

All Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies, and other interested persons or organizations, are urged to participate in the NEPA scoping process. Scoping meetings will be conducted to inform interested parties of the proposed project, receive public input on the development of proposed alternatives to be reviewed in the EIS, and to identify significant issues to be analyzed.

(2) Scoping meetings: The Corps plans to hold scoping meetings in Barrow, Nuiqsut, Anchorage, and Fairbanks. Public notices will be placed in local newspapers and other public places, and will be communicated directly with the smaller communities, once dates are confirmed.

(3) Information about these meetings and meeting dates will be published locally, posted at the project Web site, and available by contacting the Corps as previously described. A description of the proposed project will be posted on the project Web site prior to these meetings to help the public focus their scoping comments.

(4) The Corps will serve as the lead Federal agency in the preparation of the EIS. Agencies that are being invited to act as Cooperating Agencies include the following:

- a. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- b. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- c. State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Office of Project Management and Permitting
- d. North Slope Borough
- e. Native Village of Nuiqsut

(5) The EIS will analyze the potential social, economic, physical, and biological impacts to the affected areas. Numerous issues will be analyzed in depth in the EIS. These issues include, but are not limited to, the following: The construction and operation of the facilities and their effect upon the community of Nuiqsut; subsistence; cultural resources; air quality; socioeconomic; alternatives; secondary and cumulative impacts; threatened and endangered species including critical habitat; hydrology and wetlands; and fish and wildlife.

(6) Other Environmental Review and Consultation Requirements: Other environmental review and consultation requirements include Executive Order 13175 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, Executive Order 12898 Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation.

(7) Land and Resource Ownership: Kuukpik Corporation owns the surface estate of lands at the drill sites and lands traversed by the infield roads and infield pipelines, and portions of the access road and Nanushuk Pipeline. The State of Alaska, through the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR), manages the majority of surface lands traversed by the Nanushuk Pipeline and access road. The Project will access subsurface mineral resources that are shared by the State of Alaska and the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC).

*Estimated Date Draft EIS Available to Public:* It is anticipated that the Draft EIS will be available in spring 2017 for public review.

Dated: January 26, 2016.

**Michael Salyer,**

Chief, North Branch, Regulatory Division,  
Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers.  
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**BILLING CODE 3720-58-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[OE Docket No. PP-371]

### Notice of Public Hearings for the Draft Northern Pass Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0463)

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of public hearings.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces public hearings to receive comments on the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of DOE's proposed Federal action of issuing a Presidential permit to Northern Pass LLC (the Applicant) to construct, operate, maintain, and connect a new electric transmission line across the U.S./Canada border in northern New Hampshire.

The U.S. Forest Service—White Mountain National Forest (USFS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—New England District (USACE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—Region 1 (EPA), and the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning (NHOEP) are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.

The New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) was established by the New Hampshire legislature for the review, approval, monitoring and enforcement of compliance in the planning, siting, construction and operation of energy facilities in the State of New Hampshire.

On October 19, 2015, Northern Pass Transmission, LLC and Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (collectively Applicant), filed an Application for a Certificate of Site and Facility (Application) seeking the issuance of a Certificate of Site and Facility approving the siting, construction, and operation of a 192-mile transmission line and associated facilities with a capacity rating of up to 1,090 MW from the Canadian border in Pittsburg in Coos County to Deerfield in Rockingham County (Project). New Hampshire law, R.S.A. Section 162-H:10(I-c), requires that within 90 days after acceptance of an application for a certificate, that the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee shall hold at least one public hearing in each county where the proposed facility will be located.

**DATES:** The public review period to receive comments on the Draft EIS closes on April 4, 2016, see the Public Participation section for more information about submitting comments.

DOE and the cooperating agencies and the New Hampshire SEC will conduct joint public hearings to receive oral and written comments concerning the project on March 7 and March 10, 2016. DOE and the cooperating agencies will conduct public hearings to receive oral and written comments on the Draft EIS at the following locations commencing at the times identified:

Colebrook: Monday March 7, 2016, 5:00 p.m., Colebrook Elementary School, Gymnasium, Colebrook, NH

Waterville Valley: Wednesday March 9, 2016, 5:00 p.m., Waterville Valley Conference and Event Center, Waterville Room, Waterville Valley, NH 03215

Concord: Thursday March 10, 2016, 5:00 p.m., Grappone Conference Center, Granite Ballroom, 70 Constitution Avenue, Concord, NH 03301

Whitefield: Friday March 11, 2016, 5:00 p.m., Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa, Presidential Room, 101 Mountain View Road, Whitefield, NH 03598

**ADDRESSES:** Requests to pre-register to provide oral comments at a public hearing should be addressed to the Northern Pass EIS Team at this email address: [info@northernpasseis.us](mailto:info@northernpasseis.us).

