

requests that are contested,<sup>2</sup> the Commission will aim to issue an order acting on the request within 45 days.<sup>3</sup> The Commission will address all arguments relating to whether the applicant has demonstrated there is good cause to grant the extension.<sup>4</sup> The Commission will not consider arguments that re-litigate the issuance of the certificate order, including whether the Commission properly found the project to be in the public convenience and necessity and whether the Commission's environmental analysis for the certificate complied with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).<sup>5</sup> At the time a pipeline requests an extension of time, orders on certificates of public convenience and necessity are final and the Commission will not re-litigate their issuance.<sup>6</sup> The Director of the Office of Energy Projects, or his or her designee, will act on all of those extension requests that are uncontested.

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>). From the Commission's Home Page on the internet, this information is available on eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing, printing, and/or downloading. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field.

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The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments in lieu of paper using the "eFile" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>.

<sup>2</sup> Contested proceedings are those where an intervenor disputes any material issue of the filing. 18 CFR 385.2201(c)(1).

<sup>3</sup> *Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC*, 170 FERC ¶ 61,144, at P 40 (2020).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at P 40.

<sup>5</sup> Similarly, the Commission will not re-litigate the issuance of an NGA section 3 authorization, including whether a proposed project is not inconsistent with the public interest and whether the Commission's environmental analysis for the permit order complied with NEPA.

<sup>6</sup> *Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC*, 170 FERC ¶ 61,144, at P 40 (2020).

[www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy which must reference the Project docket number.

*To file via USPS:* Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

*To file via any other courier:* Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

*Comment Date:* 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on April 23, 2026.

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: April 8, 2026.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2716-051]

#### Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Virginia, Allegheny Generating Company, and Bath County Energy, LLC: Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment

On December 30, 2024, Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Virginia, Allegheny Generating Company, and Bath County Energy, LLC (Dominion) filed a relicense application for the 2,484-megawatt Bath County Pumped Storage Project No. 2716 (project). The project is located on Back Creek and Little Back Creek in Bath, Highland, Augusta, and Rockbridge counties, Virginia. The project includes a 278-acre upper reservoir impounded by a 2,250-foot-long, 460-foot-high, earth and rock-fill dam; (2) a primarily underground powerhouse housing six Francis reversible pump-turbines; and (3) a 555-acre lower reservoir impounded by a 2,100-foot-long, 135-foot-high, earth and rock-fill dam. The current project boundary encompasses 3,451 acres of land, including 1,122 acres of federal land in the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, on January 15, 2026, 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 an environmental assessment (EA) on the application to relicense the project.<sup>1</sup>

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.

For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, contact the Office of Public Participation at (202) 502-6595 or [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov).

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

Milestone	Target date
Commission issues EA.	November 20, 2026.

Any questions regarding this notice may be directed to Andy Bernick at (202) 502-8660 or email at [andrew.bernick@ferc.gov](mailto:andrew.bernick@ferc.gov).

(Authority: 18 CFR 2.1)

Dated: April 7, 2026.

**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2026-07124 Filed 4-10-26; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP26-74-000]

#### Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.; Notice of Schedule for the Preparation of an Environmental Assessment for the Viola Project

On January 21, 2026, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (Southern Star) filed an application in Docket No. CP26-74-000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

<sup>1</sup> For tracking purposes under the National Environmental Policy Act, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EAXX-019-20-000-1774339686.