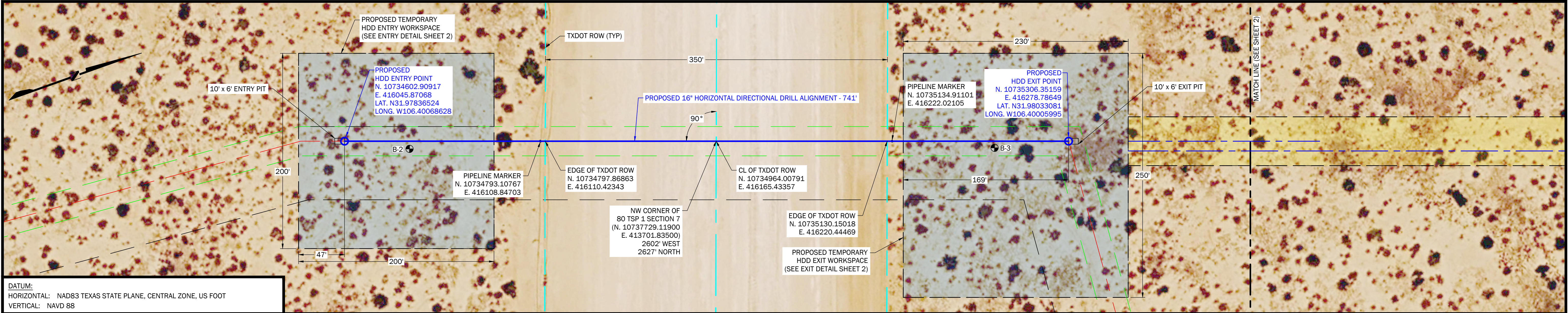
The contractor shall contain the release to the extent practical and prevent drilling fluid from reaching other areas. Cleanup and restoration shall be completed in accordance with project requirements, landowner agreements, and applicable permit conditions.

6.4 Drilling Procedures

The contractor shall use drilling procedures intended to reduce the potential for IRs. These procedures may include controlling drilling fluid pressures, maintaining proper drilling fluid properties, monitoring returns, maintaining adequate borehole cleaning, and adjusting drilling rates based on field conditions.

If loss of circulation, high annular drilling fluid pressures, ground movement, or other abnormal conditions are observed, the contractor shall evaluate the condition and adjust drilling operations as needed. Corrective actions may include tripping the downhole tooling out of the hole to clear any blockages, reduce pump pressures, slow drilling rate, circulate fluid to flush cuttings from the hole, adjust drilling fluid properties, take other corrective actions, or temporarily stopping work.

Drilling shall not resume after an IR until the release has been reviewed, corrective actions have been identified and implemented, and the EPNG representative authorizes work to continue.



DIRECTIONAL DRILL DATA		
DESCRIPTION	STATION (FT)	ELEVATION (FT)
ENTRY @ 10°	0+00.00	4033.58
PVC1 (10.00° @ 1,600 FT R.)	0+52.60	4024.31
PVT1	3+30.44	4000.00
PVC2 (8.00° @ 1,600 FT R.)	3+58.92	4000.00
PVT2	5+81.60	4015.57
EXIT @ 8°	7+41.00	4037.97
HORIZONTAL DISTANCE = 741.00 FT		
DIRECTIONAL DRILL PIPE LENGTH = 745.52 FT		

BASIS OF DESIGN:

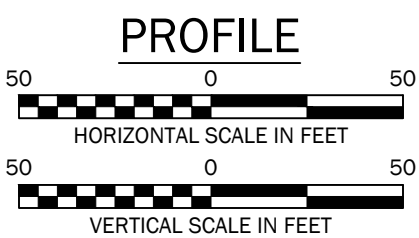
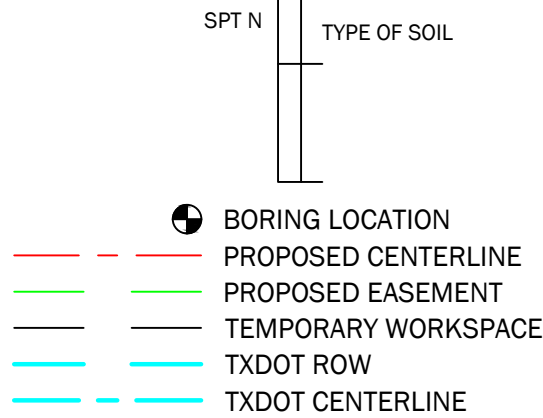
- PRODUCT PIPE WILL CONSIST OF 16" O.D. X 0.312" W.T., API-5L X-52 PIPE WITH 12-14 MILS OF FUSION BONDED EPOXY (FBE) AND A MINIMUM OF 40 MILS OF ABRASION RESISTANT OVERLAY (ARO).
- THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE OPERATING PRESSURE (MAOP) = 809 PSI.
- THE ASSUMED OPERATING TEMPERATURE = 70° FAHRENHEIT.

BARLOW EQUATION FOR STEEL PIPE $t = \frac{(D \times P)}{(2 \times F \times S)}$	
OUTSIDE PIPE DIAMETER (IN) = D	16
MAOP (PSI) = P	809
DESIGN FACTOR = F	0.5
YIELD STRENGTH (PSI) = S	52,000
CALCULATED WALL THICKNESS (IN) = t	0.249
WALL THICKNESS TO BE USED (IN) = t	0.312

PILOT HOLE TOLERANCES			
ITEM	* TOLERANCE		
ENTRY ANGLE	+1 DEGREE (STEEPER) / -0 DEGREE (FLATTER)		
ENTRY LOCATION	0.5 FEET		
EXIT ANGLE	+1 DEGREE (STEEPER) / -2 DEGREES (FLATTER)		
EXIT LOCATION	+20 FEET (LONG) / -10 FEET (SHORT)		
DEPTH	RELATIVE TO HDD ALIGNMENT		
	STATION RANGE	ABOVE (FT)	BELOW (FT)
	ENTRY TO EXIT	2	10
ALIGNMENT	RELATIVE TO HDD ALIGNMENT		
	STATION RANGE	LEFT (FT)	RIGHT (FT)
	ENTRY TO EXIT	5	5
MINIMUM ALLOWABLE 3-JOINT RADIUS	1.100 FEET		

*HDD CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE TO COMPLETE THE PILOT HOLE WITH RADII OF CURVATURE AS REQUIRED TO ACCOMMODATE THEIR TOOLING AND TO FACILITATE INSTALLATION OF PRODUCT PIPE IN AN ACCEPTABLE CONDITION.

LEGEND



HDD CONTRACTOR NOTES:

- HDD CONTRACTOR SHALL ADHERE TO OWNER'S SPECIFICATIONS, CONTRACT DOCUMENTS AND SPECIAL PERMIT CONDITIONS, EXCEPT AS NOTED ON THIS DRAWING.
- HDD CONTRACTOR SHALL FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH THE ACCOMPANYING HDD DESIGN REPORT FOR A MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE HDD DESIGN BASIS AND ASSUMPTIONS INCLUDING SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS, SURFACE CONDITIONS, AND HDD CONSTRUCTION RISKS AND CONSIDERATIONS.
- HDD CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CALLING TEXAS ONE-CALL AND PHYSICALLY LOCATING UNDERGROUND UTILITIES THAT MAY CONFLICT WITH HDD OPERATIONS PRIOR TO BEGINNING CONSTRUCTION.
- HDD CONTRACTOR SHALL IDENTIFY AND PROTECT ANY UTILITY THAT MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE HDD OPERATIONS.
- WATER USED FOR HDD OPERATIONS SHALL BE OBTAINED FROM A SOURCE APPROVED BY OWNER.
- REFUELING OF ALL EQUIPMENT SHALL BE COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OWNER'S CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.
- THE HDD PILOT HOLE SHALL BE ADVANCED FROM THE ENTRY POINT TO THE EXIT POINT AS SHOWN UNLESS OTHERWISE APPROVED BY THE OWNER IN CONSULTATION WITH GEOENGINEERS.
- THE HDD PILOT HOLE GEOMETRY SHALL BE MAINTAINED WITHIN THE TOLERANCES SHOWN ON THESE DRAWINGS.
- THE HDD CONTRACTOR SHALL MONITOR ANNULAR DRILLING FLUID PRESSURE DURING PILOT HOLE OPERATIONS AND TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO MAINTAIN THE ANNULAR DRILLING FLUID PRESSURE AT OR BELOW THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE RECOMMENDED PRESSURES INCLUDED IN THESE DRAWINGS.
- DRILLING FLUID PROPERTIES SHALL BE MONITORED AND TESTED. DRILLING FLUID PROPERTIES SHOULD MODIFIED AS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN HOLE STABILITY, EFFECTIVELY REMOVE CUTTINGS, AND LIMIT ANNULAR DRILLING FLUID PRESSURES.
- HDD CONTRACTOR SHALL TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO MAINTAIN DRILLING FLUID RETURNS TO THE ENTRY AND/OR EXIT POINTS.
- THE HDD CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE PILOT HOLE SURVEY DATA TO OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE DURING AND AFTER COMPLETION OF THE PILOT HOLE UPON REQUEST.

- ACCESS TO THE DRILL CAB SHALL BE PERMITTED TO APPROVED OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE IN ORDER TO OBSERVE AND DOCUMENT GAUGE DATA AT THE DISCRETION OF THE OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE.
- AFTER THE PILOT HOLE IS COMPLETE, CONTRACTOR'S AS-DRILLED PROFILE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO OWNER FOR APPROVAL PRIOR TO PROCEEDING WITH HDD ACTIVITIES IF REQUIRED BY THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.
- THE DRILL STRING SHALL BE ROTATED PRIOR TO PUMPING DRILLING FLUID DOWNHOLE TO BREAK THE FLUID GEL STRENGTH AND ALLOW THE FLUID TO BECOME MORE FLOWABLE.
- HDD CONTRACTOR SHALL CONFIRM THAT THE HOLE IS PROPERLY PREPARED FOR PRODUCT PIPE PULLBACK BY CONDUCTING AT LEAST ONE SWAB PASS, AS REQUIRED BY OWNER'S SPECIFICATIONS.
- THE PRODUCT PIPE PULL SECTION(S) SHALL BE MADE UP WITHIN THE APPROVED CONSTRUCTION PIPE STRINGING AND FABRICATION WORKSPACE AS SHOWN ON THIS DRAWING.
- HDD CONTRACTOR SHALL DISPOSE OF EXCESS DRILLING FLUID IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED DRILL PLAN AND OWNER'S CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.
- HDD CONTRACTOR SHALL FOLLOW THE REQUIREMENTS IN THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS REGARDING INADVERTENT DRILLING FLUID RETURNS PREVENTION, MONITORING, CONTAINMENT AND REPORTING.
- THESE DRAWINGS ARE ISSUED AS APPENDIX A OF THE HDD DESIGN REPORT. THE DRAWINGS MUST BE INTERPRETED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REPORT, INCLUDING STATED ASSUMPTIONS, SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS, ANALYSES, RISKS AND LIMITATIONS.