Comments on the Draft EIS can be submitted verbally during public hearings or in writing to Mr. Brian Mills at: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW.,

Washington, DC 20585; via email to [draftEIScomments@northernpasseis.us](mailto:draftEIScomments@northernpasseis.us); by facsimile to (202) 586-8008; or through the project Web site at <http://www.northernpasseis.us/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Brian Mills at the addresses above, or at 202-586-8267.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Public Participation

*Comments:* DOE invites interested Members of Congress, state and local governments, other Federal agencies, American Indian tribal governments, organizations, and members of the public to provide comments on the Draft EIS.

The public comment period on the Draft EIS started on July 31, 2015, with the publication in the **Federal Register** by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency of its Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS.

The public review period to receive comments on the Draft EIS closes on April 4, 2016. Please mark envelopes and electronic mail subject lines as "NP Draft EIS Comments." Written comments should be submitted by April 4, 2016. Written and oral comments will be given equal weight and all comments received or postmarked by that date will be considered by DOE in preparing the Final EIS. Comments submitted (*e.g.*, postmarked) after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

*Public Hearings:* When requesting to pre-register to provide oral comments at a public hearing (see the **DATES** section for times and locations), please include your full name and email address, and specify the location you request to speak at. Please state in the subject line, "NP Draft EIS Public Hearing Speaker Request." Please submit your request by February 25, 2016; requests received by that date will be given priority in the speaking order. However, requests to speak may also be made at the hearing. The speaking order will be as follows: (1) Elected Officials; (2) Pre-registered speakers (order determined on a first-come, first-served basis); (3) Speakers registering at the meeting. Pre-registered speakers who have requested to speak at a specific time will be accommodated as possible.

##### Availability of the Draft EIS

The documents are available online at <http://www.northernpasseis.us/>. Copies of the Draft EIS are also available at a number of public libraries and town halls (a list of locations is found here: [http://media.northernpasseis.us/media/DraftEIS\\_Hard\\_Copy\\_Locations.pdf](http://media.northernpasseis.us/media/DraftEIS_Hard_Copy_Locations.pdf)).

Printed copies of the documents may be obtained by contacting Mr. Mills at the above address.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 29, 2016.

Meghan Conklin,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary, National Electricity Delivery, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

##### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP14-517-000; CP14-518-000; PF13-14-000]

##### Golden Pass Products, LLC; Golden Pass Pipeline, LLC; Revised Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review of the Golden Pass Liquefied Natural Gas Export Project

This notice identifies the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) staff's revised schedule for the completion of the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for Golden Pass Products, LLC and Golden Pass Pipeline, LLC's Golden Pass Liquefied Natural Gas Export Project. The previous notice of schedule, issued on June 26, 2015, identified March 4, 2016 as the issuance date.

##### Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of Notice of Availability of the final EIS July 29, 2016

90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline October 27, 2016

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

##### Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the final EIS and to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. Go to [www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp).

Dated: January 29, 2016.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2016-02075 Filed 2-3-16; 8:45 am]

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#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

##### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EL00-95-288]

##### San Diego Gas & Electric Company v. Sellers of Energy and Ancillary Services Into Markets Operated by the California Independent System Operator Corporation and the California Power Exchanges; Notice of Compliance Filing

Take notice that on January 29, 2016, MPS Merchant Services, Inc. submitted its Compliance Filing to Order on Rehearing of Opinion No. 536.<sup>1</sup>

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. On or before the comment date, it is not necessary to serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 5 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

This filing is accessible on-line at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link and is available for 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](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

*Comment Date:* 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on March 9, 2016.

<sup>1</sup> *San Diego Gas & Elec. Co. v. Sellers of Energy & Ancillary Servs.*, 153 FERC ¶ 61,144 (2015) ("Order on Rehearing"), *denying rehearing of San Diego Gas & Elec. Co. v. Sellers of Energy & Ancillary Servs.*, Opinion No. 536, 149 FERC ¶ 61,116 (2014) ("Opinion No. 536").