

For Assistance, call (202) 502-8222 or for TTY, (202) 208-1659. 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. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP02-424-000]

Westpan Resources L.P.; Notice of Petition

August 21, 2002.

On August 12, 2002, Westpan Resources L.P., (Westpan), pursuant to Rule 207 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission), 18 CFR 385.207, filed a petition for a declaratory order in Docket No. CP02-424-000 requesting that the Commission declare certain onshore natural gas gathering and related facilities located in the Panhandle Field of Texas as gas gathering facilities exempt from the Commission's jurisdiction under section 1(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), all as more fully set forth in the petition which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For Assistance, call (202) 502-8222 or for TTY, (202) 208-1659.

Westpan states that its affiliate, Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc. (Pioneer) is to acquire from Colorado Interstate Gas Company (CIG) under an April 13, 2002 Gathering Assets Purchase and Sale Agreement (PSA) certain onshore natural gas gathering and related facilities. Westpan has stated that neither it nor Pioneer are affiliated with CIG, and neither are natural gas companies subject to the Commission's jurisdiction under the NGA. Under the PSA, Pioneer is entitled to designate the entity that will hold the assets that are the subject of the PSA and that entity will be its affiliate,

Westpan. Westpan states that the facilities to be transferred to it under the PSA are nonjurisdictional gathering facilities exempt from the Commission's jurisdiction under NGA Section 1(b).

Pioneer and CIG have entered into the PSA for the transfer of facilities at a purchase price of \$19.5 million. The facilities to be transferred to Westpan under the PSA are located in the Panhandle Field in Carson, Moore, Potter, Hartley, Hutchinson and Oldham Counties, Texas. Westpan states that the transfer of facilities will consist of: (i) Approximately 700 miles of onshore gathering pipeline ranging in diameter from 2-inches to 24-inches with approximately 781 wells attached; (ii) 18 Panhandle Field Compressor (PFC) stations totaling approximately 49,000 horsepower; (iii) approximately 42 miles of certificated fuel gas lines ranging in diameter from 1-inch to 20-inches; and (iv) miscellaneous appurtenant facilities.

This petition is a companion filing to CIG's Application for Permission and Approval to Abandon the Panhandle Gathering System by sale to Pioneer filed on July 31, 2002, in Docket No. CP02-417-000, wherein CIG demonstrates that the subject facilities are nonjurisdictional gathering facilities to which abandonment under Section 7(b) of the NGA is warranted. Wholly consistent with the abandonment application, Westpan states that these subject facilities are nonjurisdictional gathering facilities and is petitioning the Commission for a declaratory order disclaiming jurisdiction.

Any questions concerning this petition may be directed to Bruce F. Kiely, Mark K. Lewis, Mark J. O'Brien, Baker Botts LLP, The Warner, 1299 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20004-2400 at (202) 639-7700 or Mark L. Withrow, Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc., Executive Vice President and General Counsel, 5205 N. O'Connor Blvd, Suite 1400, Irving, TX 75039-3746 at (972) 969-4090.

There are two ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project. First, any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this project should, on or before September 11, 2002, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene 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 NGA (18 CFR 157.10). A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and

will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties. A party must submit 14 copies of filings made with the Commission and must mail a copy to the applicant and to every other party in the proceeding. Only parties to the proceeding can ask for court review of Commission orders in the proceeding.

However, a person does not have to intervene in order to have comments considered. The second way to participate is by filing with the Secretary of the Commission, as soon as possible, an original and two copies of comments in support of or in opposition to this project. The Commission will consider these comments in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but the filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project provide copies of their protests only to the party or parties directly involved in the protest.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of the environmental documents, and will be notified of meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, the non-party commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission (except for the mailing of environmental documents issued by the Commission) and will not have the right to seek court review of the Commission's final order.

The Commission may issue a preliminary determination on non-environmental issues prior to the completion of its review of the environmental aspects of the project. This preliminary determination typically considers such issues as the need for the project and its economic effect on existing customers of the applicant, on other pipelines in the area, and on landowners and communities. For example, the Commission considers the extent to which the applicant may need to exercise eminent domain to obtain rights-of-way for the proposed project and balances that against the non-environmental benefits to be provided by the project. Therefore, if a person has comments on community

and landowner impacts from this proposal, it is important either to file comments or to intervene as early in the process as possible.

