

Arlington Conservation Commission Utility Requirements

The Natural Gas Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 717 et seq. (“NGA”) regulates work by entities primarily engaged in the business of transporting natural gas in interstate commerce. The NGA provides the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) exclusive authority to regulate the sale and transportation of natural gas in interstate commerce. Such entities are required to obtain a "certificate of public convenience and necessity" (“blanket certificate”) from FERC. Per federal preemption, entities with a valid blanket certificate are exempt from the Wetlands Protection Act and Arlington’s local wetlands bylaw.

The commission also requests that all entities submit a letter that contains the following information for work in jurisdictional areas:

- Describe the work to be conducted in a project narrative
- Provide the blanket certificate for the utility
- Supply the operations and maintenance manual for the work, including all wetlands protection measures specific to this site
- Provide the names and 24-hour phone numbers of project managers or the persons responsible for site work or mitigation
- Confirm the start date when a representative can meet with the Conservation Agent to walk the site to confirm the installation and placement of erosion controls prior to the start of any work