



**Federal  
Regulatory  
Energy  
Commission**

**Office of  
Energy Projects**

**March 2018**

---

**Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC**

**Docket No. CP18-33-000**

# **18-Inch Mainline Abandonment Project**

## **Environmental Assessment**

Washington, DC 20426

## **A. PROPOSED ACTION**

---

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) has prepared this environmental assessment (EA) to assess the environmental impacts of the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed to be abandoned by Florida Gas Transmission, LLC (FGT). We<sup>1</sup> prepared this EA in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 1500-1508 [40 CFR 1500-1508]), and the Commission's implementing regulations under 18 CFR 380. The EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether to authorize FGT's proposal.

On December 18, 2017, FGT filed an application for its 18-Inch Mainline Abandonment Project (Project) in Docket No. CP18-33-000 under Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA). FGT requests authorization to abandon in place and by removal an approximately 1.3 mile segment of an 18-inch-diameter natural gas transmission pipeline, including an aerial span, in Miami-Dade County, Florida. Figure 1 (attached) depicts the locations of the facilities to be abandoned and areas of ground disturbing activities.

### **1. Purpose and Need for the Project**

FGT states that it must abandon these facilities and remove the aerial span to accommodate a county road construction project to replace the SW 136th Street Bridge, adjacent to the aerial span. FGT also states in its application that it has not delivered gas through this section of pipeline in more than three years and has no current customers served by this section; however, it proposes to continue to maintain the abandoned in place pipeline facilities for potential future use.

Section 7(b) of the NGA specifies that no natural gas company shall abandon any portion of its facilities subject to the Commission's jurisdiction without the Commission first finding that the abandonment will not negatively affect the present or future public convenience and necessity. The Commission bases its decisions on technical competence, financing, rates, market demand, gas supply, environmental impact, long-term feasibility, and other issues concerning a proposed project.

### **2. Public Review and Comment**

On January 2, 2018, the Commission issued its Notice of Application for the Project, and on January 12, 2018, the Commission issued its *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed 18-Inch Mainline Abandonment Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues* (NOI). In accordance with the Commission's regulations, within 3 days of the Notice of Application FGT contacted all landowners and public officials whose constituents may be affected by the proposed Project. The NOI was sent to 345 individuals, organizations, federal and state agency representatives, county and local government agencies, elected officials, local media, and property owners either crossed or adjacent to the pipeline to be abandoned. The NOI requested written comments from the public on the scope of analysis for the EA. The public scoping period closed on February 12, 2018.

In response to the NOI, we received comments from the South Florida Water Management District and the Miami-Dade Department of Regulatory and Environmental Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM). The South Florida Water Management District noted that the original Right-of-Way Occupancy Permit was issued in 1966 and a new special condition would

---

<sup>1</sup> "We," "us," and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Commission's Office of Energy Projects.

---

be required. We have noted this in table 1 (Permits, Approvals, and Consultations for the Project), below. DERM described county regulations pertaining to vegetation, advised FGT to contact and seek potentially needed permits and consultations related to wetlands and endangered species, and identified county-owned conservation land adjacent to the proposed abandonment. DERM's comments are addressed and described further under section B.1 (Land Use and Vegetation).

### 3. Description of Abandonment Activities and Land Requirements

FGT would abandon most of the Project facilities in place and isolate them from its mainline system. Pipeline abandonment activities would commence with an FGT blow down<sup>2</sup> of the pipeline from the Turkey Point take-off. Once purged, the pipeline would be cleaned by pig<sup>3</sup> from milepost (MP) 919.0 to MP 924.9.

The only ground-disturbing activity proposed is the removal of approximately 200 feet of the pipeline, which includes a 73-foot-long aerial span of the Miami-Dade County Cutler Drain Canal 100A (the Canal) parallel to the SW 136th Street bridge in Miami. To facilitate this removal, FGT would cut and cap the pipeline on each side of the Canal. Once the pipe is excavated and isolated, FGT would cut out the aerial span and remove it with a crane operating from the bridge. FGT would leave the concrete supports for the aerial span in place, and Miami-Dade County would remove these supports during construction of the new bridge, expected to occur after June 1, 2018.