REFERENCES:

- GEOTECHNICAL DATA: THE GEOTECHNICAL INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THIS DRAWING IS A GENERAL SUMMARY. REFER TO THE HDD DESIGN REPORT ASSOCIATED WITH THIS DRAWING FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION.
- GROUND SURFACE DEM, DOWNLOADED FROM [HTTP://APPS.NATIONALMAP.GOV](http://apps.nationalmap.gov). AERIAL IMAGE TAKEN FROM GOOGLE EARTH PRO © 2026, LICENSED TO GEOENGINEERS, INC., IMAGE DATED 07/16/26.

ISSUED FOR PERMIT

REFERENCES		REVISIONS					
DRAWING NUMBER	REFERENCE DRAWING TITLE	NO.	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	DESIGN	CHK'D	APP'D
AFE 244427_Survey Mccloud Lateral 26-08-05	SURVEY	A	ISSUED FOR PERMIT: NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	SWV	MAM	MAM	CGM
		B	ISSUED FOR PERMIT: NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	OM	MAM	MAM	CGM



2155-A West Chesterfield Blvd
Springfield, MO 65807
Telephone (417) 831-9700
Fax (417) 831-9777

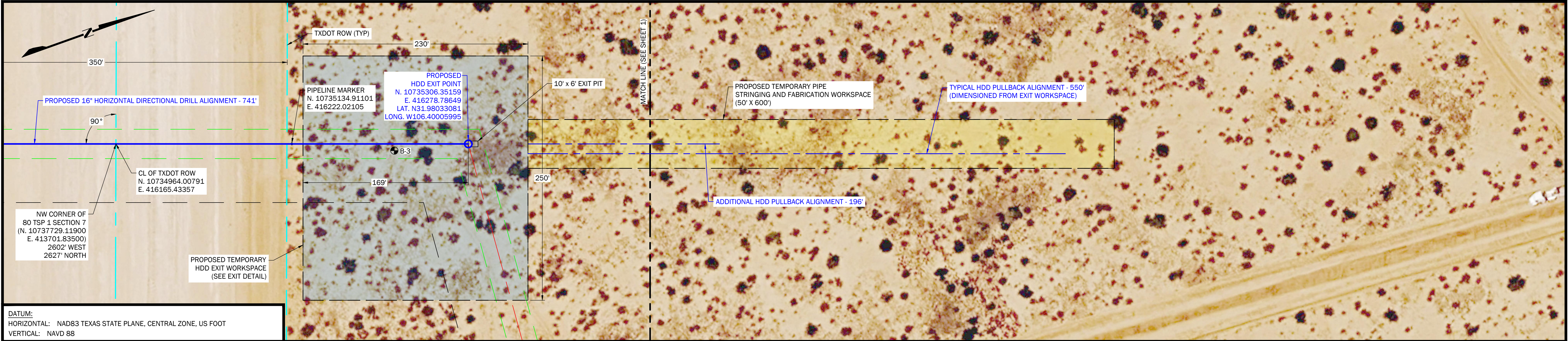


EL PASO NATURAL GAS, L.L.C
MCCLOUD LATERAL PIPELINE PROJECT
BORDERLAND EXPRESSWAY HDD
PLAN AND PROFILE
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

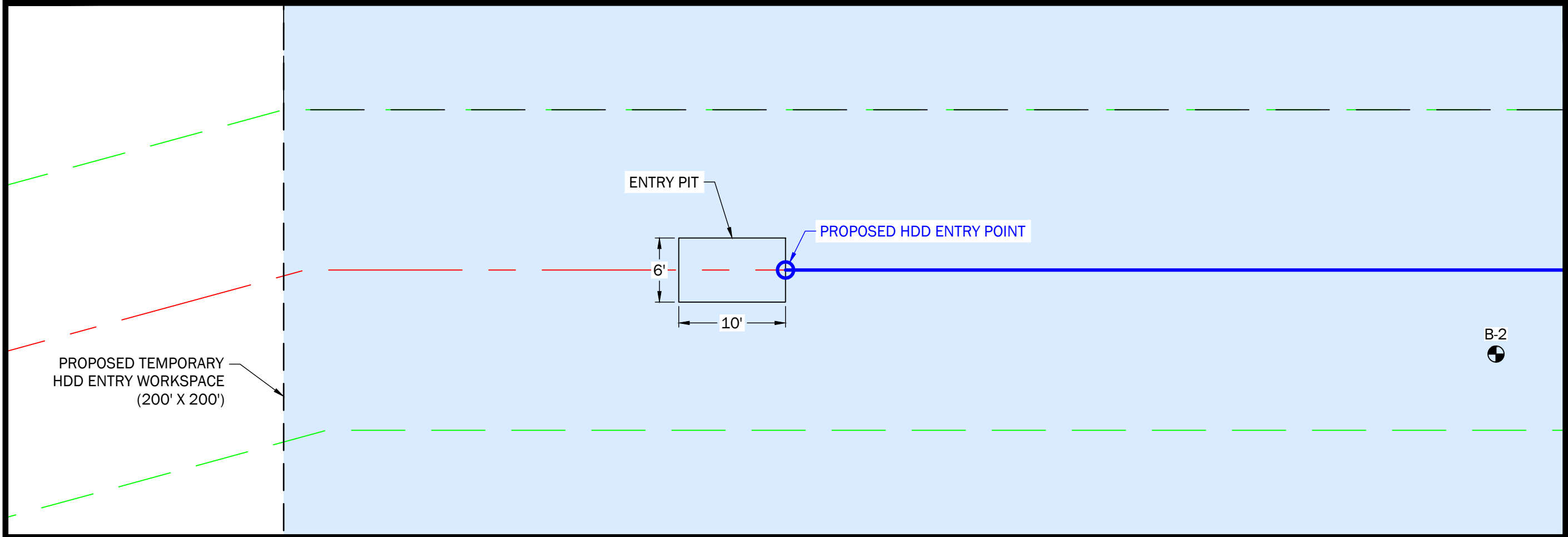
Project No.
009552-146-00

Drawing No.

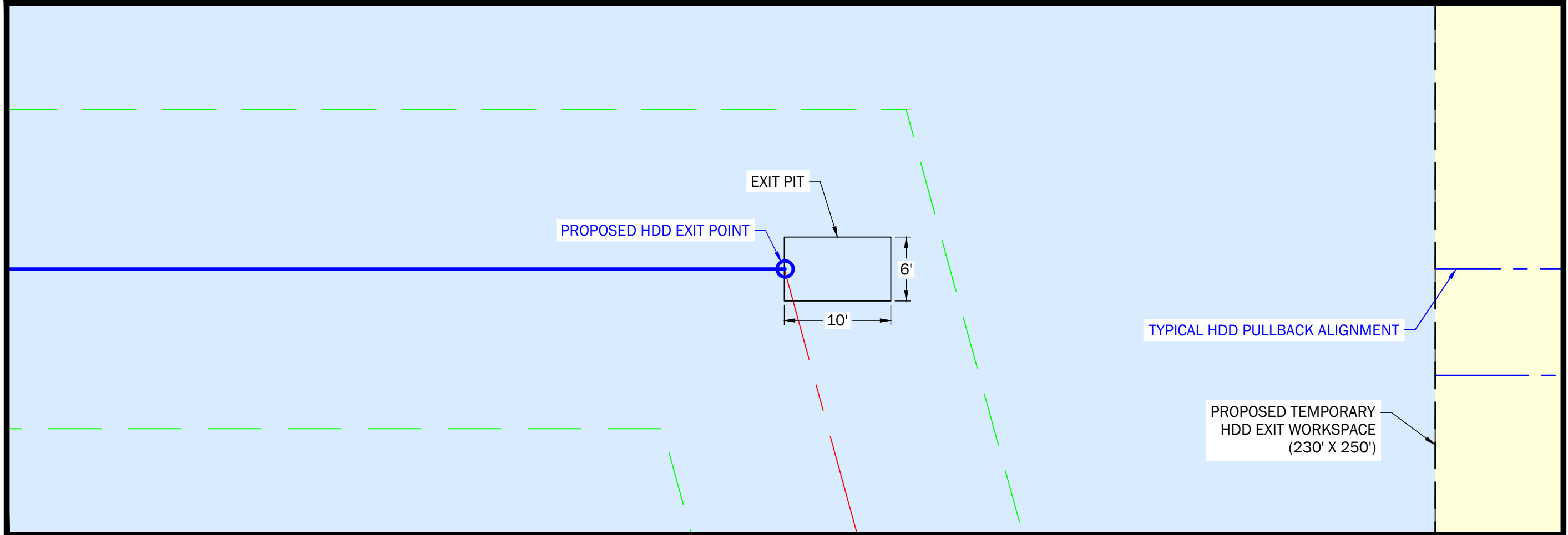
Sheet
1 of 3



PIPE STRINGING WORKSPACE DETAIL



ENTRY DETAIL



EXIT DETAIL



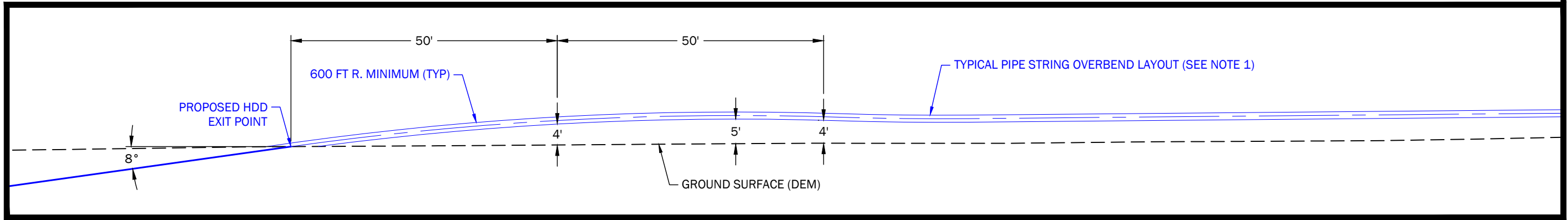
NOTES:

