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**Magalie R. Salas,**  
Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP06-449-000]

#### **Kinder Morgan Louisiana Pipeline LLC; Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Kinder Morgan Louisiana Pipeline Project**

January 26, 2007.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Kinder Morgan Louisiana Pipeline LLC (KMLP) in the above-referenced docket.

The draft EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that approval of the proposed project with the appropriate mitigating measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact. The draft EIS also evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including system alternatives, major route alternatives, and route variations, and requests comments on them.

The draft EIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities in southwest Louisiana:

- Leg 1—132 miles of 42-inch-diameter pipeline beginning within the Sabine Pass Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Terminal in Cameron Parish and extending northward and easterly through Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, and Acadia Parishes until it connects with an existing Columbia Gulf Transmission interstate pipeline in Evangeline Parish, Louisiana.

- Leg 2—1.22 miles of 36-inch-diameter pipeline beginning within the Sabine Pass LNG Terminal and

extending to a point of interconnection with the existing Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America pipeline just south of State Highway 82 in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

- The Florida Gas Transmission (FGT) Lateral—2.3 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline extending eastwardly from Leg 1 at approximately milepost 110.60 until it connects with the existing FGT Company's Compressor Station No. 7 near the town of Williams in Acadia Parish, Louisiana.

- Associated mainline block valves, metering, tie-in, and pigging facilities.

The purpose of the proposed facilities is to deliver at least 3,395,000 decatherms (Dth) per day of regasified natural gas from the Sabine Pass LNG Terminal into the national pipeline and underground storage grid.

#### **Specific Comment Request**

The staff has identified and evaluated in detail two system alternatives, four major route alternatives, and 15 route variations. The staff concludes that the proposed system and route are environmentally least damaging, and therefore prefers the proposed system and route. Any route variation considered to be an environmental improvement has been incorporated into the proposed route. Area residents, local or state governments, intervenors, Kinder Morgan, and other interested parties are asked to provide specific comments on our analysis of alternatives. Comments should also address any effect on project timing and related cost/benefits.

#### **Comment Procedures and Public Meetings**

Any person wishing to comment on the draft EIS 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 note that 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 online.

If you are filing written comments, 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: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory

Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

- Label one copy of your comments for the attention of Gas Branch 2, DG2E;
- Reference Docket No. CP06-449-000 on the original and both copies; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before March 19, 2007.

We will announce in a future notice, the location and time of two local public meetings to receive comments on the draft EIS. These meetings will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx> along with other related information.

After these comments are reviewed, any significant new issues are investigated, and modifications are made to the draft EIS, a final EIS will be published and distributed by the staff. The final EIS will contain the staff's responses to timely comments filed on the draft EIS.

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).

Anyone may intervene in this proceeding based on this draft EIS. You must file your request to intervene as specified above.<sup>1</sup> You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

The draft EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8371.

A limited number of copies are available from the Public Reference Room identified above. In addition, copies of the draft EIS have been mailed to federal, state and local agencies, public interest groups, individuals who have requested the draft EIS, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding.

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

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

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.

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>.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP07-27-000]

#### **Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Tuscarora 2008 Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

January 25, 2007.

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 Tuscarora 2008 Expansion project, involving construction and operation of a compressor station and appurtenances by Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company (Tuscarora).

Tuscarora proposes to construct a new natural gas-fired compressor station referred to as the Likely Compressor Station which would consist of a single 5,731 horsepower gas turbine compressor package and appurtenances in Modoc County, California. Tuscarora would also install isolation and side valves on its mainline and a total of about 1,800 feet of suction and discharge pipeline to connect the compressor station to the mainline. The general location of the project is shown on the map attached as Appendix 1.<sup>1</sup>

The proposed project would permit the firm transportation of an additional 40,000 dekatherms per day of natural gas to markets in northern Nevada. Specifically, the project would enable Sierra Pacific Power Company to fuel its 514-megawatt Tracy Combined Cycle Power Plant which is currently under construction.

The Likely Compressor Station would be located on a 21-acre parcel of land owned by Tuscarora east of its mainline right-of-way. The station would permanently occupy a 3.5-acre fenced and graveled area which would be surrounded by a mix of undeveloped and agricultural land. The closest town, Likely, is located about 3.5 miles away and the closest residence is located about 3,500 feet south of the site. One parcel of land managed by the Bureau of Land Management is located within 0.25 mile northeast of the compressor station site.

#### **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 will be considered during the preparation of the EA.

The Commission's staff will prepare an EA that will describe the potential environmental impacts that could result from construction and operation of the proposed project under the general headings:

- Water resources, wetlands, and waterbodies.
- Vegetation and wildlife.
- Threatened and endangered species.
- Cultural resources.
- Geology and soils.
- Land use and residences.
- Air quality and noise.
- Reliability and safety.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be presented in the EA. We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of

appendix (map) are available from the Commission's Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 502-8371. Copies of the appendix will be sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to federal, state, and local government agencies; public interest groups; Native American tribes; interested individuals; affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A 30-day comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments submitted in any Commission Order that is issued for the project.

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

#### **Public Participation**

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commenter, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Generally, comments are submitted regarding the potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact.

This notice and request for environmental comments is being sent to affected landowners; federal, state and local government representatives and agencies; environmental and public interest groups; other interested parties in this proceeding; and local libraries and newspapers. We encourage government representatives to notify their constituents of this notice and to encourage their comments concerning this proposed project.

To ensure that your comments are properly recorded, please mail them to our office on or before February 25, 2007. When filing comments please:

- Send an original and two copies of your letter to: Magalie 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; DG2E; and Reference Docket No. CP07-27-000 on the original and both copies.

Please note that the Commission strongly encourages the electronic filing ("eFiling") of comments, interventions or protests to this proceeding. Instructions on how to "eFile" comments can be found on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "Documents and Filings" link.

<sup>1</sup> The appendix referenced in this notice is not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of the