FGT would re-pressurize the pipeline from MP 919.0 to approximately MP 923.6 (i.e., the pipeline segment upstream of the Canal) with natural gas. From approximately MP 923.6 to MP 924.9 (downstream of the Canal), FGT would fill the pipe with nitrogen and abandon it and associated valves in place.

During abandonment activities, FGT would employ at least one environmental inspector. The environmental inspector responsibilities would include monitoring compliance with environmental measures required by any Project-specific FERC authorization and other permit conditions; documenting compliance with environmental requirements; and identifying and overseeing corrective actions where necessary. The environmental inspector would have the authority to stop activities that violate the Project's environmental conditions and to order appropriate corrective action. Abandonment activities would be conducted in accordance with FERC's *Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan* (Plan) and *Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures* (Procedures).<sup>4</sup> FGT anticipates it would take two days to remove the span, but crews may be mobilized for up to two weeks.

Removal of the facilities would affect about 0.65 acre of land, and an additional 1.5 acres of an industrial lot would be used without improvements for a contractor yard. Following construction, the disturbed areas would be restored and revert to former uses. FGT states that it would continue to maintain the right-of-way for the abandoned pipeline as well as continuously preserve and maintain the abandoned Project facilities and associated appurtenances for possible future use, including the installation of cathodic protection, as needed. Although FGT has identified areas where extra workspace would be required, additional or alternative areas could be identified in the future due to changes in site-

---

<sup>2</sup> A "blow down" is a controlled release of natural gas.

<sup>3</sup> A "pig" is a tool that the pipeline company inserts into and pushes through the pipeline for cleaning the pipeline, conducting internal inspections, or other purposes.

<sup>4</sup> The FERC Plan and Procedures are a set of best management practices for companies to minimize resource impacts during construction and right-of-way restoration of pipeline projects. Copies of the Plan and Procedures may be accessed on our website (<http://www.ferc.gov/industries/gas/enviro/guidelines.asp>).

specific construction requirements. FGT would be required to file information on each of those areas for review and approval prior to use.

#### 4. Permits and Approvals

FGT would obtain all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, and approvals related to abandonment of the Project, as listed in table 1. FGT would be responsible for obtaining all applicable permits for its Project regardless of whether they appear in the table or not.

Table 1 Permits, Approvals, and Consultations for the Project		
Agency	Permit/Approval/Consultation	Status
<b>Federal</b>		
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	Authorization under Section 7(b) of the NGA	Submitted 12/18/17
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State Field Offices	Endangered Species Act – Section 7 Consultation Consultation – Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	Concurrence not required due to our determination that the Project would <i>not affect</i> any federally listed species, and would not impact migratory birds
<b>Florida</b>		
Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Determination of consistency with Florida Coastal Zone Management Program – Blanket Authorization	Submitted 11/7/17; Received 11/14/17
South Florida Water Management District	Notice of Intent to dewater construction excavations	Submitted 12/27/17 Received 12/27/17
	Modification to Right of Way Occupancy Permit No. 3044	Pending
Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Southeast District	Generic Permit for Discharge of Groundwater from Dewatering Operations	Submitted 1/25/18 Received 1/30/18
Florida Division of Historical Resources (FLDHR)	Consultation for cultural resources under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act – FLDHR Categorical Blanket Authorization	Submitted 1/11/18 Received 1/30/18
<b>County and Local</b>		
Miami-Dade Department of Regulatory and Environmental Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management	Class V Dewatering Permit for temporary dewatering of construction excavations	Submitted 12/14/17; Received 1/26/18
	Tree Removal Permit	Submitted 12/21/17; Pending

## **B. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

---

We reviewed FGT's application and determined there may be impacts on the following resources, described in detail below: land use and traffic; vegetation; soils; water resources; cultural resources; air quality and noise; and reliability and safety. An impact would be considered significant if it would result in a substantial adverse change in the physical environment.