- PIPE STRING OVERBEND LAYOUT ASSUMES A RADIUS OF CURVATURE AS SHOWN BUT DOES NOT REPRESENT A REQUIRED RADIUS OF CURVATURE AND IS FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY.
- TYPICAL PIPE STRING OVERBEND LAYOUT DIMENSIONS SHOWN ARE RELATIVE TO SURVEYED GROUND SURFACE AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR REFERENCE ONLY. DIMENSIONS DEPICT THE HEIGHT OF THE THEORETICAL OVERBEND ABOVE THE GROUND SURFACE PROJECTED ALONG THE ALIGNMENT SHOWN IN PLAN VIEW ONLY AND ARE NOT REPRESENTATIVE OF ADJACENT GROUND SURFACE ELEVATIONS WHERE CONTRACTOR'S EQUIPMENT MAY BE POSITIONED DURING PULLBACK. NOR DO THEY CONSIDER GRADING/SITE MODIFICATIONS THAT MAY OCCUR DURING CONSTRUCTION.
- ANY OVERBEND HEIGHT DIMENSION CALLOUTS ARE NOT MEANT TO DEPICT LIFT POINT LOCATIONS.
- THE HDD SUBCONTRACTOR AND/OR GENERAL CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT A PRELIMINARY PULLBACK LIFT PLAN THAT INCLUDES AT A MINIMUM: THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF EQUIPMENT TO BE USED, ANTICIPATED OVERBEND RADIUS OF CURVATURE, AND ANTICIPATED OVERBEND LIFT HEIGHTS. THIS INFORMATION SHALL BE SUBMITTED AS PART OF THE FINAL BID PACKAGE SUBMITTAL.
- THE HDD SUBCONTRACTOR AND/OR GENERAL CONTRACTOR SHALL SUBMIT A FINAL PULLBACK LIFT PLAN THAT CONSIDERS SITE CONDITIONS AT THE TIME OF PULLBACK. THE FINAL PULLBACK LIFT PLAN SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMPANY SPECIFICATIONS AND CONTRACT DOCUMENTS AND SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO COMPANY ONE WEEK AFTER SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE PILOT HOLE AND NO LATER THAN FOUR WEEKS PRIOR TO BEGINNING PULLBACK ACTIVITIES.

LEGEND

- BORING LOCATION
- PROPOSED CENTERLINE
- PROPOSED EASEMENT
- TEMPORARY WORKSPACE
- TXDOT ROW
- TXDOT CENTERLINE

ISSUED FOR PERMIT



OVERBEND DETAIL



REFERENCES		REVISIONS						
DRAWING NUMBER	REFERENCE DRAWING TITLE	NO.	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	DESIGN	CHK'D	APP'D	DATE
AFE 244427_Survey Mcloud Lateral 26-08-05	SURVEY	A	ISSUED FOR PERMIT: NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	SWV	MAM	MAM	CGM	09/01/26
		B	ISSUED FOR PERMIT: NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	OM	MAM	MAM	CGM	09/11/26





2155-A West Chesterfield Blvd
Springfield, MO 65807
Telephone (417) 831-9700
Fax (417) 831-9777

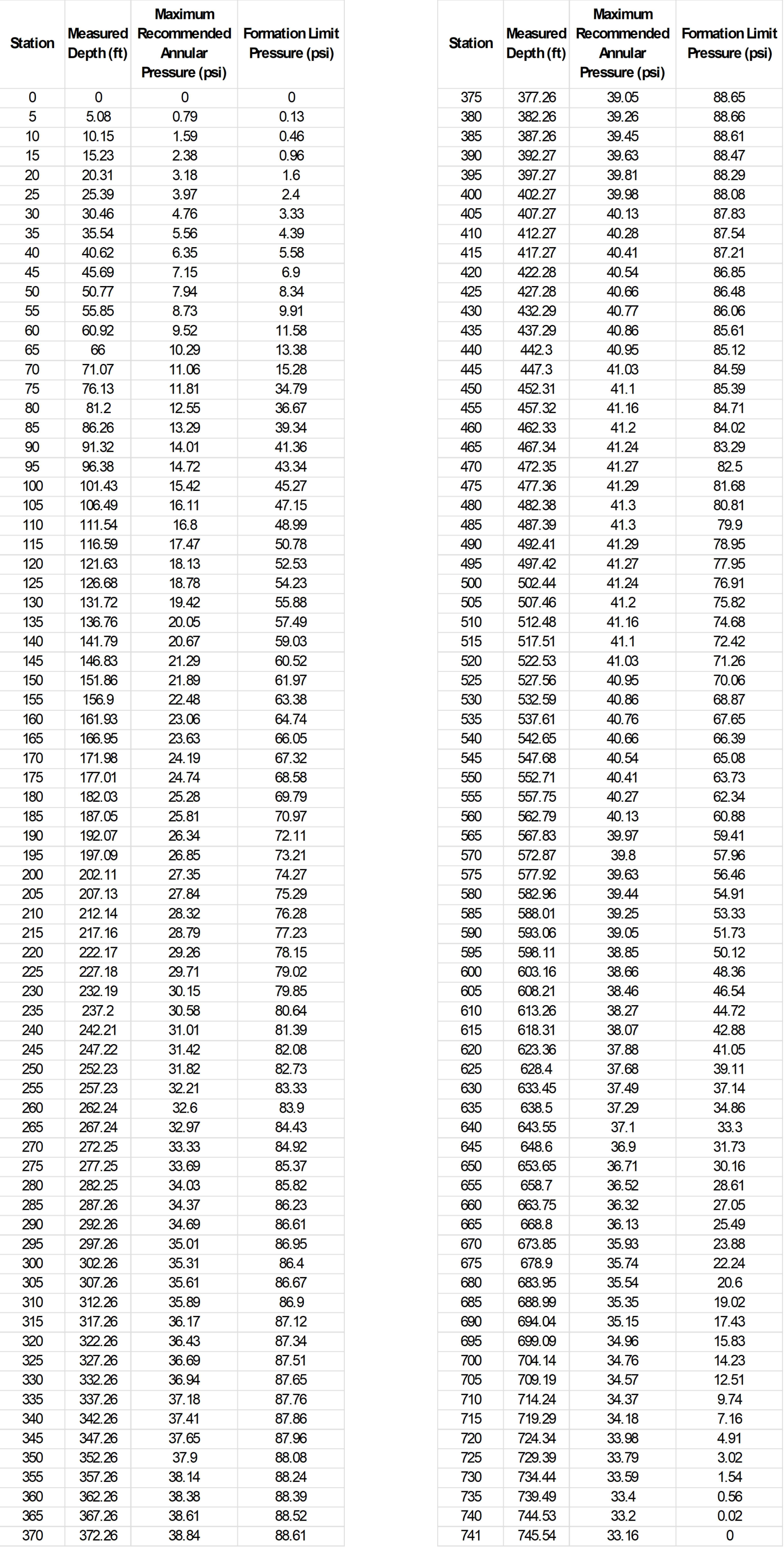
EL PASO NATURAL GAS, L.L.C
MCLOUD LATERAL PIPELINE PROJECT
BORDERLAND EXPRESSWAY HDD
STRINGING WORKSPACE / DETAILS
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS

Project No.
009552-146-00

Drawing No.

Sheet
2 of 3

RECOMMENDED MAXIMUM ANNULAR DRILLING FLUID PRESSURES

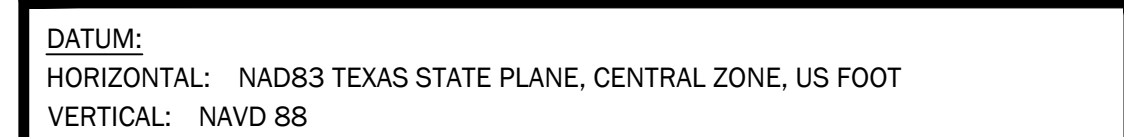


Project: <u>EPE McCloud Lateral</u>		HDD Name: <u>Borderland Expressway HDD</u>		Owner: <u>Kinder Morgan</u>
Project No: <u>9552-148-00</u>	By: <u>MAM</u>	Ck'd By: <u>CGM</u>	Location: <u>El Paso, TX</u>	Date: <u>Wednesday, September 9, 2026</u>

Drill Data Box			Profile Segment Information		
Point	Station (ft)	Elevation (ft)	Segment Name	Segment Type	Segment Length (ft)
ENTRY @ 10°	0.00	4,033.58	entry tangent	Straight	53.41
PVC1 (10.00° @ 1,600 ft R.)	52.60	4,024.31	entry curve	Vertical Curve	279.25
PVT1	330.44	4,000.00	bottom tangent	Straight	28.48
PVC2 (8.00° @ 1,600 ft R.)	358.92	4,000.00	exit curve	Vertical Curve	223.40
PVT2	581.60	4,015.57	exit tangent	Straight	160.97
EXIT @ 8°	741.00	4,037.97	Pipe Length = 745.52 ft		
Horizontal Alignment Length = 741.00 ft					

