

N-5068-154
February 3, 2022

Sudbury Conservation Commission
Department of Public Works Building
275 Old Lancaster Road
Sudbury, MA 01776

Re: **Site Restoration and Planting Plan
Gas Main Extension Project – 27 Goodmans Hill Road
(MassDEP File # 301-1363)**

Dear Agent Capone and Members of the Commission:

This Site Restoration and Planting Plan (“the Plan”) is being submitted on behalf of Boston Gas Company in support of the after-the-fact Notice of Intent (NOI) for a gas service extension to the residence at 27 Goodmans Hill Road.

Introduction

In November 2021, installation of gas main was conducted from the intersection of Goodmans Hill Road and an unnamed local road to the intersection of the local road and a paved residential driveway. A new service main was installed from this intersection to the residential dwelling at 27 Goodmans Hill Road. During a site visit on January 19, 2022, Conservation Coordinator Lori Capone observed that the work areas were largely devoid of vegetation and did not appear stabilized to a satisfactory degree.

This Plan provides guidance for the establishment of native herbaceous and shrub species along approximately 280 linear feet (lf) of disturbed soils adjacent to the unnamed local road and driveway. Plantings will be focused in areas impacted by the gas main installation work. The goal of this Plan is to stabilize the work areas such that the site is revegetated, and the potential for erosion and sedimentation is minimized to the extent practicable.

Planting Plan

To encourage the successful restoration of native species within the project area, this Plan includes native shrub species selected from the Town of Sudbury Native Plant List. Berry-bearing shrub species were chosen to enhance wildlife habitat value. The selected species are suitable for moist to seasonally drier soils and are tolerant of full sun to partial shade, factors that are appropriate for the Project Site. As expanding root systems may compromise the integrity of subsurface gas main pipes, shrubs will be planted at the limits of ground disturbance adjacent to existing vegetation beyond the gas main alignment.

Table 1-1 summarizes the proposed shrub species for stabilization in areas beyond the subsurface gas main pipes. Based on anticipated sizes at maturity, we recommend the installation of 24 shrubs from the species presented in Table 1-1 be installed at 5 to 7 feet on center spacing, as per New England Wetland Plants, Inc. recommendations. To increase ecological structural value, shrubs should be planted in clusters of three like-species with 7 to 10 feet of distance between clusters.

Stabilization of soils atop the gas main will be achieved by seeding with New England Erosion Control/Restoration Mix for Detention Basis and Moist Sites. Species included in this seed mix are summarized in Table 1-2. The approximate restoration area and planting schedule is detailed in the attached Restoration Plan.



TABLE 1-1Native Shrubs for Restoration Areas ^{1,2}

Common Name	Botanical Name	Indicator Status ³
Highbush Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	FACW
Speckled Alder	<i>Alnus incana (rugosa)</i>	FACW
Sweet Pepperbush	<i>Clethra alnifolia</i>	FAC
Northern arrowwood	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	FAC
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	FACW

¹ Shrubs to be selected from the species listed in this table based on the availability of native nursery stock at the time of installation.

² Species are native to the Project Site and Sudbury, Middlesex County, Massachusetts as per The Native Plant List provided by the Town of Sudbury.

³ Source: USDA, NRCS. 2022. The PLANTS Database (<http://plants.usda.gov>, 01/25/2022). National Plant Data Team, Greensboro, NC USA

These shrub species will improve wildlife habitat functions and values at the Project Site. Flowering and berry-bearing shrubs attract birds and butterflies and provide cover and nesting opportunities. Additionally, these species are beneficial for pollinators such as honeybees.

TABLE 1-2Seed Mix¹ for Application to Upland Buffer Zone Restoration Areas

Common Name	Botanical Name	Indicator Status
Canada Wild Rye	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	FACU
Red Fescue	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	FACU
Annual Ryegrass	<i>Lolium multiflorum</i>	--
Perennial Ryegrass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	FACU
Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	FACU
Switch Grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	FAC
Indian Grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	FACU

¹ This list was adapted from the New England Wetland Plants, Inc information sheet as of January 25, 2022. Indicator status is based on The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Plants Database.

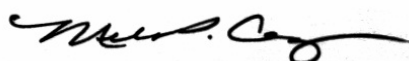
Functions and Values

This Plan is proposed in an effort to successfully restore the areas disturbed by gas main installation activities. As the site and surrounding areas are dominated by non-native invasive plant species, the planting of native species will improve biodiversity and wildlife habitat at the project area. Additionally, stabilization of these disturbed areas will reduce the potential for sedimentation of down-gradient wetland resource areas.

