

Energy Regulatory Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.207 (2020), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), filed a petition for declaratory order (Petition) requesting that the Commission declare that the California State Water Resources Control Board has waived its authority to issue a certificate for the Upper Drum-Spaulding Hydroelectric Project No. 2310, Deer Creek Hydroelectric Project No. 14350, and Lower Drum Hydroelectric Project No. 14531 under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1341(a)(1), as more fully explained in the Petition.

Any person wishing to comment on PG&E's petition may do so.¹ The deadline for filing comments is 30 days from issuance of this notice. The Commission encourages electronic submission of comments in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should send comments to the following address: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. Hand delivered submissions in docketed proceedings should be delivered to Health and Human Services, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. Be sure to reference the project docket numbers (P-2310-240, P-14530-002, and P-14531-001) with your submission.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view/and or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket field to access the document. At this time, the Commission has suspended access to Commission's Public Reference Room, due to the proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), issued by the President on March 13, 2020. For assistance, with any FERC Online service, please email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call (886) 208-3676 (toll free). For TYY, call (202) 502-8659.

Comment Date: 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 10, 2021

¹ PG&E's request is part of the licensing proceedings in Project Nos. 2310-240, 14530-000, and 14531-000. Thus, any person that intervened in any of the licensing proceedings is already a party. The filing of the petition in this case does not trigger a new opportunity to intervene.

Dated: April 9, 2021.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-07862 Filed 4-15-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP21-96-000]

El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C.; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization and Establishing Intervention and Protest Deadline

Take notice that on March 30, 2021, El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. (EPNG) P.O. Box 1087, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80944, filed in the above reference docket a prior notice pursuant to sections 157.205, 157.208(b) and 157.210 of the Commission's regulations under the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and its blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-435-000 for authorization to install enhancements at its existing Vail Compressor Station located in Pima County, Arizona (Vail Enhancement Project). EPNG states that the proposed facilities will create operational efficiencies that will allow 94,500 Dekatherms per day of additional firm transportation capacity from a point at the Dragoon/Willcox Compressor Station complex in Cochise County, Arizona to the existing North Baja Delivery Point located at the Arizona-California border at Ehrenberg, Arizona. EPNG estimates the cost of the Project to be approximately \$23.4 million, all as more fully set forth in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (<http://ferc.gov>) using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. At this time, the Commission has suspended access to the Commission's Public Reference Room, due to the proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), issued by the President on March 13, 2020. For assistance, contact the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call

toll-free, (886) 208-3676 or TYY, (202) 502-8659.

Any questions concerning this application should be directed to Francisco Tarin, Director, Regulatory, El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C., P.O. Box 1087, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80944, by phone at (719) 667-7517, or by email at Francisco_Tarin@kindermorgan.com.

Public Participation

There are three ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project: You can file a protest to the project, you can file a motion to intervene in the proceeding, and you can file comments on the project. There is no fee or cost for filing protests, motions to intervene, or comments. The deadline for filing protests, motions to intervene, and comments is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on June 8, 2021. How to file protests, motions to intervene, and comments is explained below.

Protests

Pursuant to section 157.205 of the Commission's regulations under the NGA,¹ any person² or the Commission's staff may file a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed or if a protest is filed and then withdrawn within 30 days after the allowed time for filing a protest, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request for authorization will be considered by the Commission.

Protests must comply with the requirements specified in section 157.205(e) of the Commission's regulations,³ and must be submitted by the protest deadline, which is June 8, 2021. A protest may also serve as a motion to intervene so long as the protestor states it also seeks to be an intervenor.

Interventions

Any person has the option to file a motion to intervene in this proceeding. Only intervenors have the right to request rehearing of Commission orders issued in this proceeding and to subsequently challenge the Commission's orders in the U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal.

To intervene, you must submit a motion to intervene to the Commission

¹ 18 CFR 157.205.

² Persons include individuals, organizations, businesses, municipalities, and other entities. 18 CFR 385.102(d).

