DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP17–468–000]

Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review of the Proposed Marshall County Mine Panel 18W Project; Texas Eastern Transmission, LP

On June 30, 2017, Texas Eastern Transmission, LP filed an application in Docket No. CP17–468–000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act to construct and operate certain natural gas pipeline facilities. The proposed project is known as the as Marshall County Mine Panel 18W Project (Project), and would excavate and elevate sections of four existing mainline pipelines to minimize and monitor potential strains on the pipelines due to anticipated longwall mining activities.

On July 13, 2017, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) issued its Notice of Application for the Project. Among other things, that notice alerted agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on a request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff’s Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Project. This instant notice identifies the FERC staff’s planned schedule for the completion of the EA for the Project.

Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of EA—December 21, 2017

90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline—March 21, 2018

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project’s progress.

Project Description

Texas Eastern proposes to excavate and elevate 1.6-mile-long sections each of its Line 10, Line 15, Line 30, and a 1.5-mile-long section of its Line 25 to minimize and monitor potential strains on the pipelines due to anticipated longwall mining activities of Marshall Coal. Concurrent with pipeline elevation, portions of two of the lines, Lines 10 and 15, would be replaced with new pipe. Texas Eastern will also perform maintenance activities on sections of Lines 25 and 30. The four mainline sections will be returned to natural gas service while remaining elevated using sandbags and skids during the longwall mining activities and potential ground subsidence. Once the mining-induced subsidence and the 2017–2018 heating season have both ended, the two sections of pipeline located within wetlands will be removed and the four elevated pipeline sections will be re-installed belowground, hydrostatically tested, and placed back into service.

Background

On July 24, 2017, the Commission issued a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Marshall County Mine Panel 18W Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues (NOI). The NOI was sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. The Commission did not receive any comments in response to the NOI.

Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. 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 www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

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, select General Search from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and Docket Number excluding the last three digits (i.e., CP17–468), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208–3676, TTY (202) 502–8659, or at FERCHotlineSupport@ferc.gov. The eLibrary link on the FERC Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.


Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P