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. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

If the Commission decides to set the application for a formal hearing before an Administrative Law Judge, the Commission will issue another notice describing that process. At the end of the Commission's review process, a final Commission order approving or denying a certificate will be issued.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-384-000 and CP01-387-000]

Islander East Pipeline Company, L.L.C., Algonquin Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Islander East Pipeline Project

August 21, 2002.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared this final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Islander East Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (Islander East) and Algonquin Gas Transmission Company (Algonquin) in the above-referenced docket.

The final EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The staff concludes that approval of the proposed Project with appropriate mitigating measures, as recommended, would result in limited adverse environmental impacts. The final EIS evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including system alternatives, route alternatives, and route variations.

The final EIS assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities in New Haven County, Connecticut and Suffolk County, New York.

Algonquin's facilities would consist of:

- A new 12,028 horsepower Cheshire Compressor Station in New Haven County, Connecticut;

- The removal of two launchers from an existing mainline valve and interconnect facility in New Haven County, Connecticut;

- Retest and upgrade of about 27.4 miles of the existing C-1 and C-1L mainline in New Haven County, Connecticut; and

- An anomaly investigation along about 0.1 mile of the C-1 and C-1L mainline in New Haven County, Connecticut.

Islander East's facilities would consist of:

- About 44.8 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline from New Haven County, Connecticut to KeySpan Energy's existing facility in Suffolk County, New York;

- About 5.6 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline (the Calverton Lateral) in Suffolk County, New York to a planned power plant in Calverton, New York;

- Three new meter stations: the North Haven Meter Station, the Brookhaven Meter Station, and the AES Calverton Meter Station; and

- Five mainline valves (two in Connecticut and three in New York).

The purpose of the Islander East Pipeline Project is to provide transportation service for 285,000 dekatherms per day of natural gas from supply areas, including eastern Canada, to energy markets in Connecticut and New York (specifically Long Island and New York City).

The final EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at: Federal Regulatory Energy Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-1371.

A limited number of copies of the final EIS are available from the Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch identified above. In addition, the final EIS has been mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, elected officials, public interest groups, individuals, and affected landowners who requested a copy of the final EIS; public libraries; newspapers; and parties to this proceeding.

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act, no agency decision on a proposed action may be made until 30 days after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency publishes a notice of availability of an FEIS. However, the CEQ regulations provide an exception to this rule when an agency decision is subject to a formal

internal appeal process which allows other agencies or the public to make their views known. In such cases, the agency decision may be made at the same time the notice of the FEIS is published, allowing both periods to run concurrently. The Commission decision for this proposed action is subject to a 30-day rehearing period.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at 1-866-208-FERC (1-866-208-3372) or on the FERC Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>).¹ Click on the "FERRIS" link, enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the [Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance with FERRIS, the FERRIS helpline can be reached at (202) 502-8222, TTY (202) 208-1659. The application and supplemental filings in these dockets are available for viewing on FERRIS.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 11942-001]

Hammond Hydroelectric Company; Notice of Surrender of Preliminary Permit

August 22, 2002.

Take notice that Hammond Hydroelectric Company, permittee for the proposed Big Creek Hydroelectric Project, has requested that its preliminary permit be terminated. The permit was issued on July 30, 2001, and would have expired on June 30, 2004. The project would have been located on Big Creek in Custer and Lemhi Counties, Idaho.

The permittee filed the request on July 24, 2002, and the preliminary permit for Project No. 11942 shall remain in effect through the thirtieth day after issuance of this notice unless that day is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday as described in 18 CFR 385.2007, in which case the permit shall

¹ On October 11, 2001, the Commission announced that, as the result of the September 11 terrorist attacks, the FERC would limit access to certain public documents (PL01-2-000). Documents containing specific information on energy facilities would not be available through its web site or on its public reference room. Individuals requiring such information are directed to file Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests.