

state regulatory agencies. 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 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. This filing may also be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket#" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site under the "e-Filing" link.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2232-407, North Carolina]

Duke Energy Corporation; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

July 26, 2002.

An environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review. The EA analyzes the environmental impacts of Duke Energy Corporation's (Duke) application to grant a non-project use of project land to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities Department (CMUD) to increase its raw water withdrawal, in Mountain Island Lake, a reservoir for the Catawba-Wateree Hydroelectric Project. Duke's proposed grant would also allow York to withdrawal up to 330 million gallons of water per day. The Catawba-Wateree Project is on the Catawba River in Lancaster, York, and Fairfield Counties, South Carolina, and Gaston, Lincoln, and Burke Counties, North Carolina.

The EA was prepared by staff in the Office of Energy Projects, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. In the EA, Commission staff conclude that

approving Duke's application to grant the use would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The EA may be viewed on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). Copies are also available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP02-116-000 and CP02-117-000]

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed South Texas Expansion Project

July 26, 2002.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company (Tennessee) in the above-referenced docket.

The EA 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, would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the South Texas Expansion Project including:

- About 9.28 miles of a 30-inch-diameter lateral in Hidalgo County, Texas;
- A new meter station near the terminus of the new lateral in Hidalgo, Texas;
- About 7.58 miles of a 24-inch-diameter loop of Tennessee's existing Donna Line in Hidalgo County, Texas;
- A new 9,470 horsepower compressor station in Hidalgo County, Texas; and
- Minor modifications of Tennessee's existing Compressor Station 1 located in

Nueces County, Texas, and existing Compressor Station 9 located in Victoria County, Texas.

Tennessee's proposed project also includes a border crossing facility at the International Boundary between the United States in Hidalgo County, Texas and Mexico in the State of Tamaulipas, which would consist of a 1,800-foot-long segment of 30-inch-diameter pipeline. The primary purpose of the South Texas Expansion Project is to provide up to 320,000 Decatherms per day of natural gas to a developing power generation complex located in the Northern Mexico Municipalities of Rio Bravo and Valle Hermoso, Tamaulipas.

The EA has been placed in the public files of the FERC. A limited number of copies of the EA are 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 EA have been mailed to Federal, state and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding.

Any person wishing to comment on the EA 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 an original and 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 Gas Branch 1, PJ11.1.
- Reference Docket Nos. CP02-116-000 and CP02-117-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before August 26, 2002.

Please note that we are continuing to experience delays in mail deliveries from the U.S. Postal Service. As a result, we will include all comments that we receive within a reasonable time frame in our environmental analysis of this project. However, the Commission encourages electronic filing of any comments or interventions or protests to this proceeding. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create a free account which can be