

proposed amendment, Public Service is seeking to revise the points of delivery associated with the transmission service Tri-State provides pursuant to Article 8 of the Contract. This proposed amendment will have no impact on the rates or revenues collected for service under this rate schedule.

Public Service requests an effective date of August 1, 1995, for the proposed amendment.

Copies of the filing were served upon Tri-State and the state jurisdictional regulator (The Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado).

Comment date: August 28, 1995, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

Standard Paragraph:

E. Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 825 North Capitol Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell.

Secretary.

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[Docket No. CP95-505-000]

Southern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed North Main Line System Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

August 16, 1995.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the facilities proposed in the North Main Line System Expansion Project.¹ This

EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether an environmental impact statement is necessary and whether to approve the project.

Summary of the Proposed Project

Southern Natural Gas Company (Southern) proposes to construct, install, modify, and operate compressor stations, meter stations, and related appurtenant facilities. Specifically, Southern requests Commission authorization to:

- Construct a new 5,680-horsepower (hp) East Tuscaloosa Compressor Station at milepost 286.24 of the North Main Line at the border of Tuscaloosa and Jefferson Counties, Alabama;
- Add a 1,452-hp turbine compressor to the existing Pell City Compressor Station at milepost 352.478 of the North Main Line in St. Clair County, Alabama;
- Upgrade an existing turbine compressor from 1,080 hp to 1,200 hp at the existing DeArmanville Compressor Station at milepost 380.629 of the North Main Line in Calhoun County, Alabama;
- Add compressor unloaders to two engine units at the existing Tarrant Compressor Station at milepost 321.947 of the North Main in Jefferson County, Alabama;
- Increase operating pressure at the (1) Dora Meter Station at milepost 11.281 of the Cordova Branch Line in Walker County, Alabama, and (2) Gadsden Branch Line in St. Clair County, Alabama; and
- Install overpressure protection at the existing:
 1. Ashville Meter Station at milepost 16.2 of the Gadsden Branch Line in St. Clair County, Alabama;
 2. Boaz No. 2 Meter Station at milepost 25.12 of the Gadsden Branch Line in Etowah County, Alabama;
 3. Gadsden No. 5 Meter Station at milepost 25.12 of the Gadsden Branch Line in Etowah County, Alabama;
 4. Marshall No. 1 Meter Station at milepost 27.42 of the Gadsden Branch Line in Etowah County, Alabama;
 5. Gadsden No. 4 Meter Station at milepost 31.292 of the Gadsden Branch Line in Etowah County, Alabama; and
 6. Gadsden No. 1 Meter Station at milepost 33.309 of the Gadsden Branch Line in Etowah County, Alabama.
- 7. Ragland Branch Line Tie-in at milepost 9.233 and Siberton Tap Line Tie-in at milepost 27.318 of the Gadsden Branch Line in St. Clair and Etowah Counties, Alabama.

The general location of the project facilities and specific locations for facilities are shown in appendix 1.²

Land Requirements

Southern indicates that 65 to 70 acres of additional land would be required for the new compressor station. All other construction activities would occur within the existing rights-of-way and existing compressor stations and would not require additional land.

The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the proposed abandonment under these general headings:

- Soils.
- Cultural resources.
- Water resources and wetlands.
- Public safety.
- Air and noise quality.
- Endangered and threatened species.
- Vegetation.

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected

²The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, Room 3104, 941 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

¹ Southern Natural Gas Company's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we recommend that the Commission approve or not approve the project.

Currently Identified Environmental Issue

We have already identified one issue that we think deserves attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Southern:

The proposed compressor station and additional compression proposed at the existing compressor stations may increase ambient noise levels.

Keep in mind that this is a preliminary issue. Issues may be added, subtracted, or changed based on your comments and our analysis.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by sending a letter addressing your specific comments or concerns about the project. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please follow the instructions below to ensure that your comments are received and properly recorded:

- Address your letter to: Lois Cashell, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 825 North Capitol St., NE., Washington, DC 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP95-505-000;

- Send a copy of your letter to: Mr. Herman K. Der, EA Project Manager, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 825 North Capitol St., NE., Room 7312, Washington, DC 20426; and

- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before September 15, 1995.

If you wish to receive a copy of the EA, you should request one from Mr. Herman K. Der at the above address.

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding or become an "intervenor". Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide copies of its filings to all other parties. If you want to become an intervenor you must

file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 2).

The date for filing of timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention. You do not need intervenor status to have your scoping comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Herman K. Der, EA Project Manager, at (202) 208-0896.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-20710 Filed 8-21-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

Notice of Application Filed With the Commission

August 16, 1995.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. *Type of Application:* Amendment of License.

b. *Project Nos.:* 4678-019 and 4679-022.

c. *Date Filed:* July 12, 1995.

d. *Applicant:* Power Authority of the State of New York.

e. *Name of Projects:* Crescent & Vischer Ferry.

f. *Location:* On the Mohawk River in Albany, Saratoga, and Schenectady Counties, New York.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. § 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Charles Lipsky, Vice President and Chief Engineer, Power Generation, Power Authority of the State of New York, 123 Main Street, White Plains, NY 10601, (914) 681-6200.

i. *FERC Contact:* Timothy Welch, (202) 219-2666.

j. *Comment Date:* September 11, 1995.

k. *Description of Amendment:* The Power Authority of the State of New York (licensee) seeks to modify article 41 for the Crescent (Project No. 4678) and Vischer Ferry (Project No. 4679) project licenses. Article 41 of the respective licenses require that the licensee operate the project so that at inflows between the required minimum flows and 3,250 cubic feet per second (cfs), when flashboards are installed at each project during the navigation season (generally mid-May to mid-

November), the licensee is allowed to pond water within the limits of the flashboards (12 inches at Crescent and 13.5 inches at Vischer Ferry). Article 41 requires the licensee to operate in a run-of-river mode at inflows greater than 3,250 cfs. The licensee seeks to amend article 41 to allow it, from May 15 through July 31 and September 1 through November 10, to pond flows at inflows greater than 3,250 cfs so that it can store water (rather than spilling) until enough water is available to operate its Francis turbines only at maximum hydraulic capacity. The licensee is required to operate the turbines in only at maximum hydraulic capacity to provide safe fish passage for adult and juvenile blueback herring. The licensee would continue to limit the total drawdown of the project reservoirs to 12 inches at Crescent and 13.5 inches at Vischer Ferry.

1. This notice also consists of the following standard paragraphs: B, C1, and D2.

B. Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene—Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

C1. Filing and Service of Responsive Documents—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS", "PROTEST", or "MOTION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. Any of the above-named documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies provided by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 825 North Capitol Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. A copy of any motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

D2. Agency Comments—Federal, State, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does