Based on our review of the Project, the urban character (developed/maintained) of affected lands, and FGT's use of existing utility/road easements as well as disturbed lands (contractor yard), we have determined that the proposed abandonment would not affect geology, wetlands, fisheries, and protected species; therefore, these resources are not addressed further. We have also determined that FGT's use of existing roads to access workspace would not affect the natural environment and as a result, these roads are only considered in our analysis of impacts on traffic. Valve operation, pigging, purging, and filling activities are proposed at FGT's existing industrial facilities at the Turkey Point take-off at MP 919.0 and the Florida Power & Light Company Cutler delivery point at MP 924.9 (delivery point abandoned in 2013). Given that these are minor, non-ground-disturbing activities at existing facilities, they are not discussed further. There would be no short-term impacts on the land over the pipeline to be abandoned nor long-term change in existing FGT practices for aboveground maintenance. Ground-disturbing activities are only proposed for the removal of the existing aerial span over the Canal, therefore we have focused our environmental impacts analysis on this area.

### **1. Land Use and Traffic**

The land use over the 1.3 miles of pipeline to be abandoned in place is an urban mix of residential, commercial, and industrial development. As described previously, ground-disturbing activities would be limited to the removal of approximately 200 feet of existing pipeline over the Canal, affecting 0.27 acre of residential land use (figure 2, attached). Removing the aerial span would temporarily affect nearby residences. Potential effects include increased noise and dust generated by construction equipment; ground disturbance of lawns; removal of trees, landscaped shrubs, or other vegetation screening between residences; potential disruption of utilities; visual impacts of construction equipment (including crane); and removal of fences from within the workspace.

In addition to the aforementioned impacts, traffic along SW 136 Street would be affected by the Project. Approximately, 12,056 trips are made across the SW 136th Street Bridge daily. During the two days of aerial span removal, travel times and traffic would increase. During this time, FGT would maintain access to affected properties by maintaining alternate access (the Chapman Field Drive and SW 144<sup>th</sup> bridges are within 1.5 mile north or south of the SW 136th Street bridge) or by keeping a travel lane open.

Residential impacts (noise, visual, equipment vibration, vegetation removal, and general disturbance) would be greatest on the two residences within 50 feet of the existing pipeline proposed to be removed; workspaces would be within 17 and 23 feet of these residences, which are included in figure 2. For these residences, FGT has specifically committed to not remove mature trees and landscaping unless necessary for the safe operation of equipment or as specified in landowner agreements. FGT would also restore all lawn areas and landscaping within the work area immediately after cleanup operations, or as specified in landowner agreements. Lastly, consistent with our Plan, FGT would install safety fence along the edge of the construction work area adjacent to the residence for a distance of 100 feet on either side of the residence to ensure that construction equipment and materials, including the spoil pile, remain within the construction work area.

---

FGT has a Blanket Clearance Concurrence for Projects Deemed Consistent with the Florida Coastal Zone Management Program dated November 14, 2017, which covers the activities proposed as part of the Project.

The Ludlam Pineland Preserve and Deering Estate North Addition Preserve (county public lands) are adjacent to the pipeline to be abandoned. As no ground-disturbing activities are proposed in this area, and FGT commits to continue to maintain its easement, there are no anticipated impacts on these lands. No other Project areas are within or adjacent to any federal, state, county, local, or private conservation agency's land boundaries.

Based on the scope of the Project, including the minimal land disturbance and short duration of abandonment work, effects on land use, residences, and traffic would be temporary, minor, and localized; therefore, we conclude that abandoning the facilities would not significantly affect these resources.

