

Comment date: February 26, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

25. Louisville Gas and Electric Company
[Docket No. ER97-1470-000]

Take notice that on January 29, 1997, Louisville Gas and Electric Company (LG&E), tendered for filing an executed Service Agreement between LG&E and Koch Energy Trading, Inc. under LG&E's Rate GSS.

Comment date: February 26, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

26. Arizona Public Service Company
[Docket No. ER97-1471-000]

Take notice that on January 29, 1997, Arizona Public Service Company (APS), tendered for filing a Service Agreement to provide Network Integration Transmission Service under APS' Open Access Transmission Tariff filed in Compliance with FERC Order No. 888 with Ajo Improvement Company (Ajo).

A copy of this filing has been served on Ajo and the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Comment date: February 26, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

27. Central Vermont Public Service Corporation
[Docket No. OA97-508-000]

Take notice that on January 27, 1997, Central Vermont Public Service Corporation tendered for filing an amendment to its open access transmission tariff that provides for service over Central Vermont's share of the Phase I and Phase II transmission facilities between Des Cantons, Quebec and Tewsbury, Massachusetts. Central Vermont requests that the Commission waive its notice of filing requirements and allow the amendment to become effective on January 27, 1997.

Comment date: March 6, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

28. Nevada Power Company
[Docket No. OA97-509-000]

Take notice that on January 24, 1997, Nevada Power Company (Nevada Power) tendered for filing 12 letters which demonstrate its intent to unbundle the transmission and generation components of the rate contained in certain economy energy agreements executed on or before July 9, 1996 pursuant to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Order No. 888 dated April 24, 1996.

Copies of this filing have been served on The Public Service Commission of

Nevada, California Department of Water Resources, Citizens Utilities Company, City of Anaheim, City of Boulder City, City of Burbank, City of Colton, City of Farmington, City of Glendale, City of Pasadena, City of Riverside, City of Vernon, Colorado River Commission, Deseret Generation & Transmission Cooperative, Lincoln County Power District No. 1, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Overton Power District No. 5, Pacific Gas & Electric Company, PacifiCorp, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Salt River Project, Southern California Edison Company, Tri-State Generation, Tucson Electric Power Company, Utah Assoc. Municipal Power Systems, and Valley Electric Association.

Comment date: March 13, 1997, 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, 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.

[FR Doc. 97-4245 Filed 2-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

[Project No. 11499-000; Tennessee]

Armstrong Energy Resources; Notice of Opportunity for Site Visit

February 14, 1997.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) are reviewing a proposal from Armstrong Energy Resources to construct and operate the 1,500-megawatt Laurel Branch Pumped Storage Project No. 11499. The Laurel Branch Project would be located in Bledsoe County, Tennessee, seven miles northeast of Dunlap, Tennessee.

Since the July 1996 Scoping Document I was issued for Armstrong

Energy Resources' (AER) proposed Laurel Branch Project No. 11499 and Reynolds Creek Project No. 11500, AER has decided not to pursue the Reynolds Creek Project. AER, by letter filed January 9, 1997, with the FERC, has withdrawn its proposal, and surrendered its preliminary permit, for the Reynolds Creek Pumped Storage Project No. 11500. AER, in deciding to pursue only the Laurel Branch Project, has also defined the preferred transmission line corridor and alternative corridors for the project and reduced the initial project boundary.

Scoping and Site Visit

FERC and TVA have scheduled a joint second public scoping meeting for Armstrong Energy Resources' revised proposal on March 4, 1997 (notice of this meeting was issued earlier on February 3, 1997). The meeting will be held at Sequatchie County High School on the west side of Highway #28 in Dunlap, Tennessee. The March 4 meeting will focus on the proposed changes to Laurel Branch Project and the proposed transmission corridor and alternative corridors. The formal public meeting will be held from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm, CDT, with registration beginning at 5 pm.

Prior to the formal public meeting, an Information Open House will be held from 5 pm to 6:30 pm, or later. The Information Open House is an informal opportunity for questions and information about the overall project scope and environmental review process. At the Information Open House, AER will have on display for public examination, a large map showing the proposed Laurel Branch Project, the preferred transmission corridor and alternatives, and private properties that will be affected with names of the landowners.

After the meeting on March 5, 1997, there will be an opportunity for a short site visit. The site visit will be conducted mostly by private vehicles and will cover the project areas, including the defined transmission corridor (and alternatives), that are accessible by paved public roads. Further details of the site visit will be provided at the scoping meetings. Those persons who are interested in the site visit may contact Ginger Seeber of TVA at (423) 632-1721, to register. There will also be an opportunity at the meeting to register for the site visit.

For further information on this process, please contact Eddie R. Crouse,

FERC, (202) 219-2794, or Linda Oxendine, TVA, (423) 632-3440.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-4247 Filed 2-20-97; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. CP97-193-000]

**Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corp.;
Notice of Intent To Prepare an
Environmental Assessment for the
Proposed Maiden Lateral Looping
Project and Request for Comments on
Environmental Issues**

February 14, 1997.

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 about 17.77 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline loop and upgrades to an existing meter station, proposed in the Maiden Lateral Looping Project.¹ This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

Summary of the Proposed Project

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation (Transco) wants to expand the capacity of its facilities in North Carolina to transport an additional 38,000 dekatherms of natural gas per day to Piedmont Natural Gas Company (Piedmont). Transco seeks authority to construct and operate:

- About 17.77 miles of 16-diameter pipeline loop on Transco's existing 10-inch-diameter Maiden Lateral in Lincoln and Catawba Counties, North Carolina; and
- The expansion of Transco's existing Lowesville Meter Station, which is located at the interconnection of Transco's mainline and the Maiden Lateral.

The location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.² If you are interested in obtaining procedural information, please write to the Secretary of the Commission.

¹ Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

² The 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, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities, including the meter station modification, would require about 152.2 acres of land. Transco proposes to use a construction right-of-way width of about 65 feet (5 feet southerly and 60 feet northerly of its existing 10-inch-diameter Maiden Lateral). This 20-foot offset would allow Transco to construct the majority of its new pipeline loop within its existing 50-foot-wide right-of-way. Since Transco would use its existing right-of-way during construction activities, only 1.19 acres of new permanent right-of-way would be required. Temporary work areas would be restored and allowed to revert to their former use.

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

- Geology and soils.
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands.
- Land use.
- Cultural resources.
- Vegetation and wildlife.
- Endangered and threatened species.
- Public safety.
- Air quality and noise.
- Hazardous waste.

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 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 two issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Transco. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- About 48 private water supply wells and springs are within 150 feet of the construction right-of-way; and
- About 28 residences are within 50 feet of the edge of the proposed construction right-of-way; 17 of which would be within or at 25 feet of the construction right-of-way.

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, 888 First St., N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP97-193-000;
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before March 10, 1997.

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