

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.  
**From:** Michael J. Buscher  
**Date:** October 23, 2015  
**Re:** Addison Rutland Natural Gas Project - Phase 1  
Non-Substantial Change Determination – “Rotax Road Reroute”  
Aesthetic Impact Assessment

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Per the request of Vermont Gas, T. J. Boyle Associates has assessed potential aesthetic impacts as a result of a proposed alignment reroute to the Addison Rutland Natural Gas Project, Phase 1 Project (the “ARNGP”) in the vicinity of Rotax Road in Monkton, Vermont (the “Rotax Road Reroute”). It is our understanding that the proposed change includes a realignment of an approximately 3,400 foot stretch of the approved mainline transmission route. The proposed reroute will be approximately 3,170 feet in length, and will relocate the mainline transmission line further to the east from the approved alignment.

To assess changes, T. J. Boyle Associates reviewed plans and a written description that illustrate the proposed location of the reroute, and conducted field investigation on October 23, 2015 to observe and capture photography from public areas with visibility specific to the area of the proposed realignment. As with most of the proposed infrastructure with the ARNGP, the Rotax Road Reroute will not result in any above-ground infrastructure. However, the reroute will result in limited vegetation removal that will be visible from Rotax Road. Figures 1, 2 and 3 illustrate views from Rotax Road in the direction of the proposed reroute, and where vegetation removal will be necessary.

In review of the Rotax Road Reroute, changes are minor in respect to aesthetic impacts. The reroute will not materially change visibility of the ANRGP, or introduce any components that would contrast to or be out of character with the existing conditions along Rotax Road. Changes to the alignment will not materially change visibility of the ANRGP or aesthetic impacts as a result of the Project, as compared to the previously approved plans. The Project Changes do not change our previous conclusion that the Project will not result in an undue adverse impact.



**Figure 1:** View from Rotax Road, approaching the proposed Rotax Road Reroute from the west.



**Figure 2:** View from Rotax Road at the proposed Rotax Road Reroute looking east along the proposed new alignment. The flagging visible in the photo represents the centerline of the reroute. A 50 foot cleared corridor will be visible through the vegetation in the middle ground of this view.



**Figure 3:** View from Rotax Road, approaching the proposed Rotax Road Reroute from the east. The existing structure adjacent to the reroute blocks visibility of where vegetation will be removed.