## **2. Vegetation and Wildlife**

The vegetation at and near the aerial span consists of residential trees, shrubs, and grasses and other common ornamental landscaping. In its comment letter, Miami-Dade County noted that it regulates tree resources through preservation and protection pursuant to county code and requires a permit to remove such resources. FGT has requested a permit from Miami-Dade County for the removal of eight mature ornamental trees within the identified workspace. FGT states that these trees were verified in the field by Miami-Dade County staff as trees that will ultimately be removed to accommodate the county road/bridge project. Based on the scope of FGT's Project and the vegetation present, we have determined that the removal of the identified residential vegetation and any subsequent effect on suburban wildlife (squirrels and smaller rodents, anoles, and commonly found birds) would be minor and localized.

## **3. Water Resources and Soils**

In the Project area, the water table is very high, and shallow groundwater is common. Soils can be generally characterized as sandy or shallow. Water movement in the most restrictive soil layer is high to very high, meaning surface contamination can quickly penetrate soil layers and the water table. In South Florida, groundwater is used for a variety of purposes including drinking water supply. However, no public or private water supply wells are in the vicinity of the proposed Project. As described in its application, FGT would dewater excavated trenches to complete abandonment of the removed facilities. Shallow groundwater could be temporarily affected by the general use of construction equipment and trench dewatering. Dewatering could also temporarily affect groundwater flow and quality. Additionally, an inadvertent release of equipment fluid could temporarily affect soils or groundwater quality. FGT would implement the mitigation measures found in its Spill Prevention and Response Plan as well as our Plan to reduce potential impacts on soils and groundwater.

The approximately 50-foot-wide Canal is part of South Florida's flood control and water supply infrastructure and is managed by the South Florida Water Management District, which manages over 2,000 miles of canals and other water conveyance infrastructure. As described previously, FGT would remove an aerial crossing of this feature. FGT anticipates that the excavations on east side of the canal would be approximately 10 feet wide by 20 feet long by 8.5 feet deep and excavation on the west side of the canal would be approximately 110 feet long by 10 feet wide by 10 feet deep.

FGT is not proposing any instream work; however, the adjacent land disturbance required to remove the aerial crossing could temporarily affect the canal if sediment from the work area were to enter the watercourse, which would result in downstream turbidity and sedimentation. This could temporarily

---

affect water quality. To minimize the potential for an effect, FGT would implement erosion control measures and other best management practices as described in our Plan and Procedures; including installation of silt fence and/or other methods as required to retain disturbed soils within the approved workspace and limit adverse impacts on water quality. In addition, FGT would not keep spoil onsite; rather, it would be trucked to the contractor yard and stored until being returned to the work area to be used for backfill. Therefore, based on FGT's construction activities and its implementation of impact avoidance and minimization efforts, soils, groundwater, and surface water resources would not be significantly affected by the Project.

#### **4. Cultural Resources**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, requires the FERC to take into account the effects of its undertakings on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment. FGT, as a non-federal party, is assisting the FERC in meeting our obligations under Section 106 and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800.

FGT completed a cultural resources Desktop Analysis and Reconnaissance Survey for the Project (Janus Research, December 2017), and provided the resulting report to the FERC and the Florida State Historic Preservation Office. The analysis/survey included an assessment of both archaeological and architectural resources. As a result of the analysis/survey, all the construction workspaces were found to be previously disturbed with low potential for archaeological resources. One structure, a circa 1965 residence, was identified and considered not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and FGT recommended that the Project would have no effect on historic properties. On January 30, 2018, the Florida State Historic Preservation Office concurred. We concur also, and have determined that the Project would have no effect on historic properties.

Because all construction would be limited to previously disturbed ground, with the majority of Project workspace within existing road right-of-way, no contact with Native American tribes was required.

FGT provided a plan to address the unanticipated discovery of historic properties and human remains during abandonment. We requested revisions to the plan. FGT provided a revised plan which we find acceptable.

