DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER17–1883–000]

Supplemental Notice That Initial Market-Based Rate Filing Includes Request for Blanket Section 204 Authorization: Mineral Point Energy LLC

This is a supplemental notice in the above-referenced proceeding of Mineral Point Energy LLC’s application for market-based rate authority, with an accompanying rate tariff, noting that such application includes a request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest should file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant.

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing protests with regard to the applicant’s request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability, is July 13, 2017.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper, using the FERC Online links at http://www.ferc.gov. To facilitate electronic service, persons with Internet access who will eFile a document and/or be listed as a contact for an intervenor must create and validate an eRegistration account using the eRegistration link. Select the eFiling link to log on and submit the intervention or protest.

Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 5 copies of the intervention or protest to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

The filings in the above-referenced proceeding are accessible in the Commission’s eLibrary system by clicking on the appropriate link in the above list. They are also available for electronic review in the Commission’s Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an eSubscription link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive email notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.


Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017–13600 Filed 6–28–17; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP16–10–000; Docket No. CP16–13–000]

Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Mountain Valley Project and Equitrans Expansion Project: Mountain Valley Pipeline LLC, Equitrans LP

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the projects proposed by Mountain Valley Pipeline LLC (Mountain Valley) and Equitrans LP (Equitrans) in the above-referenced dockets. Mountain Valley requests authorization to construct and operate certain interstate natural gas facilities in West Virginia and Virginia, known as the Mountain Valley Project (MVP) in Docket Number CP16–10–000. The MVP is designed to transport about 2 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) of natural gas from production areas in the Appalachian Basin to markets in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern United States. Equitrans requests authorization to construct and operate certain natural gas facilities in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, known as the Equitrans Expansion Project (EEP) in Docket No. CP16–13–000. The EEP is designed to transport about 0.4 Bcf/d of natural gas, to improve system flexibility and reliability, and serve markets in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Southeast, through interconnections with various other interstate systems, including the proposed MVP.

The final EIS assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the MVP and EEP in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The FERC staff concludes that construction and operation of the projects would result in some adverse environmental impacts. In the case of the clearing of forest, effects may be long-term and significant. However, for most other environmental resources, effects should be temporary or short-term, and impacts would be reduced to less-than-significant levels with the implementation of the applicants’ proposed mitigation measures and the additional measures recommended in the final EIS.

The United States (U.S.) Department of Agriculture Forest Service (FS); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE); U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management (BLM); the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), West Virginia Field Office; U.S. Department of Transportation; West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection; and West Virginia Division of Natural Resources participated as cooperating agencies in the preparation of the final EIS.

Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to resources potentially affected by the proposals and participated in the NEPA analysis.

Proposed Facilities

The final EIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the proposed facilities. For the MVP, facilities include:

- About 304 miles of new 42-inch-diameter pipeline extending from the new Mobley Interconnect in Wetzel County, West Virginia to the existing Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company LLC (Transco) Station 165 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia;
- 3 new compressor stations (Bradhshaw, Harris, Stallworth) in West Virginia, totaling about 171,600 horsepower (hp);
- 4 new meter and regulation stations and interconnections (Mobley, Sherwood, WB, and Transco);
- 3 new taps (Webster, Roanoke Gas Lafayette, and Roanoke Gas Franklin);
- 8 pig 1 launches and receivers at 5 locations; and
- 36 mainline block valves.

For the EEP, facilities include:

- About 7 miles total of new various diameter pipelines in six segments;
- new Redhook Compressor Station, in Greene County, Pennsylvania, with 31,300 hp of compression;
- 4 new taps (Mobley, H–148, H–302, H–306) and 1 new interconnection (Webster);
- 4 pig launches and receivers; and
- decommissioning and abandonment of the existing 4,800 hp Pratt Compressor Station in Greene County, Pennsylvania.

