

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 an account which can be created on-line.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commentor 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).<sup>1</sup> Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and 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, please contact FERC Online Support at [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

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**Magalie R. Salas,**  
Secretary.

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<sup>1</sup> Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP05-412-000]

#### Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Northeast ConneXion Project—New England and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

October 6, 2005.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the Northeast ConneXion Project—New England involving construction, abandonment, and operation of facilities by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company (Tennessee).<sup>1</sup> The proposed facilities consist of the installation of additional compression at four of its existing compressor stations in Potter County, Pennsylvania; Onondaga, Herkimer, and Schoharie Counties, New York; the abandonment and installation of additional compression at two existing compressor stations in Columbia County, New York, and Worcester County, Massachusetts; and the construction of one new compressor station in Steuben County, New York. Tennessee will install 55,400 horsepower (hp) and replace 10,500 hp for a net total of 44,900 hp of compression. No construction of pipeline is proposed. 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. Tennessee indicates that the proposed facilities will enable it to provide up to 136,300 decatherms per day of incremental firm transportation capacity.

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 pipeline 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.

<sup>1</sup> Tennessee's application was filed with the Commission under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

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 Tennessee 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

Tennessee seeks authority for the:

- Installation of two additional 3,550-hp CAT 3612 compressor units at each of the existing Compressor Stations 241, 245, and 249 located in Onondaga, Herkimer, and Schoharie Counties, New York;
- Replacement of an existing 4,500-hp compressor unit with a single 10,300-hp Solar Taurus 70S turbine-driven compressor unit at existing Compressor Station 254 in Columbia County, New York;
- Replacement of three existing compressor units totaling 6,000 hp with the installation of two 6,275-hp Solar Centaur 50L turbine-driven compressor units (12,550 hp total) at existing Compressor Station 264 in Worcester County, Massachusetts;
- Installation of one additional 3,550-hp CAT 3612 compressor unit at existing Compressor Station 313 in Potter County, Pennsylvania; and
- Construction of new Compressor Station 405A, with a single 7,700-hp Solar Taurus 60S turbine-driven compressor unit in Steuben County, New York.

Tennessee indicates that it will install "appurtenant facilities" to the project pursuant to section 2.55(a) of the regulations.

The location of the project facilities and alternative sites for the new compressor station is shown in Appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### Land Requirements for Construction

The new Compressor Station 405A would require about 20.0 acres of land of which about 10.0 acres would be used during construction. Following construction, about 3.2 acres would be maintained as the new aboveground facility site. Tennessee would not need

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of all appendices, other than Appendix 1 (maps), are available on the Commission's Web site at the "eLibrary" link or from the Commission's Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 502-8371. For instructions on connecting to eLibrary refer to the last page of this notice. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

to acquire any additional acreage or land for the proposed modifications at the existing compressor stations.

### The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. This process is referred to as "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission staff requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

In the EA we<sup>3</sup> will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils;
- Ground water resources;
- Vegetation and wildlife;
- Endangered and threatened species;
- Public safety;
- Land use;
- Cultural resources;
- Air quality and noise; and
- Hazardous waste.

We will not discuss impacts to the following resource areas since they are not present in the project area, or would not be affected by the proposed facilities: Surface water resources, fisheries, and wetlands.

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, State, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is

published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section below

### Currently Identified Environmental Issue

We have identified noise as an issue that we think deserves attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Tennessee. This preliminary issue may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

### Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. 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 letter to: Magalia R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas Branch 2.
- Reference Docket No. CP05-412-000.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before November 7, 2005.

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 strongly 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 created on-line.

We may mail the EA for comment. If you are interested in receiving it, please return the Information Request

(Appendix 2). If you do not return the Information Request, you will be taken off the mailing list.

### Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding, or "intervenor". To become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214). Intervenor's have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision. Motions to Intervene should be electronically submitted using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons without Internet access should send an original and 14 copies of their motion to the Secretary of the Commission at the address indicated previously. Persons filing Motions to Intervene on or before the comment deadline indicated above must send a copy of the motion to the Applicant. All filings, including late interventions, submitted after the comment deadline must be served on the Applicant and all other intervenors identified on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. Persons on the service list with e-mail addresses may be served electronically; others must be served a hard copy of the filing.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

### Environmental Mailing List

An effort is being made to send this notice to all individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. This includes all landowners who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within distances defined in the Commission's regulations of certain aboveground facilities.

### Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected

<sup>3</sup> "We", "us", and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).

an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission now offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries and direct links to the documents. Go to <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>.

Finally, public meetings or site visits will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx> along with other related information.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP05-392-000]

#### Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Accident Storage Enhancement Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

October 6, 2005.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the Accident Storage Enhancement Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Texas Eastern Transmission, LP (Texas Eastern) near the town of Accident in Garrett County, Maryland.<sup>1</sup> The proposed facilities include new storage wells, field pipelines and appurtenances, reworking of wellhead valves, grounding and surge protection modifications, related facilities. This EA will be used by the Commission in its decisionmaking 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 pipeline 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 Texas Eastern 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 (<http://www.ferc.gov>).

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

Texas Eastern is proposing to provide additional working gas capacity and increase reliability at its Accident Storage Field in Garrett County, Maryland by increasing injection capability, expanding the working gas capacity by 3.0 billion cubic feet and enhance withdrawal. Texas Eastern's proposed activities include:

- Reworking of 38 existing wells;
- Re-enter and drill-out horizontally, 7 wells;
- Installation of communication and grounding/surge protection on 54 wells;
- Replacement of wellhead valves on 15 wellheads;
- Installation of new slug catcher facilities on three field laterals;
- Drilling 2 new horizontal wells;
- Installing approximately 0.8 mile of gather pipeline; and
- Construction of 4 new access roads and appurtenant equipment.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in Appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of all project facilities, including pipelines, well pads, access

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roads, a pipe storage yard and extra workspaces would impact approximately 21.43 acres.

Following construction, about 6.32 acres would be maintained as new aboveground facility sites, access roads, or permanent pipeline right-of-way. The remaining 15.11 acres of land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

#### The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. This process is referred to as "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission staff requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

In the EA we<sup>3</sup> will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils;
- Water resources and wetlands;
- Fisheries, vegetation, and wildlife;
- Endangered and threatened species;
- Land use, recreation, and visual resources;
- Cultural resources;
- Air quality and noise; and
- Reliability and safety.

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, State, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will

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<sup>1</sup>Texas Eastern's application was filed with the Commission under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and part 157 of the Commission's regulations.