#### **5. Air Quality and Noise**

Project activities, primarily equipment emissions and ground disturbance (dust related to removal of the aerial span), could have a very minor and localized effect on air quality. FGT would implement measures to minimize the effects of fugitive dust in areas where construction activities expose soils. Large construction equipment and vehicles could also emit air pollutants and greenhouse gases during the short period of construction, but the contribution would not trigger General Conformity under the Clean Air Act nor would it be a significant impact on air quality.

The pipeline coating is a tape coating, which could contain regulated asbestos-containing material. All unknown coating substances are assumed to be positive for asbestos and would be handled according to FGT's asbestos removal and maintenance procedures and federal regulations.

Project use of construction equipment and excavation work could temporarily raise sound levels in the immediate area. However, FGT committed to adhere to the City of Miami noise ordinances by

---

limiting noise-generating activities to the specified hours (8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) unless otherwise required and approved by appropriate agencies.

We conclude that, because abandonment activities would be minor and temporary, totaling approximately two weeks, and conducted during daylight hours in an urban setting, air quality and noise impacts from the Project would be insignificant.

## **6. Reliability and Safety**

The Project would be designed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the U.S. Department of Transportation pipeline safety regulations found in 49 CFR 192 and all applicable permits. Following authorization and abandonment, FGT would preserve and maintain the Project facilities for possible future use pursuant to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) regulations under 49 CFR 192.727, in accordance with the PHMSA August 16, 2016 Advisory Bulletin regarding deferral of certain activities for purged but active pipelines.

## **7. Cumulative Impacts**

In accordance with NEPA and FERC policy, we evaluated the potential for cumulative impacts of the Project on the environment. Cumulative impacts are considered as impacts that result from the incremental effects of the Project when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of the agency or party undertaking such actions. Cumulative effects generally refer to impacts that are additive or synergistic in nature and result from the construction of multiple projects in the same vicinity and time frame. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant actions, taking place over a period of time. In general, small-scale projects with minimal impacts of short duration do not significantly contribute to cumulative impacts.

Our cumulative impact analysis for the Project generally follows the methodology set forth in relevant guidance (CEQ 2005; USEPA 1999). Under these guidelines, inclusion of other projects in the analysis is based on identification of impacts on environmental resources from other projects that would directly or indirectly result in similar effects as the proposed Project. The cumulative impacts analysis includes those past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects meeting the following three criteria:

- impact a resource area potentially affected by the Project;
- cause this impact within all, or part of, the Project area; and
- cause this impact within all, or part of, the timespan for the potential impact for the Project.

The Project would immediately precede the Miami-Dade County project to replace the SW 136th Street Bridge across the Canal, expected to occur after June 1, 2018. This county transportation project would impact the same residences and traffic pattern as FGT's Project and continue for a longer period of time to accommodate both the removal and replacement of the SW 136th Street bridge. As described above, FGT would utilize the same workspace required by the subsequent county transportation project and would only remove mature trees as necessary. Given the scope and short duration of the Project, we conclude that the impacts of Project, when combined with those of the county project, would not result in significant cumulative impact.

---

## C. ALTERNATIVES

---

In accordance with NEPA and Commission policy, we considered and evaluated alternatives to the proposed action, including the no-action alternative. Alternatives were evaluated using a specific set of criteria. The evaluation criteria applied to each alternative include a determination whether the alternative:

- meets the objective of the proposed Projects;
- is technically and economically feasible and practical; and
- offers a significant environmental advantage over the proposed Projects.

We did not identify alternatives to the Project that could meet the Project purpose and that would provide a significant environmental advantage over the proposed Project. The no-action alternative would result in not implementing the proposed action and would avoid the potential environmental impacts associated with the Project; however, the Project objectives would not be met and Miami-Dade County would not be able continue with its transportation project to remove the SW 136th Street bridge over the Canal. Therefore we do not recommend the no-action alternative. We conclude that the proposed Project is the preferred alternative to meet the Project objectives.