1 A pig is a device used to clean or inspect the interior of a pipeline.
Actions of the Federal Agencies
Informed by the Environmental Impact Statement

Under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, the Commission determines whether interstate natural gas transportation facilities are in the public convenience and necessity and, if so, grants a Certificate to construct and operate them. The Commission bases its decisions on technical competence, financing, rates, market demand, gas supply, environmental impact, long-term feasibility, and other issues concerning a proposed project. The final EIS summarizes the environmental impacts and includes recommended conditions to the prospective Commission orders that would further reduce the impacts of the proposed actions.

The BLM’s purpose and need for the proposed action is to respond to a Right-of-Way Grant application submitted by Mountain Valley. Under the Mineral Leasing Act, the Secretary of the Interior has delegated authority to the BLM to grant a right-of-way on federal lands under the jurisdiction of two or more federal agencies. Before issuing the Right-of-Way Grant, the BLM must receive the written concurrence of the other surface managing federal agencies (i.e., FS and COE) in accordance with 43 CFR 2802.3(i).

The FS’s purpose and need for the proposed action is to consider issuing a concurrence to the BLM for the Right-of-Way Grant and to evaluate an amendment to the Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) for the Jefferson National Forest that would make provision for the MVP pipeline’s construction and operation. The FS amendment to the Jefferson National Forest LRMP is analyzed in the EIS.

The BLM may adopt and use the final EIS when considering the issuance of a Right-of-Way Grant to Mountain Valley for the portion of the MVP that would cross federal lands; with the concurrence of the FS and COE. Further, the FS may use the final EIS when it considers amending its LRMP for the proposed MVP crossing of the Jefferson National Forest. Although the cooperating agencies provided input to the conclusions and recommendations presented in the final EIS, the agencies will present their own conclusions and recommendations in their respective Records of Decision (ROD) for the projects.

Forest Service’s Draft Record of Decision

The MVP may be implemented across National Forest System (NFS) land if the BLM grants the rights-of-way for the MVP pipeline to cross the Jefferson National Forest and the FS amends the Jefferson National Forest LRMP (Forest Plan). The Forest Supervisor of the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests has adopted the environmental analysis conducted by FERC (in accordance with 40 CFR 1506.3(a) and (c)) to support his decision to amend the Jefferson National Forest LRMP. He has determined that five parts of the Jefferson National Forest LRMP, where 11 standards would be modified by a Forest Plan amendment (section 4.8 of the final EIS), meet the substantive requirements of the FS planning regulations (36 CFR part 219); and can be implemented without impairing the long-term productivity of NFS lands. With the amended LRMP, the MVP would be consistent with the Forest Plan. The draft decision is based on a review of the environmental analysis disclosed in the final EIS, the project record, Mountain Valley’s proposed Plan of Development, comments from the public, partners, and other agencies, and a consideration of the 36 CFR part 219 requirements for amending a Forest Plan.

The FS decision is subject to objection pursuant to the provisions available at 36 CFR part 218, subparts A and B (published in the Federal Register Vol. 78, No. 59 at 18481 [March 27, 2013]). Objections to the FS decision must be filed within 45 calendar days from the publication date of the legal notice of the opportunity to object in the Roanoke Times, which is the newspaper of record for the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests. The legal notice contains the details of the objection process. The FS must respond to all objections received before it makes a final decision on the proposed Forest Plan amendments. The final decision on the Forest Plan amendments and the final EIS analysis will inform the FS concurrence to the BLM for its Right-of-Way Grant.

A copy of the FS draft ROD and the legal notice for objections can be obtained by any of the following methods: Internet Web site: http://www.fs.usda.gov/gwi; email: kovercash@fs.fed.us@fs.fed.us; or regular mail: Karen Overcash, George Washington-Jefferson Environmental Coordinator, 5162 Valleypointe Parkway, Roanoke, VA 24019; telephone: (540) 265–5100.

Comments on the Bureau of Land Management Record of Decision

The BLM is soliciting comments specific to MVP impacts on federal lands managed by the COE and FS for consideration in its ROD. If you wish to submit written comments to the BLM, they must be submitted within thirty (30) calendar days from the date that the EPA publishes the Notice of Availability of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Mountain Valley Project and Equitrans Expansion Project in the Federal Register. You may use any of the following methods to submit comments to the BLM: E-planning MVP Comment Submission Web page at http://bit.ly/2qByLlw; or mail to: Vicki Craft, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Southeastern State District Office, 273 Market Street, Flowood, MS 39232.