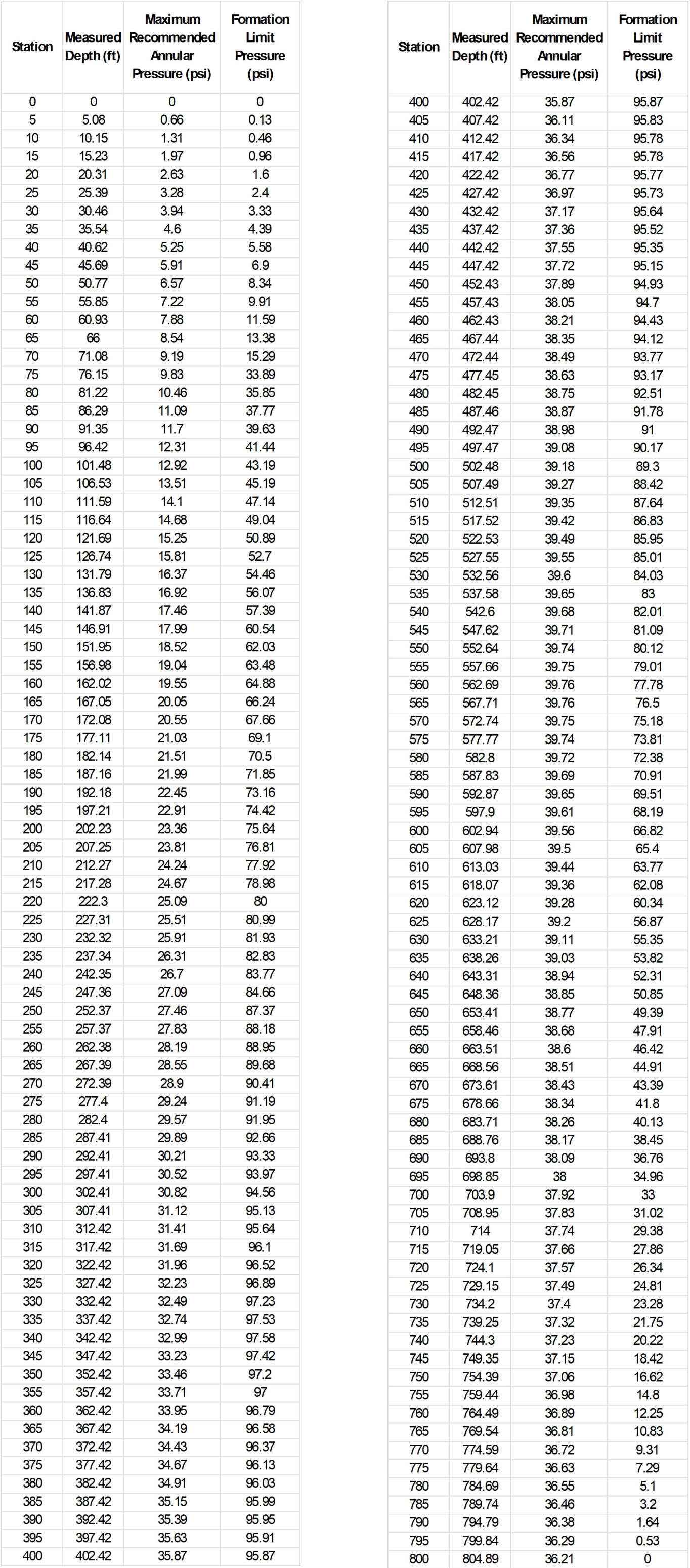
ISSUED FOR PERMIT

REFERENCES		REVISIONS							 El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. a Kinder Morgan company	 GEOENGINEERS, INC. F-8780	 2155-A West Chesterfield Blvd Springfield, MO 65807 Telephone (417) 831-9700 Fax (417) 831-9777	EL PASO NATURAL GAS, L.L.C		Project No. 009552-146-00
DRAWING NUMBER	REFERENCE DRAWING TITLE	NO.	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	DESIGN	CHK'D	APP'D	DATE				MCCLOUD LATERAL PIPELINE PROJECT		Drawing No.
		B	ISSUED FOR PERMIT; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	OM	MAM	MAM	CGM	09/11/26				BORDERLAND EXPRESSWAY HDD		
												HFA AND INSTALLATION FORCE SUMMARY		
												EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS		Sheet
														3 of 3



EL PASO NATURAL GAS, L.L.C MCCLOUD LATERAL PIPELINE PROJECT	Project No. 009552-146-00
	Drawing No.
STAN ROBERTS SR AVENUE HDD PLAN AND PROFILE EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS	Sheet 1 of 3

RECOMMENDED MAXIMUM ANNULAR DRILLING FLUID PRESSURES



Project: EPE McCloud Lateral HDD Name: Stan Roberts Sr. HDD Owner: Kinder Morgan
Project No: 9552-146-00 By: MAM Ck'd By: CGM Location: El Paso, TX Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2026

Drill Data Box		
Point	Station (ft)	Elevation (ft)
ENTRY @ 10"	0.00	4,955.28
PVC1 (10.00' @ 1,600 ft R.)	62.24	4,044.31
PVT1	340.07	4,020.00
PVC2 (8.00' @ 1,600 ft R.)	398.26	4,020.00
PVT2	620.94	4,035.57
EXIT @ 8"	800.00	4,060.74
Horizontal Alignment Length = 800.00 ft		

Profile Segment Information		
Segment Name	Segment Type	Segment Length (ft)
entry tangent	Straight	63.20
entry curve	Vertical Curve	279.25
bottom tangent	Straight	58.19
exit curve	Vertical Curve	223.40
exit tangent	Straight	180.82
Pipe Length = 804.86 ft		

ISSUED FOR PERMIT

NOTES:

1. REFER TO ACCOMPANYING HDD DESIGN REPORT FOR HYDRAULIC FRACTURE ANALYSIS MODEL METHODS, INPUT PARAMETERS, ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS FOR USE.
2. REFER TO ACCOMPANYING HDD DESIGN REPORT FOR DETAILED OPERATING STRESS AND PULLBACK LOAD CALCULATIONS, ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS FOR USE.

[illegible]

P:\9\9552146\CAD\00\Stan Roberts Sr Avenue HDD\DWG\Rev B.dwg\TAB:SHEET 3 modified on Sep 10, 2026 - 3:55pm OMORALES

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
Responses to Environmental Information Request – OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Dated August 28, 2026 in Docket No. CP26-558-000
McCloud Lateral Project

Attachments 9-1A and 9-1B

Texas IPaC and DKey



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Austin Ecological Services Field Office

1505 Ferguson Lane

Austin, TX 78754-4501

Phone: (512) 937-7371



In Reply Refer To:

09/01/2026 16:11:45 UTC

Project Code: 2026-0131708

Project Name: McCloud Lateral Line Project (Texas Only)

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at: <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Austin Ecological Services Field Office

1505 Ferguson Lane

Austin, TX 78754-4501

(512) 937-7371

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0131708
Project Name: McLoud Lateral Line Project (Texas Only)
Project Type: Pipeline - Onshore - New Constr - Below Ground
Project Description: Construction of an approximately 5-mile lateral pipeline to service a proposed generation facility in El Paso County, Texas, within the northern most extent of the City of El Paso, west of Fort Bliss, and terminating near the New Mexico border. The pipeline will entirely traverse private lands. Above ground facilities would be limited to launcher/receiver facilities at the northern and southern ends of the route and metering facilities at the northern end. This IPaC is for the Texas portion of the project only.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@31.984456,-106.3947940558244,14z>



Counties: El Paso County, Texas

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Northern Aplomado Falcon <i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i> Population: Wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1923	Endangered
Yellow-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> Population: Western U.S. DPS There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911	Threatened

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Levi Sparks
Address: 1500 CityWest Blvd
City: Houston
State: TX
Zip: 77042
Email: levi.sparks@tetrattech.com
Phone: 3252361166

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Austin Ecological Services Field Office

1505 Ferguson Lane

Austin, TX 78754-4501

Phone: (512) 937-7371



In Reply Refer To:

09/01/2026 16:15:48 UTC

Project code: 2026-0131708

Project Name: McCloud Lateral Line Project (Texas Only)

Subject: Concurrence letter for 'McCloud Lateral Line Project (Texas Only)' for specified federally threatened and endangered species and designated critical habitat that may occur in your proposed project area consistent with the Texas Statewide Determination Key (Texas DKey) for project review and guidance for federally listed species.

Dear Levi Sparks:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received on **September 01, 2026** your effects determination for the 'McCloud Lateral Line Project (Texas Only)' (the Action) using the Texas DKey for project review and guidance for federally-listed species within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system. The Service developed this system in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service's Texas DKey, you made the following effect determination(s) for the proposed Action:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Northern Aplomado Falcon (<i>Falco femoralis septentrionalis</i>)	Endangered	No effect
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>)	Threatened	NLAA

Natural Gas Act: You have indicated your project falls under the Natural Gas Act administered by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Please note that the determinations above only apply to projects under this specific program. Additionally, any concurrence for "not likely to adversely affect" determinations provided under the DKey are for the purposes of informal consultation with FERC or its designated non-federal representative(s)

The Service will notify you within 14 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a NLAA determination for the species listed above. This verification period allows the Texas Ecological Services Field Office to evaluate any supplemental material provided in your responses in the key (e.g., survey reports). The Texas

Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the key. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, this concurrence letter confirms that you may rely on effect determinations provided in the Texas DKey to satisfy agency consultation requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA. No further consultation for this project is required for these species if we do not contact you within the 14-day timeframe. Your agency has met consultation requirements by informing the Service of the “No Effect” determinations. No further consultation for this project is required for species with “No Effect” determinations.

Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

This letter only covers the listed species in the above table. The following species may also occur in the Action area:

- Monarch butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Proposed Threatened

If you determine your project may affect additional listed or proposed listed species not covered by the Texas DKey, please contact our Austin Ecological Services Field Office(ESFO) at esaustinfo@fws.gov or your Service point of contact in the Austin ESFO to discuss methods to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects to those species.

The Service recommends that your agency contact the ESFO or re-evaluate the Action in IPaC if: 1) the scope, timing, duration, or location of the Action changes, 2) new information reveals the Action may affect listed species or designated critical habitat, or 3) a new species is listed or critical habitat designated. If any of the above conditions occurs, additional consultation with the Service should take place before project changes are final or resources committed.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA):

The following resources are provided to project proponents and consulting agencies as additional information. Bald and golden eagles are not included in this section 7(a)(2) consultation and this information does not constitute a determination of effects by the Service. The Service developed the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines to advise landowners, land managers, and others who share public and private lands with bald eagles when and under what circumstances the protective provisions of the BGEPA may apply to their activities. The guidelines should be consulted prior to conducting new or intermittent activity near an eagle nest. This document may be downloaded from the following site: <https://www.fws.gov/media/national-bald-eagle-management-guidelines-0>.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

McCloud Lateral Line Project (Texas Only)

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'McCloud Lateral Line Project (Texas Only)':

Construction of an approximately 5-mile lateral pipeline to service a proposed generation facility in El Paso County, Texas, within the northern most extent of the City of El Paso, west of Fort Bliss, and terminating near the New Mexico border. The pipeline will entirely traverse private lands. Above ground facilities would be limited to launcher/receiver facilities at the northern and southern ends of the route and metering facilities at the northern end. This IPaC is for the Texas portion of the project only.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@31.984456,-106.3947940558244,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. This determination key is intended to assist the user in evaluating the effects of their actions on federally listed species. It does not cover other prohibited activities under the Endangered Species Act (e.g., for wildlife: import/export, Interstate or foreign commerce, possession of illegally taken wildlife, etc.; for plants: import/export, reduce to possession, malicious destruction on Federal lands, commercial sale, etc.) or other statutes.

Click '**yes**' to acknowledge that you must consider other prohibitions of the ESA or other statutes outside of this determination key.

Yes

2. Does the proposed project involve research or other actions that include the collection, capture, handling, or harassment of any individual federally listed threatened, endangered or proposed species?

No

3. Does the proposed project involve the use of manned or unmanned aircraft (e.g., airplanes, helicopters, drones, balloons)?

No

4. Is the action authorized, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency?

Yes

5. Are you the Federal agency or designated non-federal representative?

No

6. Is the project a communications tower licensed or regulated by the Federal Communications Commission?

No

7. Is the lead federal agency for the project Housing and Urban Development?

No

8. Is this a broadband internet project funded by a National Telecommunications and Information Administration grant?

No

9. Is this project funded through the Texas Water Development Board under the Texas Drinking Water or Texas Clean Water State Revolving Funds?

No

10. Is the lead federal agency for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)?

Yes

11. Is FERC reviewing the proposed action under the Natural Gas Act, in whole or in part?

Yes

12. Is this a wind energy project?

No

13. Is this a solar energy project?

No

14. Will the proposed project involve human disturbance or ground disturbance (such as foot traffic, vehicles, tracked equipment, excavating, grading, placing fill material, etc.)?