---

## D. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

---

Based on the analysis contained in this EA, we have determined that if FGT abandons the proposed facilities in accordance with its application, filed supplements, and staff's recommended mitigation measures listed below, approval of the Project would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

We recommend that the Commission Order contain a finding of no significant impact. If the Commission authorizes the proposed Project, we recommend that the Commission Order include the following specific conditions:

1. FGT shall follow the construction and abandonment procedures and mitigation measures described in its application and as identified in the EA, unless modified by the Order. FGT must:
  - a. request any modification to these procedures, measures, or conditions in a filing with the Secretary of the Commission (Secretary);
  - b. justify each modification relative to site-specific conditions;
  - c. explain how that modification provides an equal or greater level of environmental protection than the original measure; and
  - d. receive approval in writing from the Director of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP) **before using that modification.**
2. The Director of OEP, or the Director's designee, has delegated authority to address any requests for approvals or authorizations necessary to carry out the conditions of the Order, and take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the protection of all environmental resources during abandonment activities associated with the Project. This authority shall allow:
  - a. the modification of conditions of the Order;
  - b. stop-work authority; and
  - c. the imposition of any additional measures deemed necessary to ensure continued compliance with the intent of the conditions of the Order as well as the avoidance or mitigation of unforeseen adverse environmental impact resulting from Project abandonment activities.
3. **Prior to any construction**, FGT shall file an affirmative statement with the Secretary, certified by a senior company official, that all company personnel, environmental inspectors (EIs), and contractor personnel will be informed of the EI's authority and have been or will be trained on the implementation of the environmental mitigation measures appropriate to their jobs **before** becoming involved with construction and restoration activities.
4. The authorized abandonment locations shall be as shown in the EA. **As soon as they are available, and before the start of construction**, FGT shall file with the Secretary any revised detailed survey alignment maps/sheets at a scale not smaller than 1:6,000 with station positions for all facilities approved for abandonment by the Order. All requests for modifications of environmental conditions of the Order or site-specific clearances must be written and must reference locations designated on these alignment maps/sheets.

FGT's exercise of eminent domain authority granted under Natural Gas Act (NGA) section 7(h) in any condemnation proceedings related to the Order must be consistent with these authorized facilities and locations. FGT's right of eminent domain granted under NGA section 7(h) does not

---

authorize it to increase the size of its natural gas facilities to accommodate future needs or to acquire a right-of-way for a pipeline to transport a commodity other than natural gas.

5. FGT shall file with the Secretary detailed alignment maps/sheets and aerial photographs at a scale not smaller than 1:6,000 identifying all workspace realignments or relocations, and staging areas, contractor yards, new access roads, and other areas that would be used or disturbed and have not been previously identified in filings with the Secretary. Approval for each of these areas must be explicitly requested in writing. For each area, the request must include a description of the existing land use/cover type, documentation of landowner approval, whether any cultural resources or federally listed threatened or endangered species would be affected, and whether any other environmentally sensitive areas are within or abutting the area. All areas shall be clearly identified on the maps/sheets/aerial photographs. Each area must be approved in writing by the Director of OEP **before construction in or near that area.**

This requirement does not apply to extra workspace allowed by the FERC Plan and/or minor field realignments per landowner needs and requirements which do not affect other landowners or sensitive environmental areas such as wetlands.

Examples of alterations requiring approval include all workspace realignments and/or location changes resulting from:

- a. implementation of cultural resources mitigation measures;
  - b. implementation of endangered, threatened, or special concern species mitigation measures;
  - c. recommendations by state regulatory authorities; and
  - d. agreements with individual landowners that affect other landowners or could affect sensitive environmental areas.
6. **Within 60 days of the acceptance of the authorization and before abandonment activities begin,** FGT shall file an Implementation Plan with the Secretary for review and written approval by the Director of OEP. FGT must file revisions to the plan as schedules change. The plan shall identify:
    - a. how FGT will implement the construction procedures and mitigation measures described in its application and supplements (including responses to staff data requests), identified in the EA, and required by the Order;
    - b. how FGT will incorporate these requirements into the contract bid documents, construction contracts (especially penalty clauses and specifications), and construction drawings so that the mitigation required at each site is clear to onsite construction and inspection personnel;
    - c. the number of EIs assigned, and how the company will ensure that sufficient personnel are available to implement the environmental mitigation;
    - d. company personnel, including EIs and contractors, who will receive copies of the appropriate material;
    - e. the location and dates of the environmental compliance training and instructions FGT will give to all personnel involved with construction and restoration (initial and refresher training as the project progresses and personnel change),
    - f. the company personnel (if known) and specific portion of FGT's organization having responsibility for compliance; and
    - g. the procedures (including use of contract penalties) FGT will follow if noncompliance occurs.
-

