

with the Commission and open to public inspection. The application may be viewed on the web at www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm. Call (202) 208-2222 for assistance.

Concurrently with this filing, Columbia, in Docket No. CP99-616-000, filed an application to abandon by sale certain facilities known as the Gatherco II facilities. The Gatherco II facilities consist of approximately 200 miles of pipeline ranging from 2-12 inches in diameter and from 0.0022 to 29.6809 miles in length, and ancillary facilities. Gatherco states that of the approximately 200 miles of lines of the subject petition, only 11.6708 miles, or less than 6% are greater than six inches in diameter. With the exception of four slightly longer lines, all of the lines are less than 7.5 miles in length.

Gatherco asserts that the pressure of the lines is extremely low with no line having a pressure greater than 140 psig. Additionally, Gatherco states that there are no processing plants on the facilities or connected to the facilities. According to Gatherco, the subject certificated facilities are part of a web-type configuration of uncertificated gathering lines and facilities, many of which were sold to Gatherco by Columbia on October 31, 1997, in Docket NO. CP97-127-000. Gatherco claims that the transfer of these additional facilities will simplify and enhance the existing interconnection between Gatherco and Columbia. Gatherco and Columbia have concluded that the Gatherco II facilities belong with the other 1,800 miles of gathering facilities in Ohio operated by Gatherco. Gatherco contends that the facilities are generally located upstream of processing facilities and gather gas from the production area for delivery to Columbia's transmission lines or to other points of delivery on the facilities.¹ Gatherco contends that upon their transfer, the facilities will primarily perform a non-jurisdictional gathering function. Gatherco notes that it was established in 1997 to acquire and operate gathering facilities in Ohio. Further, Gatherco states that it is not a natural gas company, it does not own any jurisdictional facilities, nor is it affiliated with a jurisdictional pipeline. Gatherco claims that it will operate the facilities to gather natural gas produced by Columbia's existing customers. Gatherco contends that it has agreed to provide service to Columbia's existing customers on terms and conditions

acceptable to both Gatherco and the customers.

Any questions regarding this petition should be directed to Tony Kovacevich, Gatherco, Inc., 6273 Frank Avenue, N.W., North Canton, Ohio 44720 at (330) 498-9553, or W. Jonathan Airey, Gregory D. Russell, or Joseph C. Blasko, Attorneys for Gatherco, Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, 52 East Gay Street, P.O. Box 1008, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1008 at (614) 464-6400.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make a protest with reference to said application should, on or about October 8, 1999, 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 385.214 or 385.211) 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 proceeding. 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 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed abandonment are required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion 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 Applicant to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GT99-69-000]

Koch Gateway Pipeline Company; Notice of Refund Report

September 17, 1999.

Take notice that on September 14, 1999, Koch Gateway Pipeline Company (Koch) tendered for filing a Refund Report reflecting the amounts credited to certain Koch customers eligible for a portion of the 1998 Gas Research Institute (GRI) refund.

Koch states that copies of this filing have been served upon Koch's affected customers and state commissions.

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, NE, Washington, DC 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 on or before September 24, 1999. 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. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 597-003-Utah]

PacifiCorp Power Company; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

September 17, 1999.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897), the Office of Hydropower Licensing has reviewed the application for a new license for the Stairs Hydroelectric Project. The project

¹ Certain of these facilities are also used to deliver gas to local distribution companies such as Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (COH) at town border stations and directly to COH mainline tap consumers.

is located on the Big Cottonwood Creek in Big Cottonwood Canyon, Salt Lake County, near the town of Sandy, about 15 miles southeast of Salt Lake City, Utah. The project occupies about 8.7 acres of land within the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

On August 16, 1999, the Commission staff issued a draft environmental assessment (DEA) for the project and requested that comments be filed with the Commission within 15 days. Comments on the DEA were filed by one entity and are addressed in the final environmental assessment (FEA) for the project.

