



Mountain Valley Pipeline Project

Docket No. CP16-10-000

Organic Farm Protection Plan

January 2016

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1.0 Introduction

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (MVP), a joint venture between EQT Midstream Partners, LP and affiliates of NextEra Energy, Inc., Con Edison Gas Midstream, LLC, WGL Holdings, Inc., Vega Energy Partners, Ltd., and RGC Midstream, LLC, is proposing to construct an approximately 301-mile, 42-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline to provide timely, cost-effective access to the growing demand for natural gas for use by local distribution companies, industrial users and power generation in the Mid-Atlantic and southeastern markets, as well as potential markets in the Appalachian region. The proposed pipeline will extend from the existing Equitrans, L.P. transmission system and other natural gas facilities in Wetzel County, West Virginia to Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC's Zone 5 compressor station 165 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. In addition to the pipeline, the Project will include approximately 171,600 horsepower of compression at three compressor stations currently planned along the route, as well as measurement, regulation, and other ancillary facilities required for the safe and reliable operation of the pipeline. The pipeline is designed to transport up to 2.0 million dekatherms per day of natural gas.

MVP recognizes that certified organic agricultural land is a unique feature on the landscape and will treat this land with the same level of care as other sensitive environmental features. MVP has developed this Organic Farm Protection Plan (OFPP) to outline the special procedures and best management practices (BMPs) that will be implemented during construction on farms in Virginia and West Virginia that are organic certified or that are in active transition to being organic certified. This OFPP is intended to address the unique management and certification requirements of these organic farm operations. These special procedures and BMPs may be implemented in addition to the other plans, procedures, and BMPs MVP has specified for use on the Project and used in conjunction with those plans, procedures, and BMPs, as applicable. The provisions of this OFPP will apply to certified organic agricultural land for which the landowner or tenant has provided proof to MVP of certification for organic farming within the affected property.

This OFPP will be submitted to state agencies for review and comment.

2.0 Organic System Plan

The Organic System Plan (OSP), as defined by the National Organic Program Standards (NOPS), Federal Regulations (7 CFR Part 205), is a plan of management of an organic production or handling operation that has been agreed to by the producer or handler and the certifying agent and that includes written plans concerning all aspects of agricultural production or handling described in the Act and the regulations (7 CFR Part 205.2). MVP will work with the landowner or tenant, the landowner's or tenant's certifying agent, and/or a mutually acceptable third-party organic consultant to identify site-specific construction measures to mitigate any potential for decertification as a result of construction activities. Possible measures may include, but are not limited to:

- Provide 72-hour notification before entry;
- Pre- and post-construction equipment cleaning requirements;
- The use of drop cloths and appropriate clean-up procedures during construction;
- Topsoil segregation, storage, and restoration measures;
- The planting of a deep-rooted cover crop in-lieu of mechanical decompaction;
- Prohibiting tobacco use while working on certified organic agricultural land to prevent the introduction of disease vectors;

- Restricting herbicide use and maintaining appropriate organic buffer zones to eliminate drift and runoff of prohibited substances to certified organic agricultural land;
- Restoration and replacement of beneficial bird and insect habitat; and
- The maintenance of organic buffer zones and use of organic seeds approved under the individual OSP for any cover crop.

These measures are further discussed in the following sections.

3.0 Prohibited Substances

Unless requested by a land management agency, it is MVP policy not to use herbicides or pesticides to maintain the right-of-way or Project facilities. Vegetation maintenance within the right-of-way will be performed mechanically. No fuel or lubricant storage, or routine equipment maintenance will be allowed on certified organic agricultural land. Equipment will be washed in accordance with the equipment maintenance procedures outline in the Project Environmental Construction Plan (ECP) and checked by the Environmental Inspector prior to entry into the property to ensure that fuel, hydraulic, and lubrication systems are functioning properly before working on certified organic agricultural land. During construction, MVP will use drop cloths during pipe welding and coating activities. If prohibited substances are to be used on land adjacent to certified organic agricultural land, MVP will evaluate field conditions to ensure adequate buffers are maintained.

4.0 Soil Handling, Erosion Control, and Mitigation of Natural Resource Impacts

Topsoil and subsoil layers that are removed during construction on certified organic agricultural land will be stored separately and replaced in the proper sequence after laying the pipeline. Unless otherwise specified in the site-specific OSP described above, MVP will not use this soil for other purposes. No topsoil or subsoil (other than incidental amounts associated with the movement of construction equipment) may be removed from certified organic agricultural land. Additionally, certified organic agricultural land will not be used for storage of soil from non-organic agricultural land. After construction, MVP will plant a deep rooted cover crop in lieu of mechanical de-compaction to the extent practicable. MVP will work with landowners to identify the preferred type of seeding to be used in re-vegetation.

On certified organic agricultural land, MVP will, to the extent feasible, implement erosion control methods consistent with the landowner or tenants OSP and the Project ECP and Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (E&SCP). On land adjacent to certified organic agricultural land, MVP's BMPs will be designed so that sediment from adjacent non-organic agricultural land will not be transported along the right-of-way and deposited on certified organic agricultural land.

5.0 Water in Trenches and Weed Control

All trench dewatering operations on certified organic agricultural land will be performed in accordance with MVP's ECP. During construction, MVP will leave an earthen plug in trench at boundary of organically managed lands to prevent any accumulating water in the trench from flowing from non-organic to organically managed lands. Likewise, MVP will not allow trench dewatering from adjacent land to be discharged or flow onto certified organic agricultural land.

On certified organic agricultural land, MVP will, to the extent feasible, implement weed control methods consistent with the OSP and the Project Exotic and Invasive Species Control Plan. Prohibited substances will not be used in weed control on certified organic agricultural land. In addition, MVP will not use

prohibited substances to promote weed control on land adjacent to certified organic agricultural land in a manner that would potentially compromise the certified organic agricultural land.

6.0 Monitoring

In addition to the responsibilities of the Environmental Inspector described in the Project ECP, the following monitoring procedures will apply to certified organic agricultural land:

- The Environmental Inspector or a U.S. Department of Agricultural (USDA)-approved organic certifier retained by MVP will monitor construction and restoration activities on certified organic agricultural land to ensure compliance with the provisions of this OFPP and will document and identify activities that could potentially result in decertification.
- Instances of non-compliance will be documented according to the Independent Organic Inspectors Association (IOIA) protocol and will be made available to the appropriate state agencies, the landowner, the tenant, and the landowner's or tenant's certifying agent.

If the Environmental Inspector is responsible for monitoring activities on certified organic agricultural land, he/she will be trained in organic inspection by the IOIA at MVP's expense, unless the Environmental Inspector has received such training during the previous three years.

7.0 Compensation

Landowners will be compensated for crop losses and other damages caused by construction activities. MVP will negotiate with and reimburse landowners/producers of products for damages or loss to their product as a result of the construction of the Project. The reimbursement to these landowners/producers will be based on the market prices for the specific products at the time of easement negotiations with each affected landowner. Typically, MVP will compensate landowners for crop loss by paying the landowner 100 percent of the value of the crop. Compensation for replanting the area may also be considered on a case by case basis. Where production contracts are in place, MVP will work with the landowner to source production or grazing areas outside of the construction corridor.

Should any portion of certified organic agricultural land be decertified as a result of construction activities, the settlement of damages will be based on the difference in revenue generated from the land before decertification and after decertification, so long as a good faith effort is made by the landowner or tenant to regain certification.