7. FGT shall employ at least one EI for the Project. The EI shall be:
    - a. responsible for monitoring and ensuring compliance with all mitigation measures required by the Order and other grants, permits, certificates, or other authorizing documents;
    - b. responsible for evaluating the construction contractor's implementation of the environmental mitigation measures required in the contract (see condition 6 above) and any other authorizing document;
    - c. empowered to order correction of acts that violate the environmental conditions of the Order, and any other authorizing document;
    - d. responsible for documenting compliance with the environmental conditions of the Order, as well as any environmental conditions/permit requirements imposed by other federal, state, or local agencies; and
    - e. responsible for maintaining status reports.
  
  8. Beginning with the filing of its Implementation Plan, FGT shall file updated status reports with the Secretary on a **weekly** basis until all construction and restoration activities are complete. On request, these status reports will also be provided to other federal and state agencies with permitting responsibilities. Status reports shall include:
    - a. an update on FGT's efforts to obtain the necessary federal authorizations;
    - b. the construction status of the Project, work planned for the following reporting period, and any schedule changes for stream crossings or work in other environmentally sensitive areas;
    - c. a listing of all problems encountered and each instance of noncompliance observed by the EI during the reporting period (both for the conditions imposed by the Commission and any environmental conditions/permit requirements imposed by other federal, state, or local agencies);
    - d. a description of the corrective actions implemented in response to all instances of noncompliance;
    - e. the effectiveness of all corrective actions implemented;
    - f. a description of any landowner/resident complaints which may relate to compliance with the requirements of the Order, and the measures taken to satisfy their concerns; and
    - g. copies of any correspondence received by FGT from other federal, state, or local permitting agencies concerning instances of noncompliance, and FGT's response.
  
  9. FGT must receive written authorization from the Director of OEP **before commencing any Project construction or abandonment activities**. To obtain such authorization, FGT must file with the Secretary documentation that it has received all applicable authorizations required under federal law (or evidence of waiver thereof).
  
  10. **Within 30 days of completing Project abandonment**, FGT shall file an affirmative statement with the Secretary, certified by a senior company official:
    - a. that the facilities have been abandoned in compliance with all applicable conditions, and that continuing activities will be consistent with all applicable conditions; or
    - b. identifying which of the conditions in the Order FGT has complied with or will comply with. This statement shall also identify any areas affected by the Project
-

where compliance measures were not properly implemented, if not previously identified in filed status reports, and the reason for noncompliance.

**E. LIST OF PREPARERS**

---

**Kragie, S. Xiah –Project Manager, Air, Noise, and Safety**

M.A., Geochemistry, 2013, Columbia University

M.P.H., Global Environmental Health, 2008, Emory University

B.S., Civil & Environmental Engineering, B.S., Economics, 2006, University of Maryland, College Park

**Boros, Laurie – Cultural Resources**

B.A., Anthropology/Archaeology, 1980, Queens College, City University of New York