Yes

15. Will the project result in impacts or changes to wetland hydrology?

Note: This include but is not limited to the following examples; stream dewatering, groundwater pumping, dikes, impoundments, canals, altered freshwater inflows, tidal barriers, sediment consolidation water withdrawals, water development projects that alter flows in rivers and streams, alteration of drainage patterns into rivers/streams (such as the removal of vegetation which can increase sheetflow and sedimentation)?

No

16. Does the project intersect the Northern Aplomado Falcon (*Falco femoralis septentrionalis*) species list area?

Automatically answered

Yes

17. Does the action area contain Northern Aplomado Falcon preferred habitat?

Note: Northern Aplomado Falcons live in open habitats with some shrubs or trees for nesting. This includes desert grasslands, savannas, and shrub-steppe habitats, and can include open pastures. Within the Chihuahuan Desert, Northern Aplomado Falcons typically occur in open grassland areas with scattered mesquite (*Prosopis spp.*), soap tree yucca (*Yucca elata*) and Torrey's yucca (*Y. torreyi*). Within coastal habitats, Northern Aplomado Falcon prefer native grasslands and tidal flats with prominent scattered woody vegetation, typically a flat open area with low growing vegetation, containing yuccas, trees, or shrubs for nesting.

No

18. Does the project intersect the yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) species list area?

Automatically answered

Yes

19. Does the action area contain yellow-billed cuckoo suitable habitat?

No

20. Do you want to evaluate project for bald eagle impacts?

No

21. Do you have additional supporting documents you would like to upload to support your project review (e.g., Biological Evaluation, Habitat Assessment, Environmental Report, photos, maps, etc.)?

If Yes, upload document(s)

No

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Levi Sparks
Address: 1500 CityWest Blvd
City: Houston
State: TX
Zip: 77042
Email: levi.sparks@tetrattech.com
Phone: 3252361166

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
Responses to Environmental Information Request – OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Dated August 28, 2026 in Docket No. CP26-558-000
McCloud Lateral Project

Attachment 10-1

New Mexico SHPO Concurrence Letter



May 08, 2026

Michelle Ensey
SHPO & Executive Director
New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs
Historic Preservation Division
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Subject: McCloud Lateral Pipeline Project
Otero County, New Mexico

Dear Ms. Ensey,

El Paso Natural Gas Company, LLC (EPNG), a Kinder Morgan Company, proposes the construction of the McCloud Lateral Pipeline in El Paso County, Texas along the Texas and New Mexico border. EPNG also proposes the use and continued maintenance of three existing access roads at various points of the Project area, the northernmost of which is located in Township 26S Range 6E, Section 32, Otero County, New Mexico (Project) (Attachment I). All facilities fall under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). EPNG anticipates pursuing Project authorization through FERC under the Natural Gas Act blanket certificate program, Part 157, Prior Notice of the FERC regulations for EPNG to modify their existing system. As the Project requires federal authorization from the FERC, the Project must also comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (54 U.S. Code 4300101 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (36 Code of Federal Regulations 800).

The limit of disturbance (LOD) within the state of New Mexico is approximately 0.07 hectares (ha; 0.17 acres [ac]) and consists of an existing graded and graveled access road approximately 30 feet (ft) wide that extends 120 feet into New Mexico. Most of that access road, the other two access roads, and an associated substation are in Texas. The Project is located within the Tularosa Valley Watershed, and the nearest permanent water source is the Rio Grande, approximately 16.5 miles (mi) west of the LOD. Currently, the Project consists primarily of an existing access road from State Line Drive just south of a large residential area (Attachment II).

The Project intersects the New Mexico and Texas border, with the northern terminus situated approximately 2 mi southwest of the community of Newman, Otero County, NM before heading south into El Paso County, TX. USGS topographic maps indicate that the Project area is primarily located within historically ranched pasturelands and areas disturbed by roadway installation. (USGS, 1940, 1943, 1955, 1958) A review of New Mexico Cultural Resource Information System maintained by the Archaeological Records Management Bureau indicated that there are no previously conducted surveys, archaeological resources, or above-ground structures within the Project or 1,000 m of the Project.

EPNG and Kinder-Morgan are requesting a review of the Project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the *Kinder Morgan Inc. and Its Operating Companies 2023 New Mexico Cultural Review Procedures for Projects with Federal Actions* (Log #118518) under Section 2 part C, which states "Construction within existing facilities, where land-disturbing activities will be limited to previously disturbed

areas or to areas which have been previously archaeologically surveyed, with no archaeological resources found near the construction site." The Project is within existing previously disturbed areas and has little likelihood of affecting significant cultural resources. On behalf of EPNG, Tetra Tech is requesting a letter approving use of the access road to document consultation for with your office.

To assist in your review, project location map and representative photographs have been attached to this document.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 602.363.7451 or chris.north2@tetrattech.com.

Sincerely,



Chris North
Principal Investigator
Tetra Tech, Inc.

Attachments:

- I Project Location Maps
- II Representative Photographs

**NMSHPO concurs with finding of No
Effect for the undertaking.**

Adam
Vitale

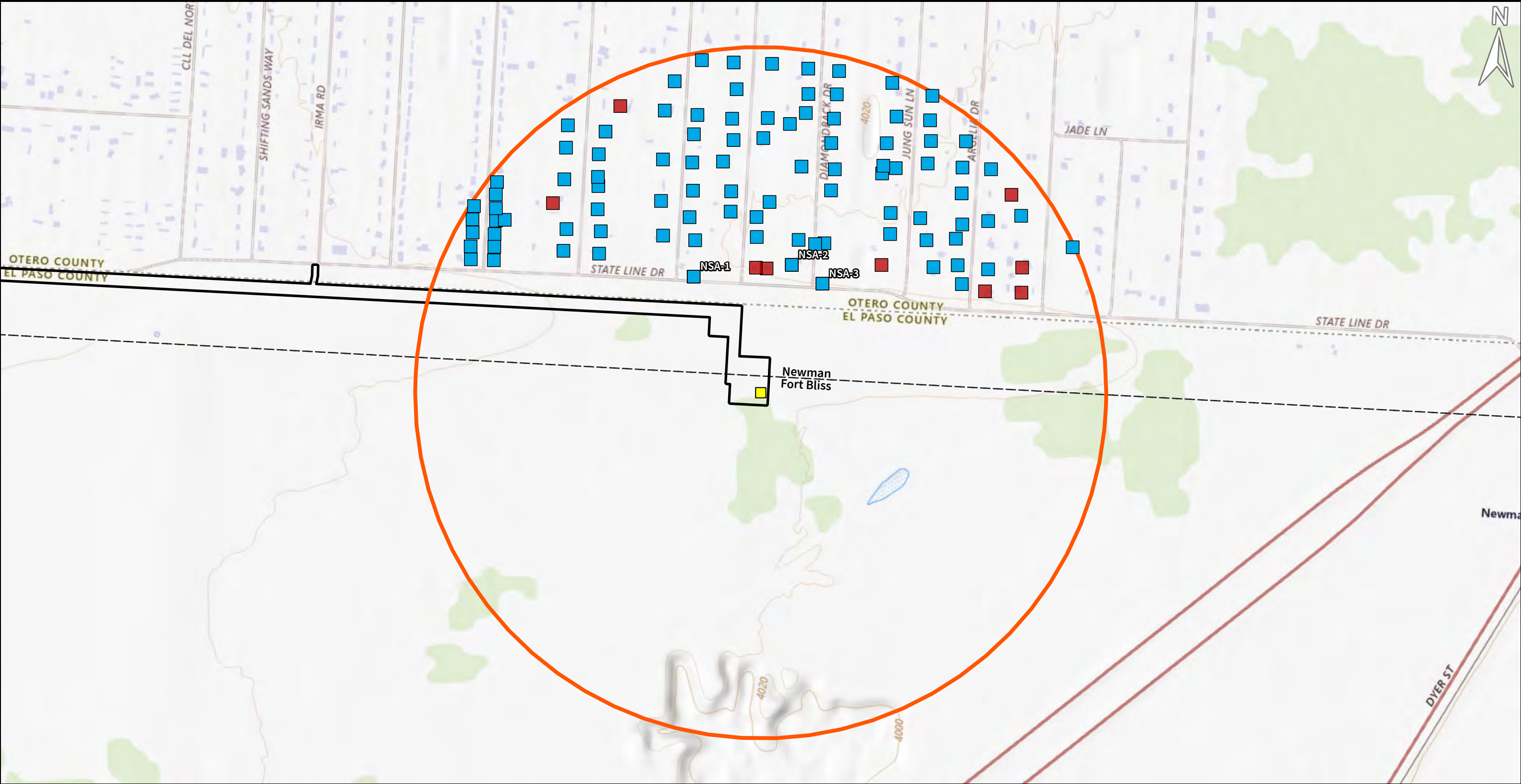
Digitally signed by
Adam Vitale
Date: 2026.06.04
11:47:34 -06'00'

**for the NM State Historic
Preservation Officer**

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
Responses to Environmental Information Request – OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Dated August 28, 2026 in Docket No. CP26-558-000
McCloud Lateral Project

Attachment 15
Figures 15-1 and 15-2

Topo and Aerial Maps of Noise Sensitive Areas



Meter Station

Limit of Disturbance

Meter Station Buffer - 0.5 mile

USGS Quadrangle Boundary

Noise Sensitive Areas

Commercial

Residential

0110220

Meters

05501,100

Feet

Spatial Reference: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Texas Central FIPS 4203 Ft

Basemap: USGS Topographic Map (2025)

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Noise Sensitive Areas

Figure 15-1

McCloud Lateral

El Paso County, Texas

Prepared For:

El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C.

