

20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed as provided in Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. 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 proceedings. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-743-000]

Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc.; Notice of Application for Abandonment

September 1, 1998.

Take notice that on August 24, 1998 as supplemented on August 28, 1998, Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc. (Williams), P.O. Box 3288, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101, filed in the above docket a request pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act and Sections 157.7(a) and 157.18 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) Regulations for authorization to abandon the receipt of gas for transportation from Transtate Gas Service Company (Transtate), formerly Gulf Energy Gathering & Processing, and to reclaim measurement facilities located in Garvin County, Oklahoma, under the authorization issued in Docket No. CP82-479-000, all as more fully set forth in the request on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Williams states that the meter setting has been blinded for some time and that Transtate has been notified of the proposed reclaim of facilities.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before September 22, 1998, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will

not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein or if the Commission on its own review of the matter, finds that a grant of the certificate for the proposal is required by the public convenience and necessity. If the Commission believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Williams to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-23979 Filed 9-4-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GT98-89-000]

Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

September 1, 1998.

Take notice that on August 27, 1998, Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company (Williston Basin), tendered for filing as part of its FERC Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, the following revised tariff sheets to become effective August 27, 1998:

Seventeenth Revised Sheet No. 777

Teenty-sixth Revised Sheet No. 831

Twenty-fifth Revised Sheet No. 832

Williston Basin states that the revised tariff sheets are being filed simply to update its Master Receipt/Delivery Point List.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's

Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. 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 proceedings. 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 in the Public Reference Room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP98-131-000 and CP98-133-000]

Vector Pipeline L.P.; Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Vector Pipeline Project

September 1, 1998.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Vector Pipeline L.P. (Vector) in the above-referenced dockets.

The DEIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that approval of the proposed project with the appropriate mitigating measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact. The DEIS also analyzed system alternatives, major route alternatives, route variations, and alternative compressor station sites, and requests comments on them.

The DEIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities:

- 266.9 miles of 42-inch-diameter pipeline in Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan extending from Joliet in Will County, Illinois to Oakland County, Michigan;
- 3.7 miles of 42-inch-diameter pipeline in St. Clair County, Michigan terminating at the border of the United States and Canada near St. Clair, Michigan;
- four meter stations;

- two compressor stations totaling 60,000 horsepower;
- 20 new mainline valves, two internal tool or "pig" launchers and one pig receiver; and
- permanent roads for access to compressor stations and valves.

The Vector Pipeline Project also includes the lease of 58.8 miles of an existing 36-inch-diameter pipeline from Oakland County to St. Clair County, Michigan.

The purpose of the proposed facilities would be to transport about 1 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas from the Chicago hub to the Dawn hub; deliver significant volumes of gas to markets in Michigan; and to provide increased access to the Dawn hub and markets in Canada and the eastern U.S.

Specific Comment Request

The staff has identified and evaluated in detail two compressor station

alternative sites, and evaluated eight route variations to the proposed facilities. Of these compressor station alternatives and route variations, the staff has not recommended the use of any at this time. Area residents, local or state governments, intervenors, Vector, and other interested parties are asked to provide specific comments on whether these alternatives and variations are reasonable, practicable, and environmentally preferable to the proposed facilities. Comments should also address any effect on project timing and related cost/benefits.

Comment Procedures and Public Meeting

Any person wishing to comment on the DEIS may do so. To ensure reconsideration prior to a Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that we receive your comments before

the date specified below. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your comments to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE, Room 1A Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch, PR-11.1;
- Reference Docket Nos. CP98-131-000 and CP98-133-000;
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before October 19, 1998.

In addition to accepting written comments, four public meetings to receive comments on the DEIS will be held at the following times and locations:

Date/time	Location
Monday, October 5, 1998 7:00 pm	Leslie High School Auditorium, 4141 Hull Road, Leslie, MI, (517) 589-8200.
Monday, October 5, 1998 7:00 pm	Milford High School, 2380 S. Milford Road, Milford, MI, (248) 684-8091.
Tuesday, October 6, 1998 7:00 pm	Three Rivers Community Center, 103 Postage Avenue, Three Rivers, MI, (616) 279-9231.
Tuesday, October 6, 1998 7:00 pm	Radisson Hotel at Star Plaza, 800 E. 81st Avenue, Merrillville, IN, (219) 757-3537.

Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend and present oral comments on the environmental impacts described in the DEIS. Transcripts of the meetings will be prepared. Additional information about the meetings is available from Paul McKee in the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (202) 208-1088.

After these comments are reviewed, any significant new issues are investigated, and modifications are made to the DEIS, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will be published and distributed by the staff. The FEIS will contain the staff's responses to timely comments filed on the DEIS.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commenter a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214).

Anyone may intervene in this proceeding based on this DEIS. You must file your request to intervene as specified above. You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

The DEIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for distribution and public inspection

at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-1371.

Copies of the DEIS have been mailed to Federal, State, and local agencies, public interest groups, individuals who have requested the DEIS, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding. A limited number of copies of the DEIS are available from the above address.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-23977 Filed 9-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 10725-002]

Little Horn Energy Wyoming Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Conduct Public Scoping Meetings and a Site Visit

September 1, 1998.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is reviewing the hydropower application for an original license for the 1,000-megawatt Dry Fork Energy Storage Project No.

10725. The proposed pumped storage project, to be constructed by Little Horn Energy Wyoming, Inc. (Little Horn Energy), would be located on 1,055 acres of United States lands within the Bighorn National Forest in Sheridan County, Wyoming. The project would include two reservoirs. The lower reservoir would be created by impounding the Dry Fork of the Little Bighorn River with a 265-foot-high dam. The upper reservoir would be created by constructing a perimeter dam that would be up to 100 feet high on Dry Fork Ridge.

The Commission staff has determined that licensing this project would constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, the Commission staff intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. In the EIS, the Commission staff will consider reasonable alternatives to Little Horn Energy's proposed action and analyze both site-specific and cumulative environmental impacts of the project, including economic and engineering impacts.

A draft EIS will be issued and circulated to those on the mailing list for this project, and the Commission staff will hold a public meeting to discuss the draft EIS. All comments