Distribution of the Final Environmental Impact Statement

The FERC staff mailed copies of the final EIS to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; and newspapers and libraries in the project area. Paper copy versions of this EIS were mailed to those specifically requesting them; all others received a compact-disc version. In addition, the EIS is available for public viewing on the FERC’s Web site (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. A limited number of copies are 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.

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission’s Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208–FERC, or on the FERC Web site (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 (i.e., CP16–10 or CP16–13). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208–3676; 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 offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific docketing systems. 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...
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project Nos. 7387–068–9222–033]

Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P.; Notice of Application Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Comments, Protests and Motions To Intervene

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. Type of Proceeding: Amendment of License Terms.


c. Date Filed: May 12, 2017.

d. Licensee: Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P.

e. Names and Locations of Projects: Piercefield Hydroelectric Project No. 7387, located on the Raquette River in St. Lawrence and Franklin counties, New York, Yavilelle Hydroelectric Project No. 9222, located on the Raquette River, in St. Lawrence County, New York.


g. Licensee Contact Information: Mr. Steven P. Murphy, Director, U.S. Licensing, Brookfield Renewable, 33 West 1st Street South, Fulton, New York 13069, Phone: (315) 598–6130, Email: steven.murphy@brookfieldrenewable.com

h. FERC Contact: Mr. Ashish Desai, (202) 502–8370, Ashish.Desai@ferc.gov

i. Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene and protests, is 30 days from the issuance date of this notice by the Commission. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file motions to intervene, protests, comments, and recommendations, using the Commission’s eFiling site at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/eComment.asp. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket numbers P–7387–068 and P–9222–033.

j. Description of Proceeding: The licensee, Erie Boulevard Hydropower, L.P., requests that the Commission amend the license terms for two of its projects to synchronize the license expiration dates with the licensee’s four other projects, so that they can be relicensed concurrently. The other four projects’ Licenses expire on December 31, 2033. All six projects are located on the Raquette River.

In order to align the expiration dates, the licensee requests that the Commission extend the license for the Yavilelle Project No. 9222, approximately 12 years, from January 31, 2022 to December 31, 2033. In addition, the licensee requests that the Commission accelerate the license expiration term for the Piercefield Project No. 7387 by 10 years, from October 31, 2045 to October 31, 2035.

The licensee states that amending the license terms for the two projects would allow for better coordination during project relicensing for all of its projects on the Raquette River. The licensee’s request includes letters of support for the amendments of the license terms from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and Adirondack Mountain Club.

k. This notice is available for review and reproduction at the Commission in the Public Reference Room, Room 2A, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. The filing may also be viewed on the Commission’s Web site at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp. Enter the Docket number (P–7387–068 or P–9222–033) excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the notice. You may also register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, call toll-free 1–888–208–3676 or email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

l. Individuals desiring to be included as interveners in this proceeding, in their own right and not in a representative capacity, must file a request for intervention in accordance with the Commission’s Rules. Such requests for intervention must include a statement of the interveners’ interest(s) in the proceeding, and must be served on all persons listed as other interveners or service recipients in this filing. The notice as published in the Federal Register is available for review at the Public Reference Room, Room 2A, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. The filing may also be viewed on the Commission’s Web site at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp. Enter the Docket number (P–7387–068 or P–9222–033) excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the notice. You may also register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, call toll-free 1–888–208–3676 or email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

m. Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene: Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, and .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission’s Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

n. Filing and Service of Responsive Documents: Any filing must include all capital letters the title COMMENTS, PROTEST, or MOTION TO INTERVENE as applicable; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, motions to intervene, or protests must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). All comments, motions to intervene, or protests should relate to the request for the amendment of the license terms.

Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application. If an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency. A copy of all other filings in reference to this application must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.


Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

[FERC Doc. 2017–13603 Filed 6–28–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings: