

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF FEDERAL CLEAN AIR ACT PERMIT MODIFICATION AND
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

For

**NORTHEAST GATEWAY ENERGY BRIDGE LLC
1450 Lake Robbins Drive, # 200
The Woodlands, TX 77380**

EPA Region 1 Permit Number RG1-DPA-CAA-01M

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY – REGION 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency New England office (EPA Region 1) is proposing to issue a Clean Air Act (CAA) permit modification to Northeast Gateway Energy Bridge LLC (NEG). The modification will authorize a change in NEG's existing CAA permit (RG1-DPA-CAA-01) to operate the liquefied natural gas (LNG) deepwater port (DWP) approximately 13 miles off the coast of Massachusetts. The permit modification is issued pursuant to the CAA and applicable rules and regulations approved and promulgated under the CAA, including air permitting rules promulgated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and approved by the U.S. EPA. Please note that this project is under review by several federal agencies and requires other licenses permits, and approvals in addition to the CAA permit modification. The proposed CAA permit modification is limited in scope to address only the potential air emission impacts from NEG. Therefore, we are soliciting comments related only to air emission impacts and the substance of the proposed permit modification.

Description of the Project:

LNG tankers require equipment to heat and regasify the LNG before the natural gas can be pumped into the gas pipeline. Typically, these regasification systems are installed at a land-based port facility and require the tanker to dock at the port to deliver LNG onshore for storage and subsequent regasification. NEG operates an LNG port facility that avoids the need for tankers to dock and regasify at land-based facilities. NEG's DWP, located approximately 13 miles south of Gloucester and 22 miles northeast of Boston uses submerged buoy systems permanently fixed to the sea floor. The buoy system is directly connected to the Northeast natural gas transmission line (the "Algonquin Hubline") using a series of sub-sea pipes and risers. NEG operates a fleet of specially designed LNG tankers equipped with onboard regasification equipment. The tankers attach to the submerged buoy system through special receptors installed in the tanker's hull. Once attached, the LNG is pumped through the onboard regasification equipment and into the submerged buoy for transfer to the Algonquin Hubline.

NEG tankers use marine boilers both to power the vessel's propulsion engines and to provide heat for the regasification system. NEG operates their purpose built LNG tankers, known as Energy Bridge Regasification Vessels (EBRVs), at ports throughout the world.

EPA Permit Action:

NEG proposed amendments to its existing CAA permit (RG1-DPA-CAA-01) in October 28, 2008. Subsequent amendments were submitted on July 17, 2009, January 26, 2010, August 19, 2011, April 2, 2012, and October 28, 2014. EPA is proposing to take action on the operational and technical amendments NEG requested. In many instances, NEG proposed more stringent conditions than are permitted in RG1-DPA-CAA-01. The modified permit EPA is proposing to approve certain provisions which result in an annual potential emissions decrease Port-wide.

Public Comment Process:

The public comment for the proposed action will open November 26, 2014. Any interested person may submit written comments on the proposed permit modification during the public comment period. EPA will consider all submitted comments in its final decision making process.

Persons who submit comments to EPA should state:

1. Their interest in the draft CAA permit;
2. The action they wish EPA to take, including specific references to the portion of the draft permit they believe should be changed, if any; and,
3. The reasons supporting their position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow EPA to evaluate the merits of the position.

All comments received during the comment period will be included in the administrative record and will be available to the public. The public comment period for the draft CAA comments should be postmarked no later than December 29, 2014. Comments should be submitted to:

Patrick Bird
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Mail Code: OEP05-2
Boston, MA 02109-3912

In addition, EPA will hold a public hearing for the proposed permit modification on December 29, 2014. The hearing will be held in Leighton Hall on the 1st floor of EPA Region 1's Boston office, John W. McCormack Post Office and Courthouse Building, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please be aware that building security will require you to present a picture identification to enter the building. Also, please allow additional time for security check-in. We also request, if possible, that you provide a written copy of any testimony you intend to present during the hearing. Depending on the number of attendees wishing to speak, it may be necessary to limit the time each speaker has to present remarks.

All information used by EPA in its permit decisions are part of the administrative record. The administrative record including copies of the draft permit modification, the permit application, supplemental permit application amendments, the Fact Sheet, and other information may be viewed between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at EPA Region 1's Boston office, John W. McCormack Post Office and Courthouse Building, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA. These materials may also be obtained on-line at EPA Region 1's website at <http://www.epa.gov/region1/communities/nsemissions.html>.

For more information about accessing the administrative record, contact Patrick Bird at 617-918-1287 or by e-mail at bird.patrick@epa.gov.