³ 18 CFR 157.205(e).

in accordance with Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure⁴ and the regulations under the NGA⁵ by the intervention deadline for the project, which is June 8, 2021. As described further in Rule 214, your motion to intervene must state, to the extent known, your position regarding the proceeding, as well as your interest in the proceeding. For an individual, this could include your status as a landowner, ratepayer, resident of an impacted community, or recreationist. You do not need to have property directly impacted by the project in order to intervene. For more information about motions to intervene, refer to the FERC website at <https://www.ferc.gov/resources/guides/how-to/intervene.asp>.

All timely, unopposed motions to intervene are automatically granted by operation of Rule 214(c)(1). Motions to intervene that are filed after the intervention deadline are untimely and may be denied. Any late-filed motion to intervene must show good cause for being late and must explain why the time limitation should be waived and provide justification by reference to factors set forth in Rule 214(d) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies (paper or electronic) of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties.

Comments

Any person wishing to comment on the project may do so. The Commission considers all comments received about the project in determining the appropriate action to be taken. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please submit your comments on or before June 8, 2021. The filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. To become a party, you must intervene in the proceeding.

How to File Protests, Interventions, and Comments

There are two ways to submit protests, motions to intervene, and comments. In both instances, please reference the Project docket number CP21-96-000 in your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of submissions.

(1) You may file your protest, motion to intervene, and comments by using the Commission's eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to

Documents and Filings. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; first select "General" and then select "Protest", "Intervention", or "Comment on a Filing."

The Commission's eFiling staff are available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov.

(2) You can file a paper copy of your submission. Your submission must reference the Project docket number CP21-96-000.

To mail via USPS, use the following address: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426

To mail via any other courier, use the following address: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852

Protests and motions to intervene must be served on the applicant either by mail or email (with a link to the document) at: P.O. Box 1087, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80944 or at Francisco_Tarin@kindermorgan.com. Any subsequent submissions by an intervenor must be served on the applicant and all other parties to the proceeding. Contact information for parties can be downloaded from the service list at the eService link on FERC Online.

Tracking the Proceeding

Throughout the proceeding, additional information about the project will be available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208-FERC, or on the FERC website at www.ferc.gov using the "eLibrary" link as described above. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all 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 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. For more information and to register, go to www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

Dated: April 9, 2021.

**Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.**

[FR Doc. 2021-07867 Filed 4-15-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 5124-022]

Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment

On October 30, 2020, Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc. filed an application for a subsequent minor license to continue operating the existing 933-kilowatt North Branch No. 3 Hydroelectric Project No. 5124 (North Branch 3 Project or project). The project is located on the North Branch Winooski River in Washington County, Vermont. The project does not occupy federal land.

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, on January 28, 2021, Commission staff issued a notice that the project was ready for environmental analysis (REA notice). Based on the information in the record, including comments filed on the REA notice, staff does not anticipate that licensing the project would constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, staff intends to prepare a draft and final Environmental Assessment (EA) on the application to license the North Branch 3 Project.

The EA will be issued and circulated for review by all interested parties. All comments filed on the EA will be analyzed by staff and considered in the Commission's final licensing decision.

The application will be processed according to the following schedule. Revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

Milestone	Target date
Commission issues Draft EA	October 2021.
Comments on Draft EA	November 2021.
Commission issues Final EA	April 2022. ¹

¹ The Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations under 40 CFR 1501.10(b)(1) require that EAs be completed within 1 year of the federal action agency's decision to prepare an EA. This notice establishes the Commission's intent to prepare an EA for the North Branch 3 Project. Therefore, in accordance with CEQ's regulations, the Final EA must be issued within 1 year of the issuance date of this notice.

Any questions regarding this notice may be directed to Michael Tust at (202) 502-6522 or michael.tust@ferc.gov.

Dated: April 12, 2021.

**Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.**

[FR Doc. 2021-07842 Filed 4-15-21; 8:45 am]

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⁴ 18 CFR 385.214.

⁵ 18 CFR 157.10.