



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

11 JAN 2011

Mr. Robert C. Skaggs, Jr.  
Nisource, Inc.  
801 E 86<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Merrillville, IN 46410

Mr. Scott Burnsworth  
Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC  
1700 MacCorkle Avenue  
Charleston, WV 25314

Re: EPA Docket No. CWA-03-2011-0069DW  
ORDER FOR COMPLIANCE

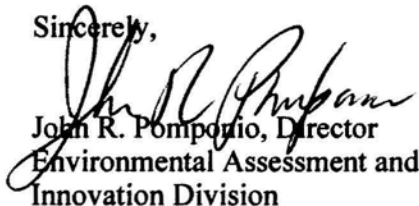
Gentlemen:

Enclosed is an Order for Compliance that requires you to mitigate for the unauthorized work associated with the placement of gravel and cobble within the stream channel of Steener Fork, located in New Martinsville, Wetzel County, West Virginia. The Order requires mitigation for the environmental harm which was caused by the unlawful discharge to waters of the United States. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued this Order under the authority of Section 309(a) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a).

The CWA prohibits discharges of dredged and/or fill material to waters of the United States without a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to CWA §404, 33 USC §1344. Activities performed by Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC have resulted in discharges of dredged and/or fill material to jurisdictional waters of the United States without a permit. These activities constitute a violation of Sections 301 and 404 of the CWA and include the placement of stone fill material into Steener Fork. All fill material in the stream channel must be removed, and all impacted areas must be returned to pre-disturbance conditions.

EPA is prepared to answer any questions you may have. Ms. Stephanie Chin is assigned to this matter and may be reached by phone at 215-814-2747.

Sincerely,

  
John R. Pomponio, Director  
Environmental Assessment and  
Innovation Division

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Scott Hans – US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District  
Mr. Frank Jernejcic – WV Department of Natural Resources  
Mr. Mike Zeto – WV Department of Environmental Protection

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

In The Matter of	)	
	)	
Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC	)	Proceeding Under Section
	)	309(a) of the Clean Water
	)	Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a)
Property Located At:	)	
	)	
Steener Fork,	)	
Approximately 2.5 miles north of the	)	
Intersection of County Road 1/12 and	)	
State Highway 89	)	
New Martinsville, WV 26155	)	
	)	ORDER FOR COMPLIANCE
	)	
Respondent	)	Docket No. CWA-03-2011-0069DW

**I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

1. This Order for Compliance is issued under the authority vested in the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by Section 309(a) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a) ("CWA" or "Act"). The Administrator has delegated this authority to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region III who in turn has redelegated it to the Director of the Environmental Assessment and Innovation Division.

**II. ALLEGATIONS**

1. Respondent is a "person" within the meaning of Section 502(5) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5).
2. Respondent, Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC, conducted work in Steener Fork, adjacent to County Road 1/12, approximately 2.5 miles north of the intersection with State Highway 89, in New Martinsville, Wetzel County, West Virginia, identified as "the Site" on the attached map labeled Exhibit "A". Steener Fork is a tributary of Blake Fork, which flows to Lynn Camp Run. Lynn Camp Run flows to Fish Creek, and then to the Ohio River, a navigable-in-fact body of water. Therefore, the area is "waters of the United States" within the meaning of Section 502(7) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(7); 40 C.F.R. § 232.2; 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.

3. On information and belief, between January 2010 and the present, Respondent, or persons acting on behalf of Respondent, operated equipment which discharged dredged and/or fill material to waters of the United States located on the Site described in Paragraph 2, above, and further depicted on Exhibit "A", attached hereto. Respondent's activities included filling portions of a stream channel with gravel and cobble for construction of a road.
4. The term "fill material" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 232.2, includes any pollutant which replaces portions of "waters of the United States" with dry land or which changes the bottom elevation of a water body for any purpose.
5. The equipment referenced in Paragraph 4, above, which has discharged dredged and/or fill material to "waters of the United States", constitutes a "point source" within the meaning of Section 502(14) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14).
6. Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), prohibits the discharge of dredged and/or fill material from point sources to "waters of the United States" except in compliance with a permit issued by the Secretary of the Army under Section 404 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1344.
7. On information and belief, at no time during the discharge of dredged and/or fill material to the "waters of the United States" located on the Site did the Respondent have a permit from the Secretary of the Army as required by Section 404 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1344.
8. Respondent, by discharging dredged and/or fill material to the "waters of the United States" without authorization, has violated Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a).

### **III. ORDER FOR COMPLIANCE**

Therefore, this 11<sup>TH</sup> day of JANUARY, 2011, the Respondent is hereby ORDERED, pursuant to Section 309(a) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a), to do the following:

1. Cease and desist all discharges without a permit to waters of the United States at the Site.
2. Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this order, Respondent shall submit a detailed restoration plan to EPA for approval. The plan must describe the actions proposed to be taken to remove the material from the regulated waters, stabilize the site, and return the watercourse to pre-disturbance grade and conditions.
3. After review of the restoration plan, EPA will: a) approve the plan, in whole or in part; b) approve the plan upon specified conditions; c) modify the plan to cure any deficiencies; d) disapprove the plan, in whole or in part, or e) any combination of the above.

4. If EPA disapproves all or part of the restoration plan, Respondent shall, within fourteen (14) days of receipt of EPA's disapproval, correct the deficiencies and resubmit the plan for approval. EPA retains the right, if the plan is not approved as provided in this Order, to order restoration in accordance with a plan developed by EPA. Upon approval of the restoration plan (either with or without conditions or modifications by EPA), Respondent shall implement the plan as approved or modified by EPA as provided below. All restoration work shall be completed within ninety (90) days of EPA's approval of the plan.
5. Respondent's failure to complete the work in a manner consistent with this Order shall be deemed a violation of this Order.
6. The restoration plan and all other correspondence should be sent to:  
  
Todd Lutte  
Wetlands Enforcement Coordinator  
Mail Code (3EA30)  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
7. Respondent's compliance with the terms of this Order shall not relieve Respondent of its obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of the Clean Water Act or any other Federal, State or local law or regulation. Issuance of this Order is not an election by EPA to forego any civil or criminal action otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act. EPA reserves the right to seek any remedy available under the law that it deems appropriate to the violations described herein. Compliance with this Order shall not be a defense to any action commenced pursuant to such authorities.
8. Violation of the terms of this Order may result in further EPA enforcement action including, but not limited to, imposition of administrative penalties pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g) as modified by the Debt Collection Procedures Act of 1996 and the subsequent Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule, 40 C.F.R. Part 19, and/or initiation of judicial proceedings that allow for civil penalties pursuant to 33 CFR § 1319(b) and (d) as modified by the Debt Collection Procedures Act; and/or for the criminal sanctions of imprisonment and fines of up to \$50,000 per day, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(c).

#### **IV. EFFECTIVE DATE**

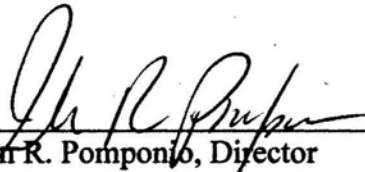
1. The effective date of this Order shall be the date of receipt of the executed document.

**V. NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY**

1. Within ten (10) days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall submit to EPA a Notice of Intent to Comply with the Order. The Notice shall be submitted to:

Todd Lutte  
Wetlands Enforcement Coordinator  
Mail Code (3EA30)  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Date: 1/11/2011

  
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John R. Pomponio, Director  
Environmental Assessment and Innovation Division



# Exhibit "A"

CWA-03-2011-0069DW

