



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket No. PHMSA-2020-0007]

Pipeline Safety: Request for Special Permit; Southern Natural Gas Company, LLC

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA); U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: PHMSA is publishing this notice to solicit public comments on a request for an extension to a special permit segment to be incorporated into special permit PHMSA-2020-0007 submitted by Southern Natural Gas Company, LLC (SNG), a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan, Inc. SNG is seeking relief from compliance with certain requirements in the Federal pipeline safety regulations. PHMSA has proposed conditions to ensure that the special permit is not inconsistent with pipeline safety. At the conclusion of the 30-day comment period, PHMSA will review the comments received from this notice as part of its evaluation to grant or deny the special permit request.

DATES: Submit any comments regarding this special permit request by **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: Comments should reference the docket number for this special permit request and may be submitted in the following ways:

- *E-Gov Website:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. This site allows the public to enter comments on any Federal Register notice issued by any agency.

- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

- *Mail:* Docket Management System: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New

Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20590.

- *Hand Delivery:* Docket Management System: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20590, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You should identify the docket number for the special permit request you are commenting on at the beginning of your comments. If you submit your comments by mail, please submit two copies. To receive confirmation that PHMSA has received your comments, please include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Internet users may submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Note: There is a privacy statement published on <http://www.regulations.gov>. Comments, including any personal information provided, are posted without changes or edits to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Confidential Business Information: Confidential Business Information (CBI) is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this notice contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this notice, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Pursuant to 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 190.343, you may ask PHMSA to give confidential treatment to information you give to the agency by taking the following steps: (1) mark each page of the original document submission containing CBI as “Confidential”; (2) send PHMSA, along with the original document, a second copy of the original document with the CBI deleted; and (3) explain why the information you are submitting is CBI. Unless you are notified otherwise, PHMSA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the

FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this notice. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Lee Cooper, DOT, PHMSA-PHP-80, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001. Any commentary PHMSA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this matter.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

General: Lee Cooper by telephone at 202-913-3171, or by e-mail at lee.cooper@dot.gov.

Technical: Gabrielle St. Pierre by telephone at 907-202-0029, or by e-mail at gabrielle.st.pierre@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

PHMSA received a special permit request from SNG, a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan, Inc., on September 26, 2024, seeking an extension to a special permit segment to be incorporated into special permit PHMSA-2020-0007. The extended segment request is a part of the active permit's Special Permit Inspection Area 4. Special permit PHMSA-2020-0007 allows SNG to deviate from the Federal pipeline safety regulations in 49 CFR §§ 192.611(a) and 192.619(a), where a gas transmission pipeline segment has undergone a change from a Class 1 to a Class 3 location.

Special permit PHMSA- 2020-0007 is active and was granted on July 27, 2022 and is effective until July 27, 2032. The special permit originally applied to four special permit segments, which included 3,278 feet (approximately 0.62 miles) of the SNG natural gas transmission pipeline system located in Effingham and Harris counties, Georgia, and Clarke County, Mississippi. In 2023, Special Permit Segment 2 underwent pipe replacement and Special Permit Segment 4 was hydrotested; both segments are now compliant with 49 CFR § 192.611 and are no longer waived by special permit PHMSA-2020-0007. The present request would extend Special Permit Segment 5 for 997 feet

(approximately 0.19 miles). If granted, the special permit segments would total 3,720 feet (approximately 0.70 miles).

The special permit segments, including the requested extension, are detailed in updated **Attachment A– Segment Integrity Information**. Proposed modifications due to this request are as follows:

SPS Number	Status	County, State	Outside Diameter (inches)	Line Name	Length (feet)	Year Installed	Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (pounds per square inch gauge)
5	Active Segment	Harris, Georgia	36	South Main 3 rd Line Loop	1,220	2004	1,200
	Extension	Harris, Georgia	36	South Main 3 rd Line Loop	997	2004	1,200

Upon receipt of this request, PHMSA reviewed the Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) and finds that the expansion of the proposed special permit would not result in significant impacts to the human environment. Furthermore, the existing FEA and finding of no significant impact remain adequate, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). No further environmental assessment is required for this proposed extension.

SNG’s request for an extension to Special Permit Segment 5, active Special Permit with Conditions, and associated environmental document are available for review and public comment in Docket No. PHMSA-2020-0007. PHMSA invites interested persons to review and submit comments in the docket on this request for modification of the special permit. Please submit comments on any potential safety, environmental, and other relevant considerations implicated by the special permit request. Comments may include relevant data.

Before issuing a decision on the special permit request, PHMSA will evaluate all comments received on or before the comment closing date. PHMSA will consider each relevant comment it receives in making its decision to grant or deny this special permit request.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 29, 2025, under authority delegated in
49 CFR § 1.97.

Linda Daugherty,
Acting Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

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