

SANTA FE MAINLINE LOOPING PROJECT

INFORMATION PACKET



New Mexico
GAS COMPANY®
AN EMERA COMPANY



GENERAL INFORMATION

- From May through Winter 2020, New Mexico Gas Company is “looping” the Santa Fe Mainline by installing a new 20-inch natural gas transmission pipeline along the route of an existing 12-inch line between Bernalillo and Santa Fe.
- The new 20-inch pipeline will increase the capacity of available natural gas to northern New Mexico customers, boosting service reliability and providing for future economic growth in Santa Fe, Espanola, Los Alamos, Taos, Questa, Red River, the northern Pueblos and other communities.
- This project is part of NMGC’s continual improvement of its system to meet the needs of its customers throughout New Mexico. The total cost of the project will be approximately \$60 million.
- NMGC has consulted with private landholders, the Pueblos of Santa Ana, San Felipe and Santo Domingo, Sandoval and Santa Fe Counties and the State of New Mexico throughout this project.
- The existing transmission line to Santa Fe will continue to be operational and will provide redundancy to the new and larger pipe.

SAFETY IS ALWAYS OUR TOP PRIORITY, WITH EXTRA PRECAUTIONS FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY. ALL PROJECT EMPLOYEES ARE REGULARLY MONITORED FOR POTENTIAL COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND THEY'RE OBSERVING STRICT SOCIAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS.

CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION

- The stretch of the pipeline will follow a 35-mile route along the I-25 corridor and an existing pipeline right-of-way.
- Motorists on adjacent roads will see construction signs posted and increased truck traffic in certain areas as pipeline sections are delivered, stored and transported to work zones.

- Construction will consist of clearing the area for the new trench, laying and installing the steel pipe into the trench and then restoring the area. Shown on Page 4 are pictures and information about the restoration of a similar project in 2016 that was visible from I-40 near the Route 66 Casino.
- Crews will work during daylight hours, approximately 12-hour days, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. from Monday through Saturday of every week.
- The contractor is Crossfire LLC, based out of Durango, Colorado. Most of their employees on this project are New Mexico residents. Crossfire and New Mexico Gas Company have extensive experience installing natural gas pipelines such as this.
- The pipe for this project is being manufactured in Alabama and shipped via rail to New Mexico. The pipe will be trucked from the railyards in Albuquerque to the site for assembly and installation.
- Following construction the project area will be reclaimed and reseeded. Full reclamation typically takes three growing seasons for natural vegetation to fully recover with only the pipeline markers remaining visible.
- NMGC and its contractors will be using state-of-the-art directional drilling (boring) equipment to install the pipeline at La Bajada Hill. This will not require excavation on the face of the escarpment and prevent additional scarring.
- No natural gas service interruptions are anticipated during construction.



PRESERVATION & RESTORATION

- Before a project begins construction, environmental surveys for cultural and biological resources are conducted. We comply with all federal environmental regulations by conducting environmental surveys and, if warranted, fencing off or delaying work in certain areas.
- After construction of the pipeline is complete, the landscape is restored to the original contours and reseeded using native seed mixes appropriate for the ecology of the area.



- Construction is shown on the Rio Puerco Looping project in July 2016.



- The same area in May 2020 after restoration by the NMGC environmental team.

