

14, 1994, order in Docket No. ER94-1672-000.

On November 13, 1995, Power Clearinghouse Inc. filed certain information as required by the Commission's May 11, 1995, order in Docket No. ER95-914-000.

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, 888 First 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. CP95-375-000]

Great Lakes Gas Transmission Limited Partnership; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Security Loop I Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

December 6, 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 Security Loop I 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

Great Lakes Gas Transmission Limited Partnership (Great Lakes) requests Commission authorization, in Docket No. CP95-375-000, to construct and operate one segment of approximately

¹ Great Lakes Gas Transmission Limited Partnership's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

13.8 miles of 36-inch-diameter mainline loop in Charlevoix and Otsego Counties, Michigan. Great Lakes wants to complete the looping of a portion of its 973-mile-long mainline. In addition, Great Lakes proposes to modify the existing piping at the Boyne Falls Compressor Station to accommodate the new loop. No additional compression is proposed. The proposed project would provide increased system reliability and flexibility for Great Lakes' customers, and would facilitate maintenance on the Great Lakes system.

The general location of the proposed facilities is shown in appendix 1. Detailed project maps are shown in appendix 2.²

Land Requirements for Construction

The proposed loop would be built adjacent and parallel to the existing right-of-way. Great Lakes intends to use a 100-foot-wide construction right-of-way for most of the project. About 50 feet of the planned 100-foot width would be on an existing right-of-way. Consequently, about 50 feet of new clearing would be required. Following construction, about 25 feet of the construction right-of-way would be allowed to revert to its former land use.

A 55-foot-wide construction right-of-way would be used for the 2.65 miles of state forest land. About 15 feet of the 55-foot width would be on existing right-of-way. Of the 40 feet of new clearing that would be required, about 20 feet would be allowed to revert to forest use.

Additional working space would be required adjacent to the planned construction right-of-way at road and other utility line crossings, wetland crossings, in areas of steep side slopes, and at the beginning and end of the proposed loop.

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

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, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

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 construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Soils.
- Wetlands.
- Land use.
- Vegetation and wildlife.

We do not believe that the proposed project will have any impacts on geology, water resources, endangered and threatened species, cultural resources, air quality and noise, and hazardous waste.

We will 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 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 Issues

We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Great Lakes. Keep in mind that this is a preliminary list. The list of issues may be added to, subtracted from, or changed based on your comments and our analysis. Issues are:

- One wetland would be crossed.
- A 100-foot-wide construction right-of-way is proposed.
- About 9.6 miles of the proposed pipeline right-of-way would cross forestland, resulting in the clearing of about 54.6 acres of forest.
- Approximately 11 percent of the proposed right-of-way would cross sandy soils within are considered highly

erodible soils by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

- A total of 18.3 acres of public lands, including the Mackinaw State Forest, would be disturbed by the proposed construction right-of-way.
- Two residences are within 50 feet of the proposed construction right-of-way. In addition, a garage and a storage building are within 50 feet of the proposed construction right-of-way.
- The proposed construction right-of-way would cross 1.8 miles of Woodland Heights Estates, a proposed residential development.

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 (including alternative routes), 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, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426;
 - Reference Docket No. CP95-375-000;
 - Send a copy of your letter to: Mr. Jeff Gerber, EA Project Manager, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission—PR 11.2, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426; and
 - Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, D.C. on or before January 5, 1996.
- If you wish to receive a copy of the EA, you should request one from Mr. Gerber 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 3).

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. Jeff Gerber, EA Project Manager, at (202) 208-1121.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

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[TM96-3-20-000]

Algonquin Gas Transmission Company, et al.; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

December 6, 1995.

Take notice that on November 30, 1995 and December 1, 1995, the thirty-five natural gas pipeline companies captioned above have each filed tariff

sheets to establish the revised Gas Research Institute (GRI) surcharges effective January 1, 1996, for their respective transportation rates.¹ The proposed effective date of the tariff sheets is January 1, 1996.

The natural gas companies state that the tariff sheets listed in the Appendix A of this notice are being filed pursuant to the "Opinion and Order Approving Gas Research Institute's Second Year of its 1995-1996 Research, Development and Demonstration Program, Related Five-Year Research and Development Plan for 1996-2000, and Funding for 1996 RD&D Activities" issued by the Commission in Docket No. RP95-374-000 on October 13, 1995.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest any of these filings should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C., 20426, in accordance with Section 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. Pursuant to Section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations, all such motions or protests must be filed not later than 12 days after the date of the filings noted above. 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 the filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

¹ See Appendix A for a listing of the tariff sheets filed by each pipeline.