a Kinder Morgan company

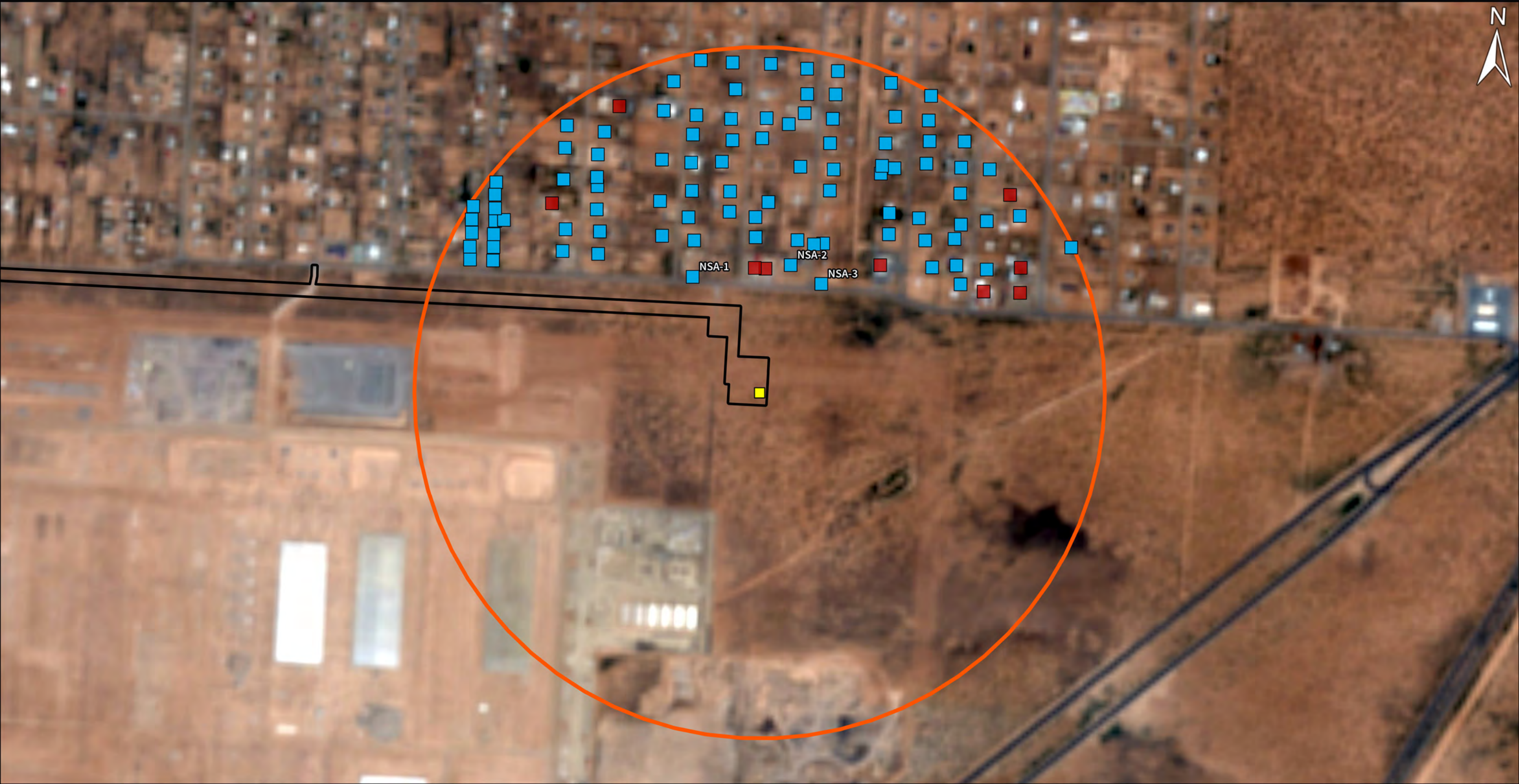
Prepared By:

TETRA TECH

Cartographer: DANIELLE.DOOTY

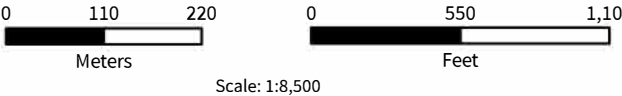
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Date: 9/14/2026



- Meter Station
- Limit of Disturbance
- Meter Station Buffer - 0.5 mile

- Noise Sensitive Areas**
- Commercial
 - Residential



Spatial Reference: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Texas Central FIPS 4203 Ft
Basemap: ESRI, World Imagery (2025)

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Noise Sensitive Areas
Figure 15-2
McCloud Lateral
El Paso County, Texas

Prepared For: El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C.
a Kinder Morgan company

Prepared By: **TETRA TECH**

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY, L.L.C.
Responses to Environmental Information Request – OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Dated August 28, 2026 in Docket No. CP26-558-000
McCloud Lateral Project

Attachment 16-1

McCloud Meter Station Acoustic Assessment

McCloud Lateral Project

McCloud Meter Station

Acoustic Assessment

September 2026

Prepared For



El Paso Natural Gas
Company, L.L.C.
a Kinder Morgan company

Two North Nevada
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Prepared by



TETRA TECH

1500 CityWest Blvd., Suite 1000
Houston Texas 77042

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

μPa	microPascal
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
dBL	unweighted decibel
EPNG	El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C.
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Hz	Hertz
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
kHz	kilohertz
kW	kilowatt
L_{dn}	day-night Average Sound Level
L_{eq}	equivalent sound level
L_p	sound pressure level
L_w	sound power level
ML	Measurement Location
MS	Meter Station
NSA	Noise Sensitive Area
Project	McCloud Meter Station
STC	Sound Transmission Class
Tetra Tech	Tetra Tech, Inc.
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

1.0 INTRODUCTION

El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. (EPNG) is seeking authorization from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) under the Prior Notice procedures of the FERC's blanket certificate regulations (Sections 157.205, 157.208, 157.210 and 157.211 of the FERC's regulations, 18 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR], §§ 157.205, 157.208, 157.210 and 157.211 [2025]), for approval of the Project, located in El Paso County, Texas.

The proposed Project involves the construction of a new approximate 5.8 mile, 16-inch outside diameter pipeline lateral (McCloud Lateral) that will originate upstream of EPNG's existing El Paso Compressor Station from a new interconnect on its South Mainline System and extend north-east ending at a new delivery meter station (McCloud Meter Station) near the planned McCloud Generation facility in El Paso County, Texas

EPNG contracted Tetra Tech, Inc. (Tetra Tech) to conduct an acoustic assessment to address the sound anticipated to be generated by the meter station component of the Project. This report provides background information on concepts related to environmental sound, including descriptions of the noise metrics used throughout the report. The following sections address: applicable noise standards and regulations in Section 2.0; the ambient sound measurement program taken in the Project area in Section 3.0; anticipated construction sound levels in Section 4.0; predicted noise levels from Project equipment in Section 5.0; conclusions in Section 6.0; and references in Section 7.0.

1.1 Site Description

The Project involves the construction of a new approximate 5.8 mile, 16-inch outside diameter pipeline lateral (McCloud Lateral) that will originate upstream of EPNG's existing El Paso Compressor Station on its South Mainline System and move northeast ending at the new McCloud Meter Station near the planned McCloud Generation facility in El Paso County, Texas.

The surrounding land around the McCloud Meter Station includes open land to the west, east, and south, although an industrial facility is currently under construction to the west and south of the meter station location. To the north there is an adjacent existing transmission line and State Line Drive. The nearest noise sensitive receptors (NSAs) are approximately 780 to 910 feet north across State Line Drive. Project location and NSAs are displayed in Figure 1. NSA-1 is an assumed residential lot based on the presence of a garage structure and maintained stone fencing and wrought iron gating, suggesting either a trailer is moved on and off the parcel, or a home may be constructed in the future. NSA-2 is an occupied home surrounded by stone fencing. NSA-3 represents a lot appearing to be currently under construction. Aerial imagery suggests the presence of a foundation as well as existing trailers on the property. As a conservative measure, this lot was also considered an NSA for modeling purposes. Two additional structures immediately north of the meter station were not considered NSAs, as both are identified as businesses



2.0 RELEVANT METRICS AND TERMINOLOGY

2.1 Acoustics Metrics and Terminology

All sounds originate at a source, whether it is a human voice, motor vehicles on a roadway, or electrical equipment/fans. Energy is required to produce sound, and this sound energy is transmitted through the air in the form of sound waves—tiny, quick pressure oscillations just above and just below atmospheric pressure. These oscillations, or sound pressures, enter the ear, creating the sound we hear. A sound source is defined by a sound power level (L_w), which is independent of any external factors. By definition, sound power is the rate at which acoustical energy is radiated outward and is expressed in units of watts.

A source sound power level cannot be measured directly. It is calculated from measurements of sound intensity or sound pressure at a given distance from the source outside the acoustic and geometric near-field. A sound pressure level (L_p) is a measure of the sound wave fluctuation at a given receiver location and can be obtained through the use of a microphone or calculated from information about the source sound power level and the surrounding environment. The sound pressure level in decibels (dB) is the logarithm of the ratio of the sound pressure of the source to the reference sound pressure of 20 microPascals (μPa), multiplied by 20. The range of sound pressures that can be detected by a person with normal hearing is very wide, ranging from about 20 μPa for very faint sounds at the threshold of hearing, to nearly 10 million μPa for extremely loud sounds such as a jet during take-off at a distance of 300 feet.

Broadband sound includes sound energy summed across the entire audible frequency spectrum. In addition to broadband sound pressure levels, analysis of the various frequency components of the sound spectrum can be completed to determine tonal characteristics. The unit of frequency is Hertz (Hz), measuring the cycles per second of the sound pressure waves. Typically, the frequency analysis examines 11 octave bands ranging from 16 Hz (low) to 16,000 Hz (high). Since the human ear does not perceive every frequency with equal loudness, spectrally varying sounds are often adjusted with a weighting filter. The A-weighted filter is applied to compensate for the frequency response of the human auditory system and is represented in dBA.

Sound can be measured, modeled, and presented in various formats, with the most common metrics being the equivalent sound level (L_{eq}) and the day-night average sound level (L_{dn}). The equivalent sound level has been shown to provide both an effective and uniform method for comparing time-varying sound levels, while the day-night average sound level accounts for increased noise sensitivity during nighttime hours. Both metrics are widely used in acoustic assessments of noise sources and outdoor acoustic environments, and the comparison of relative loudness is presented in Table 1. Table 2 presents additional reference information on terminology used in the report.

Table 1. Sound Pressure Levels and Relative Loudness of Typical Sound Sources and Environments

Noise Source or Activity	Sound Level (dBA)	Subjective Impression
Lawnmower (at operator)	85 – 90	Significant
Jet Ski (50 feet)	80	

Noise Source or Activity	Sound Level (dBA)	Subjective Impression
Vacuum cleaner (10 feet)	70	Moderate
Passenger car at 65 miles per hour (25 feet)	65	
Large store air-conditioning unit (20 feet)	60	
Light auto traffic (100 feet)	50	Quiet
Quiet rural residential area with no activity	45	
Bedroom or quiet living room; Bird calls	40	Faint
Typical wilderness area	35	
Quiet library, soft whisper (15 feet)	30	Very quiet
Wilderness with no wind or animal activity	25	Extremely quiet
High-quality recording studio	20	
Acoustic test chamber	10	Just audible
	0	Threshold of hearing

Adapted from: Beranek (1988) and EPA (1971).

