

for this proposal. The filing of the EA in the Commission's public record for this proceeding or the issuance of a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review will serve to notify federal and state agencies of the timing for the completion of all necessary reviews, and the subsequent need to complete all federal authorizations within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's EA.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commenter's will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list and will be notified of any meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, the non-party commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission, and will not have the right to seek court review of the Commission's final order.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests, and interventions via the internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the e-Filing link. Persons unable to file electronically should submit original and 3 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

Dated: July 26, 2019.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**  
Deputy Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2727-092]

#### Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment; Black Bear Hydro Partners, LLC

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380, the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for the relicensing of the Ellsworth Hydroelectric Project, located on the Union River in Hancock County,

Maine, and has prepared a Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) for the project.

The FEA contains staff's analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the project and concludes that licensing the project, with appropriate environmental protective measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

A copy of the FEA is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the eLibrary link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).

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, contact FERC Online Support.

For further information, contact Dr. Nicholas Palso at (202) 502-8854, or at [nicholas.palso@ferc.gov](mailto:nicholas.palso@ferc.gov).

Dated: July 29, 2019.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**  
Deputy Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP19-14-000]

#### Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC Southgate Project

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Southgate Project, proposed by Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (Mountain Valley) in the above-referenced docket. Mountain Valley requests authorization to construct and operate approximately 73 miles of natural gas transmission pipeline, one new compressor station, and accompanying facilities that would provide about 375 million cubic feet per day [MMcf/d] of available capacity for transport from the City of Chatham, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia to a

delivery point with Dominion Energy (formerly PSNC) near the City of Graham in Alamance County, North Carolina.

The draft EIS assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Southgate Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FERC staff concludes that approval of the proposed project would result in some adverse environmental impacts. However, if the Project is constructed and operated in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, the mitigation measures discussed in this EIS, and our recommendations, these impacts would be reduced to less-than-significant levels.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (COE) and the U.S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) participated as cooperating agencies in preparation of this draft EIS. Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to resources potentially affected by the proposal and participate in the NEPA analysis. The COE would use this EIS in their regulatory process, and to satisfy compliance with NEPA and other related federal environmental laws (e.g., the National Historic Preservation Act). Although the cooperating agencies provided input to the conclusions and recommendations presented in the draft EIS, the agencies would present their own conclusions and recommendations in a combined Record of Decision (ROD) for the Project, if required.

The draft EIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following project facilities:

- About 73 miles of new 24-inch and 16-inch diameter natural gas pipeline located in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, and Rockingham and Alamance Counties, North Carolina;
- one new 28,915 horsepower compressor station (Lambert Compressor Station) in Pittsylvania County, Virginia;
- four interconnects or tie-ins with facilities operated by Mountain Valley, East Tennessee Gas, and Dominion Energy; and
- ancillary facilities including pig launchers and receivers, mainline block valves (MLV), and cathodic protection beds.

The Commission mailed a copy of the *Notice of Availability* of the draft EIS to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Indian Tribes;