

Frequently Asked Questions about Atlanta Gas Light's Cumming to Hall County Pipeline

Who is Atlanta Gas Light?

In this state's deregulated natural gas market there are many key players, which may be confusing to customers as they engage with Atlanta Gas Light or one of Georgia's 13 certified natural gas Marketers. Atlanta Gas Light and the Marketers work together to provide the world-class natural gas service customers expect and deserve.

In Georgia's natural gas market, Atlanta Gas Light owns, operates and maintains the natural gas infrastructure including pipelines that transport natural gas to homes and businesses throughout the state.

Atlanta Gas Light is also responsible for repairing damaged gas lines, disconnecting and reconnecting service at the request of the Marketer, and helping our customers restart service in the unlikely event of an outage.

Why is Atlanta Gas Light working in my community?

The work in your community is part of our effort to improve our infrastructure. This work will enhance our ability to meet our customers' need for clean, safe, reliable, and affordable natural gas when they need it most. Forsyth, Dawson, Lumpkin and Hall Counties are among the counties that will undergo system improvements.

Why do you need to upgrade the pipeline system?

Counties in north Georgia are growing at a rapid rate and are farther removed from Atlanta Gas Light's existing interstate supply points and high-pressure transmission pipeline system. Today's low natural gas prices present an ideal time to invest in system-wide improvements that will help the region and local communities.

Our infrastructure projects have several additional benefits:

- Our investment stimulates the local economy. We're excited that our investment is expected to employ 150-200 construction workers each year—everything from right-of-way contractors and heavy-equipment operators to pipefitters and welders. These workers also put some of their earnings directly back into the local economy through apartment/hotel rentals, restaurant visits, and various purchases at other local businesses and service providers.
- As the U.S. economy grows, our upgraded infrastructure will be able to provide the additional natural gas needed for continued economic development in your community and across the region.
- Atlanta Gas Light will continue to provide America's cleanest and domestically abundant fuel to existing and future customers.

What is the route for the Cumming to Hall County Pipeline project?

The pipeline is approximately 29 miles long and begins around an Atlanta Gas Light regulator station at Spot Road/Highway 9 north of Cumming. It then continues north into Dawson County before turning east into Lumpkin and Hall Counties where it ends in the Thompson Bridge Road area south of Murrayville. A large portion of the pipeline corridor follows an existing Georgia Power easement.

Pipeline installation is planned to occur in phases beginning in Fall 2022 and is expected to take a few years to complete.

The first section ready for construction is approximately 12.7 miles between the Spot Road/Highway 9 area in Forsyth County and GA Highway 53 in Dawson County (approximately one third of a mile east of Hugh Stowers Road). Installation will primarily be within our easement following a cross country path, but the pipeline will cross or parallel some roadways for a short distance including Spot Road, Matt Hwy (GA Hwy 369), GA Hwy 9, Dawson Forest Road, and Thompson Road.

What does this mean for me?

In your area, pre-construction activities for part of the Cumming to Hall County pipeline project are complete. Work will begin at the southern end of the project in Forsyth County in Fall 2022 with our contractor Southeast Connections (SEC) clearing the easement for approximately 3-4 weeks before starting pipe installation. Clearing crews will continue to work ahead of the pipeline crews as the project progresses.

SEC representatives, as well as Atlanta Gas Light professionals, will be on-site throughout the installation process should affected property owners have any questions during construction. Work will be performed Monday – Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or as permitted.

As with all of our improvement projects, safety is our top priority. Great care is taken in all phases of the project from beginning to end. We make every effort to minimize inconveniences to property owners along the route.

How will I be notified about construction?

Property owners along the project route will receive a letter from Atlanta Gas Light before construction begins. Additionally, Atlanta Gas Light meets with community leaders and groups, public safety officials, and others so that they are well-informed about our project and what to expect during construction.

What should I expect during construction?

Our independent contractor, SEC will begin by clearing our easement of trees and vegetation before the pipeline construction gets underway. The work requires heavy equipment and will employ a large number of workers. There is also the potential for controlled blasting to help remove rock. Pre-construction surveys may be offered to property owners whose homes or other buildings are within a certain proximity to these types of activities.

Generally, pipeline construction involves the following steps: 1) surveying the right-of-way; 2) clearing the right-of-way; 3) transporting the pipe to the right-of-way; 4) welding the pipe; 5) digging a trench for the pipe; 6) lowering the pipe into the trench; 7) backfilling the trench; 8) pressure testing the pipe; and 9) restoring the right-of-way to its pre-construction condition.

Project construction will consist of both the open cut pipe installation method and a technique called directional drilling or boring. Underground directional drilling or boring avoids the need for open trenches across roads and other surfaces.

While the route is primarily cross country, in some locations, we may need to temporarily close a road or lane during construction. Any temporary road or lane closures will be coordinated through the appropriate jurisdiction. Appropriate traffic control measures also will be put in place, and Atlanta Gas Light will work with property owners to ensure they can access their property.

Why was this route for the Cumming to Hall County Pipeline project selected?

This route allows us to efficiently meet our obligation to provide enough natural gas to serve our customers on the coldest days of the year.

If I have questions about Cumming to Hall County Pipeline project, who do I contact?

Representatives from SEC and Atlanta Gas Light will be on-site throughout the construction process if you have any questions about our system improvements. You may also contact Atlanta Gas Light directly at 404-584-3186 or cummingtohall@southernco.com.