Table 2. Acoustic Terms and Definitions

Term	Definition
Noise	Typically defined as unwanted sound. This word adds the subjective response of humans to the physical phenomenon of sound. It is commonly used when negative effects on people are known to occur.
Sound Pressure Level	Pressure fluctuations in a medium. Sound pressure is measured in dB referenced to 20 μ Pa, the approximate threshold of human perception to sound at 1,000 Hz.
Sound Power Level (L_W)	The total acoustic power of a noise source measured in dB referenced to picowatts (one trillionth of a watt). Noise specifications are provided by equipment manufacturers as sound power as it is independent of the environment in which it is located. A sound level meter does not directly measure sound power.
Equivalent Sound Level (L_{eq})	The L_{eq} is the continuous equivalent sound level, defined as the single sound pressure level that, if constant over the stated measurement period, would contain the same sound energy as the actual monitored sound that is fluctuating in level over the measurement period.
Day-night Average Sound Level (L_{dn})	The L_{dn} measures the 24-hour average noise level at a given location. It was adopted by the EPA for developing criteria for the evaluation of community noise exposure and also by the FERC when assessing potential noise impacts. The L_{dn} is calculated by averaging the 24-hour hourly L_{eq} levels at a given location after adding 10 dB to the nighttime period (10:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.) to account for the increased sensitivity of people to noises that occur at night.
A-Weighted Decibel (dBA)	Environmental sound is typically composed of acoustic energy across all frequencies. To compensate for the auditory frequency response of the human ear, an A-weighting filter is commonly used for describing environmental sound levels. Sound levels that are A-weighted are presented as dBA in this report.
Unweighted Decibels (dBL)	Unweighted sound levels are referred to as linear. Linear decibels are used to determine a sound's tonality and to engineer solutions to reduce or control noise as techniques are different for low and high frequency noise. Sound levels that are linear are presented as dBL in this report.
Propagation and Attenuation	Propagation is the decrease in amplitude of an acoustic signal due to geometric spreading losses with increased distance from the source. Additional sound attenuation factors include air absorption, terrain effects, sound interaction with the ground, diffraction of sound around objects and topographical features, foliage, and meteorological conditions including wind velocity, temperature, humidity, and atmospheric conditions.
Octave Bands	The audible range of humans spans from 20 to 20,000 Hz and is typically divided into center frequencies ranging from 31 to 8,000 Hz.
Broadband Noise	Noise which covers a wide range of frequencies within the audible spectrum, i.e., 200 to 2,000 Hz.

Term	Definition
Frequency (Hz)	The rate of oscillation of a sound, measured in units of Hz or kilohertz (kHz). One hundred Hz is a rate of one hundred times (or cycles) per second. The frequency of a sound is the property perceived as pitch: a low-frequency sound (such as a bass note) oscillates at a relatively slow rate, and a high-frequency sound (such as a treble note) oscillates at a relatively high rate. For comparative purposes, the lowest note on a full range piano is approximately 32 Hz and middle C is 261 Hz.

3.0 NOISE REGULATIONS

No noise quality regulations or ordinances were identified at the state, county, or city level that would be applicable to the Project. The FERC, the lead federal agency for the Project, has developed requirements to assess potential noise impacts.

3.1 FERC Noise Rules and Regulations

The FERC guidelines require that the noise attributable to any new or modification to an existing compressor station facility not exceed a L_{dn} of 55 dBA at any pre-existing nearest NSA, unless such NSAs are established after facility construction. NSAs include schools, hospitals and residences. Other federal regulations that pertain to noise beyond the immediate work environment include the USEPA, which considers a L_{dn} of 55 dBA to be the maximum sound level that will not adversely affect public health and welfare by interfering with speech or other activities in outdoor areas. In general, a L_{dn} of 55 dBA is representative of a suburban residential environment (USEPA 1978). FERC's Guidance Manual for Environmental Report Preparation (February 2017), states that applicants submit an acoustical analysis from each new or modified meter station on NSAs located within 0.5-miles.

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4.0 EXISTING AMBIENT SOUND ENVIRONMENT

To characterize the existing ambient conditions near the Project area, Tetra Tech conducted a series of ambient sound level measurements during both daytime and nighttime periods. This section summarizes the methodology used by Tetra Tech to conduct the sound survey and describes the measurement locations.

4.1 Field Methodology

To document the existing conditions, baseline sound level measurements were performed on May 20, 2026. The measurement locations were selected to be representative of the surrounding area to the proposed Project site. The ambient sound survey included manned short-term measurements for a minimum duration of 60 minutes. The short-term measurements were made during both daytime (1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.) and nighttime (11:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.) periods.

All measurements were conducted using a Larson Davis Model 831 precision integrating sound-level meter that meets the requirements of American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standards for Type 1 precision instrumentation. This sound analyzer has an operating range of 5 dB to 140 dB, and an overall frequency range of 8 to 20,000 Hz. During the measurement program, microphones were fitted with a windscreen, set upon a tripod at a height of approximately 1.5 meters (5 feet) above the ground and located out of the influence of any vertical reflecting surfaces. The sound analyzer was calibrated at the beginning and end of the measurement period using a Larson Davis Model CAL200 acoustic calibrator following procedures that are traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Table 3 lists the measurement equipment employed during the survey. The sound level meters were programmed to sample and store A-weighted and octave band sound level data, including L_{eq} and the percentile sound levels.

Table 3. Measurement Equipment

Description	Manufacturer	Type
Signal Analyzer	Larson Davis	831
Preamplifier	Larson Davis	PRM902
Microphone	PCB	377B02
Windscreen	Larson Davis	3-inch
Calibrator	Larson Davis	CAL200

4.2 Field Measurements

Two short-term, attended sound measurements were performed at public locations near the Project site and NSAs. The monitoring location was selected to represent ambient conditions in the vicinity of the Project site. The short-term monitoring location is presented in Table 4 and mapped on Figure 1.

Table 4. Sound Level Monitoring Locations

Monitoring Location	Coordinantes (Universal Transverse Mercator Zone 14S)	
	Easting (m)	Northing (m)
ML-1	372901	3541306

4.2.1 Measurement Location 1 (ML-1)

This monitoring location is located on the northern portion of the proposed metering station and is approximately 440 feet south of State Line Drive. The nearest noise sensitive area is located 670 ft north on the north side of State Line Drive. The prominent noise sources were from vehicle traffic along State Line Drive.

4.3 Measurement Results

Table 5 provides a summary of the measured ambient sound levels observed at each of the monitoring locations for the daytime and nighttime L_{eq} and L_{dn} sound level statistic.

Table 5. Sound Measurement Results – L_{eq} and L_{dn} Sound Levels

Monitoring Location	Time Period	L_{eq} (dBA)	L_{dn} (dBA)
ML-1	Day	48	51
	Night	44	

The daytime L_{eq} sound levels at the measurement location were 48 dBA and the nighttime L_{eq} sound level was 44 dBA. The L_{dn} level was 51 dBA.



5.0 OPERATIONAL NOISE IMPACT ANALYSIS

This section describes the methods and input assumptions used to calculate noise levels due to the Project operations, and the results of the noise impact analysis.

5.1 Noise Prediction Model

The acoustical modeling for the Project was conducted with the Cadna-A® sound model from DataKustik GmbH. The outdoor noise propagation model is based on International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9613, Part 1: “Calculation of the absorption of sound by the atmosphere,” (ISO 1993) and Part 2: “General method of calculation,” (ISO 1996). It is used by acoustical engineers to describe accurately noise emission and propagation from complex facilities and in most cases yields conservative results of operational noise levels in the surrounding community. Model predictions are accurate to within 1 dB of calculations based on the ISO 9613 standard.

ISO 9613 was used to calculate propagation and attenuation of sound energy with distance. The method described in this standard calculates sound attenuation under weather conditions that are favorable for sound propagation, such as downwind propagation or moderate atmospheric inversion. The calculation of sound propagation from source to receiver locations consists of full octave band sound frequency algorithms, which incorporate the following physical effects:

- Geometric spreading wave divergence;
- Reflection from surfaces;
- Atmospheric absorption at 10 degrees Celsius and 70 percent relative humidity;
- Screening by topography and obstacles;
- The effects of terrain features including relative elevations of noise sources;
- Sound power levels from stationary and mobile sources;
- The locations of noise-sensitive land use types;
- Intervening objects including buildings and barrier walls;
- Ground effects due to areas of pavement and unpaved ground;
- Sound power at multiple frequencies;
- Source directivity factors;
- Multiple noise sources and source type (point, area, and/or line); and
- Averaging predicted sound levels over a given time period.

Cadna-A® allows for three basic types of sound sources to be introduced into the model: point, line, and area sources. Each noise-radiating element was modeled based on its noise emission pattern. The Project incorporated large dimensional sources, such as the valving and ultrasonic meters, which were modeled as area sources. The interaction between sound sources and structures was also taken into account with reflection loss. The reflective characteristic of the structure is quantified by its reflection

loss, which is typically defined as smooth façade from which the reflected sound energy is 2 dB less than the incident sound energy.

Ground absorption rates are described by a numerical coefficient. For pavement and water bodies, the absorption coefficient is defined as $G = 0$ to account for reduced sound attenuation and higher reflectivity. In contrast, ground covered in vegetation, which is considered acoustically absorptive and aid in sound attenuation is defined as $G = 1.0$. A ground absorption coefficient for a lawn might be considered semi-reflective with a ground absorption coefficient of 0.5. For this acoustic modeling analysis a default ground absorption coefficient of 0.0 was assumed for the meter station site and an offsite a ground absorption coefficient 0.5 was employed.

5.2 Operational Noise Modeling Inputs

The Project's general arrangement was directly imported into the acoustic model to easily identify on-site equipment, incorporate buildings and structures, and assign sound power data to specific sources. Figure 3 illustrates the proposed Project equipment layout utilized for the modeling effort.

The client provided the reference sound power levels input into Cadna-A®. The source levels used in the predictive modeling are based on estimated sound power levels that are generally deemed conservative. Table 6 summarizes the equipment sound power level data used as inputs for the analysis.

