

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

May 3, 2019

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Darin LaHood
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman LaHood:

Thank you for your April 12, 2019, letter regarding Spire STL Pipeline, L.L.C.'s (Spire) Spire STL Pipeline Project (Docket Nos. CP17-40-000 and CP17-40-001). I have placed your letter in the Commission's official record.

On August 3, 2018, the Commission authorized the Spire STL Pipeline Project, which consists of a new 65-mile-long interstate natural gas pipeline system in Illinois and Missouri. Since construction of the project commenced on November 5, 2018, Commission staff has routinely inspected construction of the project to ensure Spire's compliance with the environmental conditions of the Commission's August 2018 *Order Issuing Certificates*, including compliance with Spire's proposed mitigation and the Commission's *Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan* (FERC Plan). The staff's inspection reports are in the Commission's public record. In addition, Spire has filed weekly construction status reports, as required by the Commission's Order, which include environmental compliance issues documented by Spire's environmental inspectors, description of any landowner complaints, and the measures Spire implemented to resolve the environmental issues and complaints.

As documented in the inspection report submitted in the public record on March 25, 2019, Commission staff conducted an environmental inspection of the project right-of-way, including that portion on Mr. Davis' property, on March 11 and 12, 2019. On Mr. Davis' property, staff found reinforced silt fence along the south bank of a waterbody that was laden with sediment from a recent rain event, which staff documented as a problem area. The problem area was subsequently corrected and documented in Spire's March 25, 2019 weekly construction status report. Also, during this inspection, staff observed a previously reported noncompliance on Mr. Davis' property for spoil outside of the right-of-way; as noted in the report, the landowner has denied Spire's request for access to resolve the noncompliance.

Mr. Ballard's and Mr. Ryan's concerns include water ponding adjacent to a soil pile on their property. Based on staff's review of this issue, Spire is not out of compliance with the FERC Plan across Mr. Ballard's and Mr. Ryan's property, as no environmental concerns were identified with the stability of the soil piles. Additionally,

Spire documented in its weekly report filed on March 25, 2019 that a visual inspection of the site found no ponding water behind the soil pile and no evidence of soil leaving the project's limits of disturbance. Commission staff will continue to conduct routine inspections of the project to ensure Spire's compliance with the environmental conditions of the Commission's August 2018 *Order Issuing Certificates*.

Based on staff's investigation of these complaints, Spire is appropriately documenting any environmental compliance issues identified by its environmental inspectors, relevant agencies, and landowners; and is properly resolving these issues to ensure compliance with the Commission's Order and the mitigation measures outlined in the FERC Plan.

If I can be of any further assistance in this or any other Commission matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Chatterjee', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Neil Chatterjee
Chairman

Document Content(s)

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