

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Investigation pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 30 and )  
209 regarding the alleged failure of Vermont )  
Gas Systems, Inc. to comply with the ) Case No. 17-3550-INV  
certificate of public good in Docket 7970 by )  
burying the pipeline at less than required )  
depth in New Haven, Vermont )

Third Affidavit of John St. Hilaire

I, John St. Hilaire, being duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

1. I am employed by Vermont Gas Systems, Inc. (“VGS”) as Vice President of Operations and I have provided two previous affidavits in connection with Case No. 17-3550-INV. I have personal knowledge of the information submitted in this Affidavit.

2. Contour restoration, including re-contouring or adding any soil needed to achieve cover requirements, is a customary part of the pipeline construction process because depth of cover measurements cannot be taken until after the pipe is put in place and covered.

3. Restoration, as used in the Company’s submissions in Docket 7970 and in the industry, means re-establishing the same land “contours” as existed pre-construction. It does not mean returning the surface to the precise elevation (to the inch) as it existed pre-construction.

4. In pipeline construction, the final signoff on contouring cannot be completed until after depth of cover measurements are taken.

5. When depth of cover information was reported to VGS by CHA (our survey contractor), Michels (our pipeline construction contractor) returned to the field to remediate those areas along the route identified as not yet having sufficient depth of cover.

6. Michels did not leave mounded soil piled on top of the pipe to remediate depth of cover. Instead, soil was regraded and placed across a wide surface – adding additional soil if

needed - to provide appropriate cover to the pipe while smoothly grading the surface around the pipeline to restore the pre-construction contours.

7. Depth of cover was reassessed and confirmed after this additional contouring and grading was completed.

8. Depth of cover remediation in agricultural areas, including areas that required additional depth of cover, was done using topsoil just as planned and consistent with the requirements of the CPG.

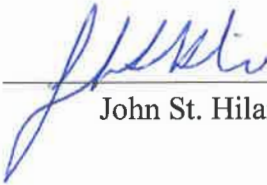
9. There are no homes along Mountain View Road where the pipeline is installed. The land to the north of Mountain View Road where the pipeline is installed is undeveloped. The land immediately south of Mountain View Road is an open field in sections and forested in other parts.

10. The ANGP pipeline does not run along O'Neil Lane or any of the properties on O'Neil Lane.


11. Redmond Road is a rural road with commercial and industrial activity (the Chittenden Solid Waste District ("CSWD") transfer station and entry to the IBM/GlobalFoundries Industrial Park). There are approximately seven houses/dwellings along this one and a half mile stretch of road where the pipeline runs, but they are dispersed (and some appear to be used as office space and owned by CSWD or IBM).

12. The surface of the ground in the pipeline route in the Clay Plains Swamp is not visible given the regrowth of the vegetative cover. See video attached as **Exhibit 1**. This video was taken by me in September 2017 in the area where VGS understands Mr. Shelton took the video he submitted to the Public Utility Commission. This video shows the pipeline corridor in the Clay Plains Swamp looking north to south.

Dated at Burlington, Vermont this 22 day of September, 2017.

  
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John St. Hilaire

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22 day of September, 2017.

  
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Notary Public  
My commission expires: 2/10/2019