Table 6. Sound Pressure Levels and Relative Loudness of Typical Sound Sources and Environments

Quantity	Equipment	Source Sound Power Level (dBA)
11	12-inch Valve	78
3	Ultrasonic Meter	77
--	Above Ground Piping	94

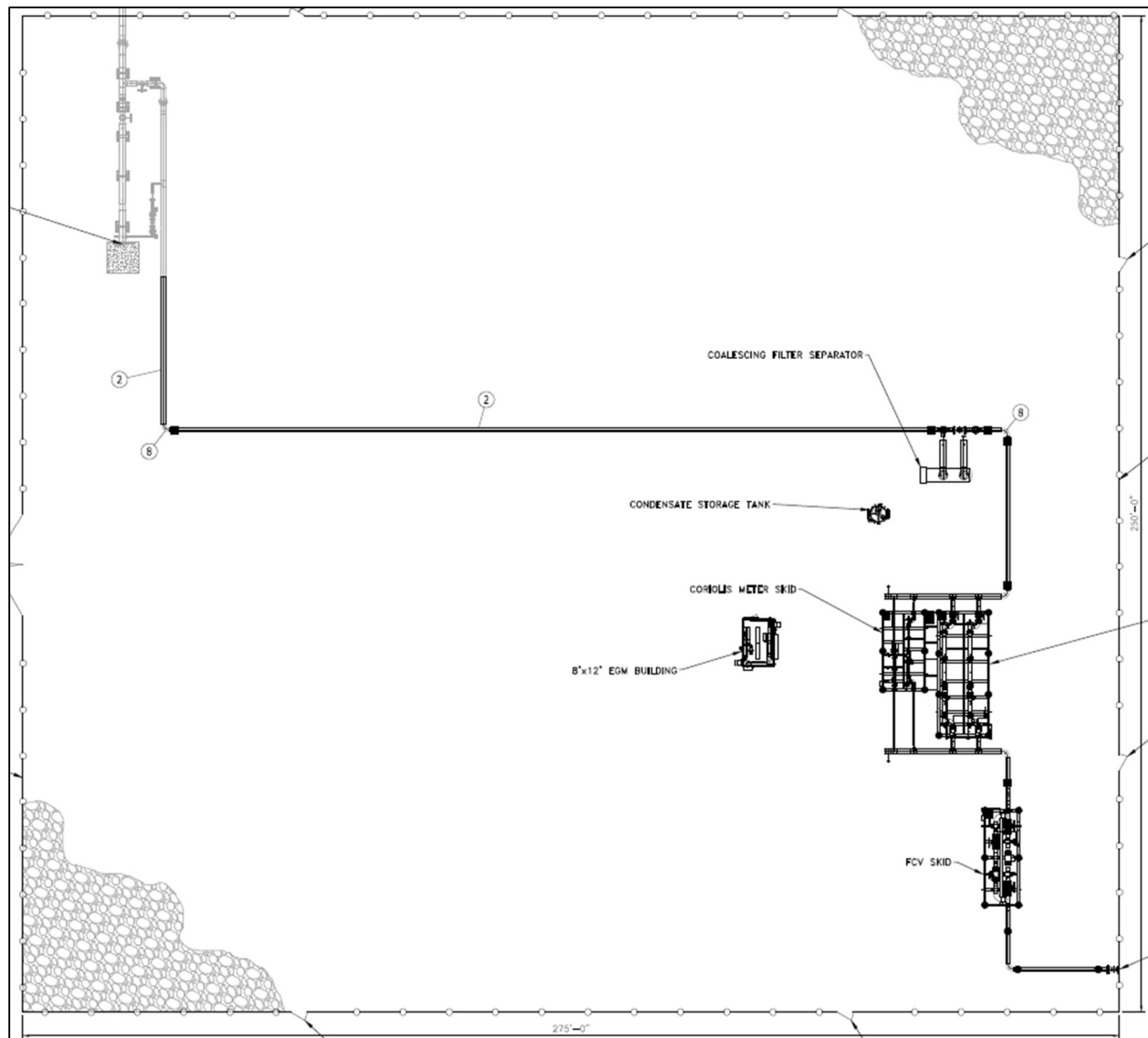


Figure 1. McCloud Meter Station Proposed Layout

5.3 Noise Prediction Model Results

Broadband (dBA) sound pressure levels were calculated at an elevation of 5 feet above the ground, the height of the ears of a standing person, for expected normal Project operation if all components identified previously are operating continuously and concurrently at the representative manufacturer-rated sound levels. The sound energy was then summed to determine the equivalent A-weighted sound pressure level at a point of reception during normal operation. Sound contour plots displaying broadband (dBA) sound levels presented as color-coded noise isopleths in 5-dBA intervals are provided in Figures 4.

The noise contours are graphical representations of the cumulative noise associated during normal operation of the individual equipment components and show how operational noise would be distributed over the surrounding area. The contour lines shown are analogous to elevation contours on

a topographic map, i.e., the noise contours are continuous lines of equal noise levels around some source, or sources, of noise.

Table 7 shows the projected exterior sound levels resulting at the representative measurement location and at the closest NSRs. The noise levels in Table 7 show that the noise generated by the McCloud Meter Station will exceed the FERC noise threshold of 55 dBA L_{dn} near the Project at ML-1. However, at the nearest NSAs the noise levels from the project will be reduced to levels below the FERC threshold. Based on the existing noise levels measured overall noise level near the site will result in an increase of 10 dB, but at the nearest NSAs the overall noise level increase would be 4 dB or less.

Table 7. Estimated Noise Levels from the McCloud Meter Station

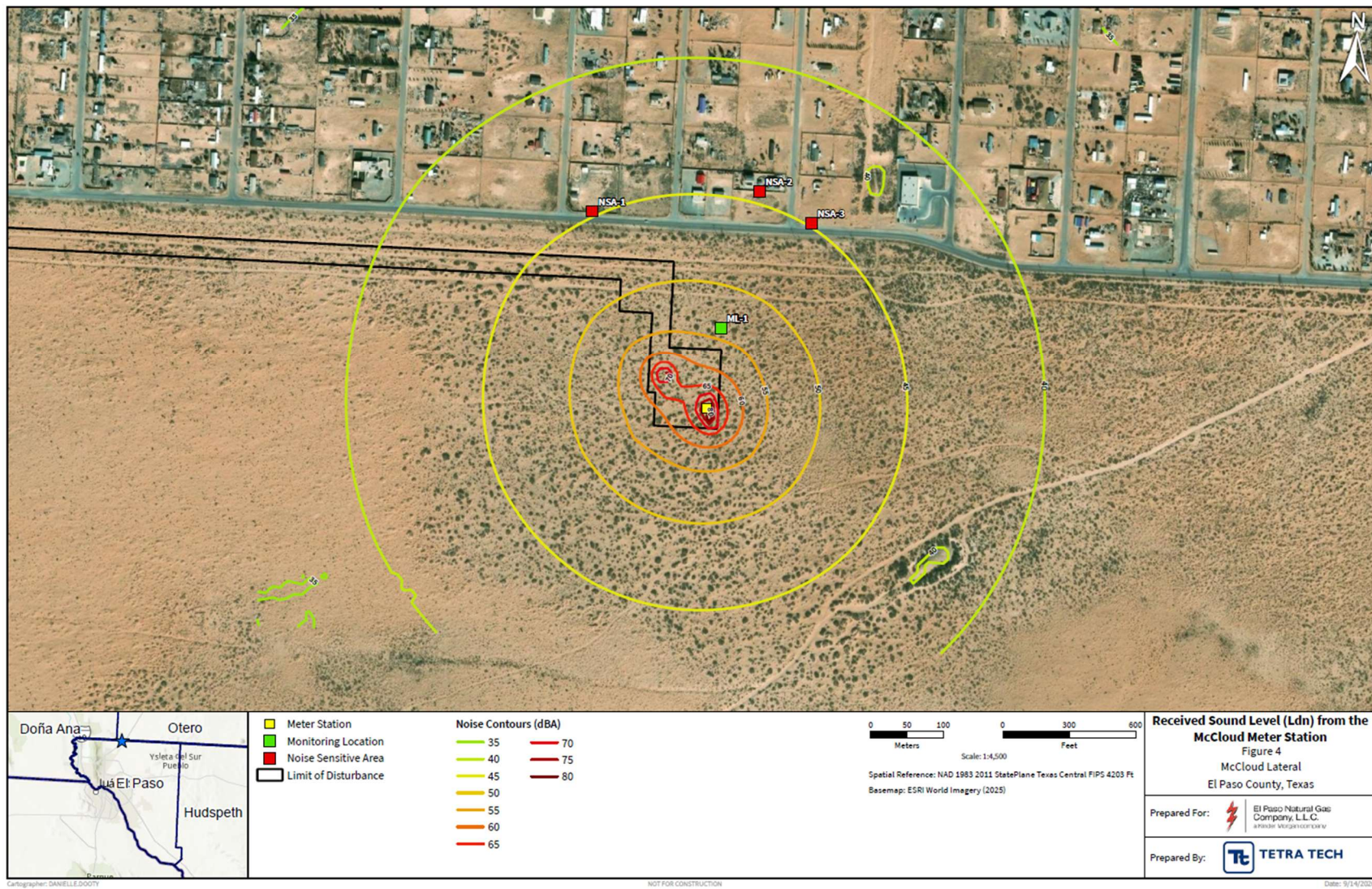
Monitoring Location	Approximate Distance to Meter Station (feet)	Measured Sound Level L_{dn} (dBA)	Estimated Sound Level from Meter Station L_{dn} (dBA)	Overall Combined Sound Level L_{dn} (dBA)	Overall Increase (dB)
ML-1	308	51	60	61	10
NSA-1	780 ^a	51	51	54	3
NSA-2	910 ^b	51	51	54	3
NSA-3	900 ^c	51	52	55	4

^a -NSA 1 – Aerial imagery depicts an existing garage and maintained stone fence with gates, suggesting either a trailer is moved on or off the property. Measurement is from the southern edge of the parcel to the northwestern corner of the meter station.

^b -NSA 2 is an occupied residence Measurement is from the defined structure to the northwestern corner of the meter station

^c -NSA 3 - Aerial imagery depicts framing for a foundation with trailers on the parcel. Measurement is from the southern edge of the parcel to the northwestern corner of the meter station.

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6.0 CONCLUSION

The operation of Project was shown to generate noise levels above the FERC noise threshold of 55 dBA L_{dn} within the vicinity of the Project site. However, at the nearest NSAs the noise levels from the project will be reduced to levels below the FERC threshold. Also, based on the measured existing noise levels overall noise levels near the site will result in an increase of 10 dB, but at the nearest NSAs the overall noise level increase would be 4 dB or less

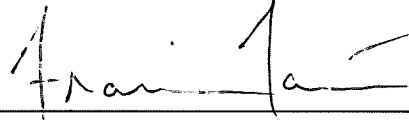
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7.0 REFERENCES

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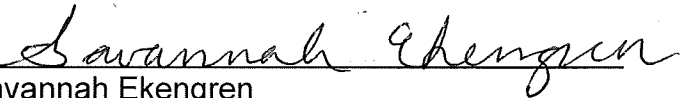
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COUNTY OF EL PASO)

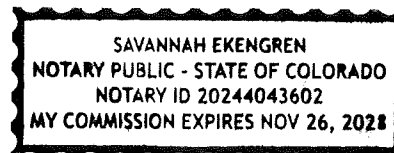
FRANCISCO TARIN, being first duly sworn, on oath, says that he is the Director of the Regulatory Department of El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C.; that he has read the foregoing Responses to the Office of Energy Projects' Data Request dated August 28, 2026 in Docket No. CP26-558-000, that as such he is authorized to verify the Responses, that he is familiar with the contents thereof; and that the matters and facts set forth therein are true to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.



Francisco Tarin

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me, the undersigned authority, on this 14th day of September 2026.


Savannah Ekengren
Notary Public, State of Colorado
My Commission Expires: November 26, 2028



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 14th day of September 2026.

/s/

Francisco Tarín

Two North Nevada Avenue
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903
(719) 667-7517