

shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

*Comment Date:* July 23, 2004.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 1979]

#### Wisconsin Public Service Corporation; Notice of Authorization for Continued Project Operation

July 2, 2004.

On June 21, 2002, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, licensee for the Alexander Project No. 1979, filed an application for a new or subsequent license pursuant to the Federal Power Act (FPA) and the Commission's regulations. Project No. 1979 is located on the Wisconsin River in Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

The license for Project No. 1979 was issued for a period ending June 30, 2004. Section 15(a)(1) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. 808(a)(1), requires the Commission, at the expiration of a license term, to issue from year to year an annual license to the then licensee under the terms and conditions of the prior license until a new license is issued, or the project is otherwise disposed of as provided in section 15 or any other applicable section of the FPA. If the project's prior license waived the applicability of section 15 of the FPA, then, based on section 9(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 558(c), and as set forth at 18 CFR 16.21(a), if the licensee of such project has filed an application for a subsequent license, the licensee may continue to operate the project in accordance with the terms and conditions of the license after the minor or minor part license expires, until the Commission acts on its application. If the licensee of such a project has not filed an application for a subsequent license, then it may be required, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.21(b), to continue project operations until the Commission issues someone else a license for the project or otherwise orders disposition of the project.

If the project is subject to section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that an annual license for Project No. 1979 is issued to Wisconsin Public Service Corporation for a period effective July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005, or until the

issuance of a new license for the project or other disposition under the FPA, whichever comes first. If issuance of a new license (or other disposition) does not take place on or before July 1, 2005, notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.18(c), an annual license under section 15(a)(1) of the FPA is renewed automatically without further order or notice by the Commission, unless the Commission orders otherwise.

If the project is not subject to section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that Wisconsin Public Service Corporation is authorized to continue operation of the Alexander Project No. 1979 until such time as the Commission acts on its application for subsequent license.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP04-349-000 and CP04-356-000]

#### Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Columbia Pavonia Storage Wells 8901 and 12446 Project and the Pavonia Storage Wells 3731 and 12447 Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

July 2, 2004.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation's (Columbia) Pavonia Storage Wells 8901 and 12446 Project and Wells 3731 and 12447 Project in Ashland County, Ohio. For the facilities in Docket No. CP04-349-000, Columbia would plug and abandon Well 8901 by replacement because corrosion threatens the integrity of the well. A new storage well would be drilled and designated as Well 12446. For the facilities in Docket No. CP04-356-000, Columbia would plug and abandon Well 3731 by replacement because the well has developed excessive water production and cannot be economically repaired. The new storage well would be designated as Well 12447. Columbia would also abandon by removal the associated interconnecting pipeline and

related facilities for the old wells and construct new interconnecting pipeline and appurtenances associated with the new wells. 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.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law.

A fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility On My Land? What Do I Need To Know?" was attached to the project notice Columbia provided to landowners. This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain and how to participate in the Commission's proceedings. It is available for viewing on the FERC Internet Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)).

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

In Docket No. CP04-349-000

Columbia proposes to:

- Plug and abandon Well 8901;
- Abandon by removal all equipment on well line SL-W8901. This would include about 23 feet of 4-inch diameter pipeline, 18 feet of 3-inch-diameter pipeline, 90 feet of 6-inch-diameter pipeline, a 35-barrel steel holding tank, a 16-inch vertical drip, a 4-inch tie-in valve setting, and the existing 4-inch tie-in valve setting for Line SL-W9623;
- Drill new storage Well 12446;
- Construct 75 feet of 6-inch-diameter well line designated as SL-W12446 and 90 feet of 4-inch-diameter well line designated as SL-W9623; and
- Construct a 6-inch orifice meter run, a 6-inch tie-in valve setting, and a 4-inch tie-in valve setting.

In Docket No. CP04-356-000

Columbia proposes to:

- Plug and abandon Well 3731;
- Abandon by removal all equipment on well line SL-W3731. This would include about 20 feet of 3-inch-diameter pipeline, 20 feet of 4-inch-diameter pipeline, and a drip;
- Drill new storage Well 12447;
- Construct 165 feet of 4-inch-diameter pipeline designated as Well Line SL-W12447;