**Peconom, John – Vegetation, Fisheries, and Wildlife; Special Status Species**

B.S., Environmental Biology & Management, 2000, University of California – Davis

---

Figure 1: Map and overview of the 18-Inch Mainline Abandonment Project

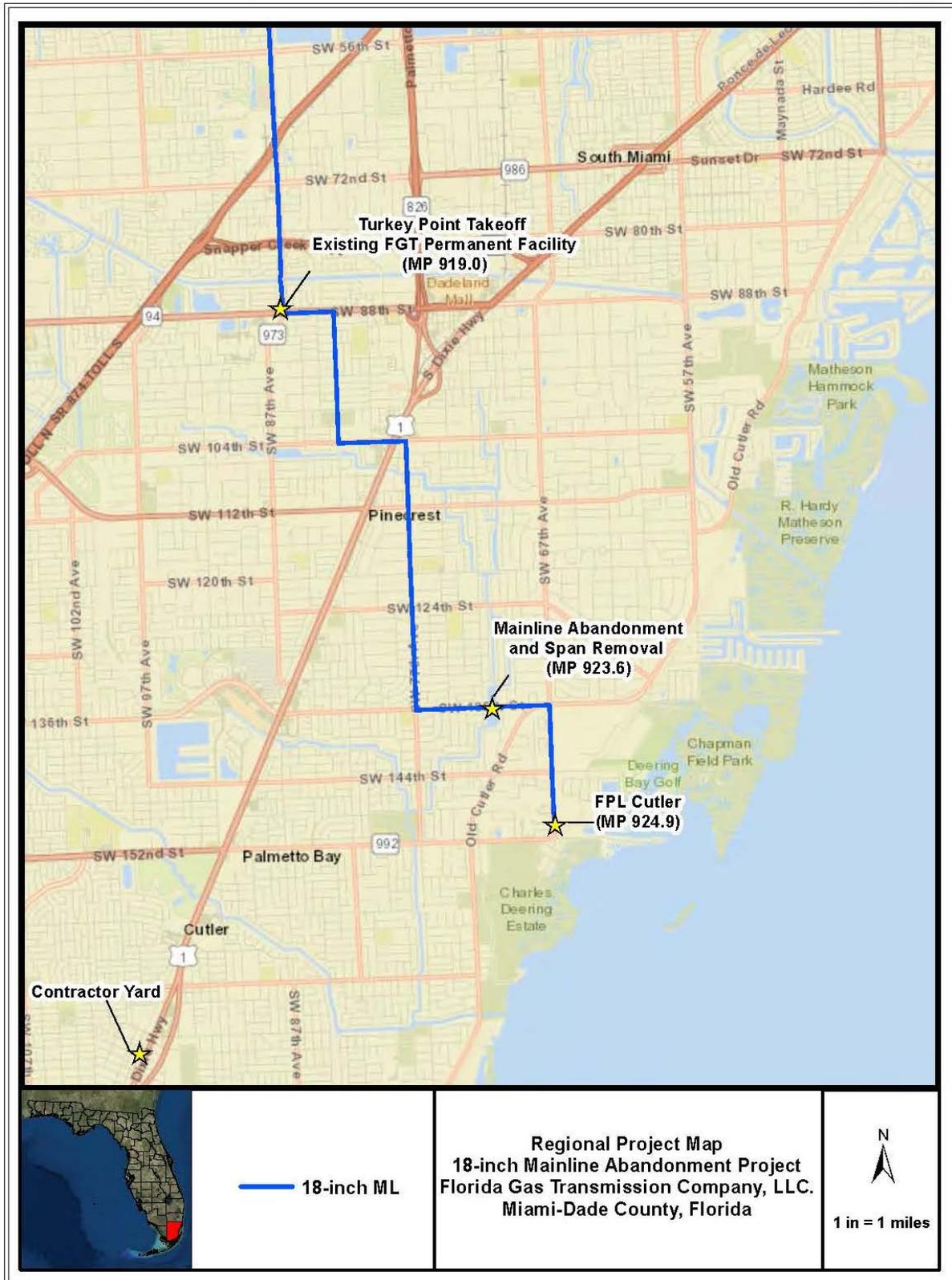


Figure 2: Workspace configuration for aerial span removal and residential construction