The FEA contains the staff's analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the project and concludes that licensing the project, with appropriate environmental protective measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Copies of the FEA are available for review in the Public Reference Room, Room 2A, of the Commission's offices at 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. The FEA may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (please call (202) 208-2222 for assistance).

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-24806 Filed 9-22-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP99-61-000, CP99-62-000, CP99-63-000, CP99-64-000]

TriState Pipeline, L.L.C.; Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed TriState Pipeline Project

September 17, 1999.

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 TriState Pipeline, L.L.C. (TriState) 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 appropriate mitigating measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact. The DEIS also evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including system

alternatives; route alternatives; and minor route variations, and requests comments on them.

The DEIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities in Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan:

- About 2.8 miles of new 30-inch-diameter interconnect pipeline for the Alliance Interconnect (1.5 miles) and the Northern Border Interconnect (1.3 miles) in Will County, Illinois;
- About 146.8 miles of new 30-inch-diameter pipeline in Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan extending from Joliet, Illinois in Will County to White Pigeon, Michigan in St. Joseph County. About 32.6 miles would be in Illinois, 108.0 miles would be in Indiana, and 6.2 miles would be in Michigan;
- About 66.0 miles of 36-inch-diameter pipeline looping the existing Consumers Energy Company (Consumers Energy) and Michigan Gas Storage (MGS) systems in Michigan in three segments: the Branch County Loop (24.0 miles), the Oakland County Loop (23.4 miles), and the Macomb County Loop (18.6 miles);
- About 12.1 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline from Consumers Energy's existing St. Clair Compressor Station in St. Clair County, Michigan, to the United States (U.S.)-Canadian International Boundary in the St. Clair River;
- One new compressor station (Joliet Compressor Station) with 30,000 horsepower (hp) in Joliet, Illinois and upgrade Consumers Energy's existing St. Clair Compressor Station with 18,570 hp of additional compression;
- Four new meter/regulating stations including two in Will County, Illinois, one in St. Joseph County, Michigan, and one in St. Clair County, Michigan;
- 23 new mainline and crossover valves; and
- Lease of 450 thousand decatherms per day (Mdt/d) of firm pipeline capacity on the Consumers Energy and MGS systems between White Pigeon, Michigan and Consumers Energy's existing St. Clair Compressor Station.

In addition, TriState requests in Docket No. CP99-64-000 a Presidential Permit to construct, operate, and maintain facilities at the International Border between the U.S.-Canadian International Boundary in the St. Clair River near Marine City, Michigan. TriState's border facilities would connect TriState's proposed U.S. facilities with Canadian facilities owned by TriState's Canadian affiliate, TriState-Canada.

The purpose of the proposed project would be to transport 650 Mdt/d of

natural gas from the Chicago Hub near Joliet, Illinois to points in Michigan and Canada. Of the 650 Mdt/d, 200 Mdt/d would be delivered to Consumers Energy's White Pigeon delivery point in Michigan. The remaining 450 Mdt/d would be transported to the Dawn Hub in Ontario, Canada.

Comment Procedures and Public Meetings

Any person wishing to comment on the DEIS may do so. To ensure consideration 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 No. CP99-61-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before November 8, 1999.

In addition to written comments, we will hold four public meetings in the project area to receive comments on the DEIS. All meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m., and are scheduled as follows:

October 20, 1999—University Park, Illinois, Engbretson Hall, Governors State University, Governors Highway and Stuenkel Rd., (708) 534-4515.

October 21, 1999—Walkerton, Indiana, Urey Middle School Cafeteria, 407 Washington Street, (219) 586-3184.

October 20, 1999—Pontiac, Michigan, Pontiac Northern High School, Little Theater (S. Parking Lot), 1051 Arlene Avenue, (248) 857-8460.

October 21, 1999—Sturgis, Michigan, Sturgis Young Civic Center, 201 N. Nottawa, (800) 778-7437.

Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend and present oral comments on the environmental impact described in the DEIS. Transcripts of the meetings will be prepared.

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 commentator a party to the