



News Release

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NORTH COAST GAS TRANSMISSION ANNOUNCES ACQUISITION OF NORTHERN OHIO PIPELINES

COLUMBUS, Ohio - North Coast Gas Transmission, LLC announced today that the company has executed a definitive agreement to acquire pipeline assets in northern Ohio that will interconnect with its existing pipeline and extend its direct market access from Fostoria to Toledo and Marion. North Coast Gas Transmission will seek interconnects with markets along these routes in an effort to provide access to lower cost mid-continent gas supplies.

This acquisition is another advance in North Coast's effort to provide Ohio with more diverse and reliable sources of natural gas and access to lower cost mid-continent sources, thereby reducing the state's dependence on Gulf Coast sources.

"This acquisition continues North Coast's commitment to provide Ohio's natural gas distribution companies and businesses with affordable and diverse natural gas supply options," said Andy Lang, president of North Coast Gas Transmission, LLC. "Not only do these assets allow us to provide near term opportunities for lower cost supply to new markets, but it also enhances market access for our northern Ohio expansion."

On March 16, North Coast announced an expansion of its current northern Ohio pipeline that will run from Defiance to near Parma, then to gas storage facilities in the Canton area. It will be constructed using existing utility corridors. The newly acquired pipelines will serve as laterals to reach markets in the Toledo and Marion areas. Previously used for petroleum products, the pipelines will be converted to natural gas service in time for the start of the 2006 heating season.

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In addition, North Coast has acquired an idle pipeline that will provide critical right-of-way access from its existing line south of Cleveland allowing connection to Dominion East Ohio's Chippewa storage in Summit County. Both acquisitions demonstrate North Coast's commitment to bringing Ohio's businesses and residents competitive natural gas sources.

About North Coast Gas Transmission LLC

North Coast Gas Transmission LLC is a subsidiary of Somerset Gas Transmission Company LLC and began operating its Ohio pipeline in September 1998, in an effort to provide reliable and diverse options for natural gas from the Chicago Hub. Currently, it provides natural gas transportation service for a diverse group of local distribution companies, end-users, and market aggregators in northern Ohio. Veterans of the energy industry, the management team has extensive industry experience in gas transportation, supply and marketing, and regulatory issues. North Coast Gas is headquartered in Columbus, Ohio. More information about the company can be found at somersetgas.com.

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