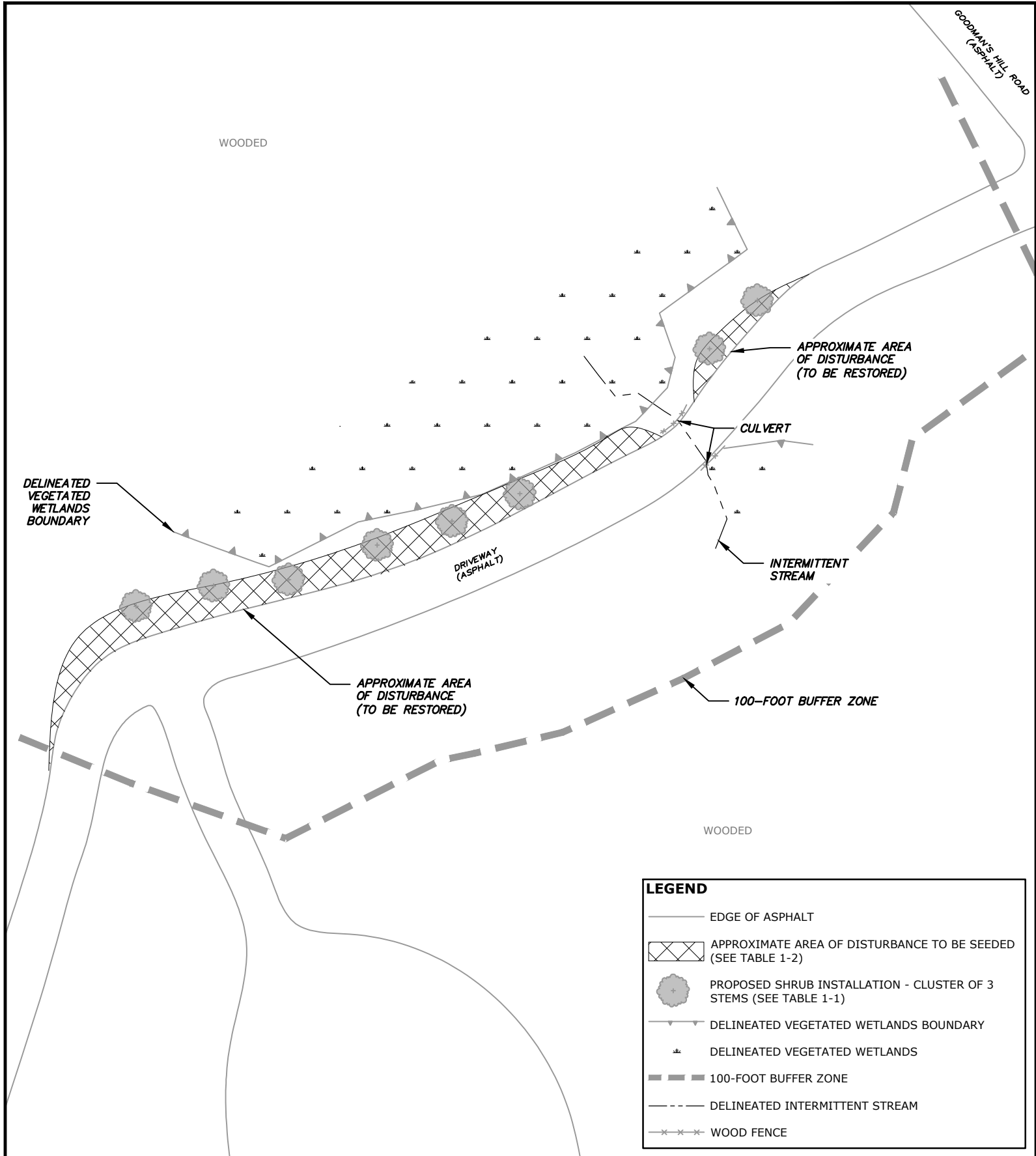
Thank you in advance for your review of this information. We look forward to discussing the Plan with the Commission during its February 7, 2022 meeting. Please contact me at (413) 250-2424 or via email at MPCoody@tighebond.com if you should have any questions.

Very truly yours,

TIGHE & BOND, INC.



Melissa P. Coady
Project Manager



LEGEND

- EDGE OF ASPHALT
- ▨ APPROXIMATE AREA OF DISTURBANCE TO BE SEEDED (SEE TABLE 1-2)
- ⊕ PROPOSED SHRUB INSTALLATION - CLUSTER OF 3 STEMS (SEE TABLE 1-1)
- ▲— DELINEATED VEGETATED WETLANDS BOUNDARY
- ⋈ DELINEATED VEGETATED WETLANDS
- 100-FOOT BUFFER ZONE
- - - DELINEATED INTERMITTENT STREAM
- x-x- WOOD FENCE

N

1 inch = 50 feet

0 25 50

Feet

GAS MAIN EXTENSION PROJECT

Restoration Plan

27 Goodman's Hill Road, Sudbury, Massachusetts

NOTES

APPROXIMATE DISTURBANCE AREA BASED ON FIELD MEASUREMENTS MADE BY A TIGHE & BOND WETLAND SCIENTIST ON JANUARY 28, 2022.