

(b) *Feasibility.* The Secretary reviews each proposed project for its feasibility by determining the extent to which—

(1) The proposed project represents an appropriate response to the problem or need addressed;

(2) The applicant is capable of carrying out the proposed project, as evidenced by, for example—

(i) The applicant's understanding of the problem or need;

(ii) The quality of the project design, including objectives, approaches, and evaluation plan;

(iii) The adequacy of resources, including money, personnel, facilities, equipment, and supplies;

(iv) The qualifications of key personnel who would conduct the project; and

(v) The applicant's relevant prior experience;

(3) The applicant and any other participating organizations are committed to the success of the proposed project, as evidenced by, for example—

(i) Contribution of resources by the applicant and by participating organizations;

(ii) Their prior work in the area; and

(iii) The potential for continuation of the proposed project beyond the period of funding (unless the project would be self-terminating); and

(4) The proposed project demonstrates potential for dissemination to or adaptation by other organizations, and shows evidence of interest by potential users.

(c) *Appropriateness of funding projects.* The Secretary reviews each application to determine whether support of the proposed project by the Secretary is appropriate in terms of availability of other funding sources for the proposed activities.

In accordance with 34 CFR 630.32 the Secretary announces the methods that will be used in applying the selection criteria.

The Secretary gives equal weight to the selection criteria on significance, feasibility, and appropriateness. Within each of these criteria, the Secretary gives equal weight to each of the subcriteria listed above. In applying the criteria, the Secretary first analyzes an application in terms of each individual criterion and subcriterion. The Secretary then bases the final judgement of an application on an overall assessment of the degree to which the applicant addresses all selection criteria.

#### FOR APPLICATIONS OR INFORMATION

**CONTACT:** Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), U.S. Department of Education, 600

Independence Avenue, SW., Room 3100, ROB-3, Washington, DC 20202-5175. Telephone: (202) 708-5750 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday, to order applications or for information. Individuals may request applications by submitting the name of the competition, their name, and postal mailing address to the e-mail address FIPSE@ED.GOV. Individuals may obtain the application text from Internet address <http://www.ed.gov/prog-info/FIPSE/>. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between—8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Information about the Department's funding opportunities, including copies of application notices for discretionary grant competitions, can be viewed on the Department's electronic bulletin board (ED Board), telephone (202) 260-9950; or on the Internet Gopher Server at GOPHER.ED.GOV (under Announcements, Bulletins, and Press Releases). However, the official application notice for a discretionary grant competition is the notice published in the Federal Register.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1135-1135a-3.

Dated: January 17, 1996.

David A. Longanecker,

*Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP96-126-000]

#### Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Line 1740 Replacement 1996 Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

January 16, 1996.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the facilities proposed in the Line 1740 Replacement 1996 Project.<sup>1</sup> This EA

<sup>1</sup> Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation's application was filed with the Commission under

will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether an environmental impact statement is necessary and whether to approve the project.

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia) wants to construct and operate about 11.7 miles of 20-inch-diameter pipeline and appurtenant facilities to replace an equivalent length of 16-inch-diameter pipeline on Line 1740 in Gilmer County, West Virginia.

The specific location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 173 acres of land, including 102 acres of temporary right-of-way and extra work areas. Following construction, all of the land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use. No new permanent right-of-way is required for the project.

#### The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is the focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands

Section 7 of the National Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the Federal Register. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street NE., Washington, D.C. 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

- Vegetation and wildlife
- Hazardous waste
- Land use
- Cultural resources
- Endangered and threatened species
- Public safety

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we recommend that the Commission approve or not approve the project.

#### Currently Identified Environmental Issues

We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Columbia. Keep in mind that this is a preliminary list:

- Two residences and one business are located within 50 feet of the construction right-of-way.
  - The pipeline would be near historic structures and archaeological sites.
- The list of issues may be added to, subtracted from, or changed based on your comments and our analysis.

#### Public Participation

You can make a difference by sending a letter addressing your specific comments or concerns about the project. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please follow the instructions below to ensure that your comments are received and properly recorded:

- Address your letter to: Lois Cashell, secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, D.C. 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP96-126-000;
- Send a *copy* of your letter to: Mrs. Medha Kochhar, EA Project Manager, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,

888 First Street NE., PR-11.2, Washington, D.C. 20426; and

- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, D.C. on or before February 20, 1996.

If you wish to receive a copy of the EA, you should request one from Mrs. Kochhar at the above address.

#### Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding or become an "intervenor". Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide copies of its filings to all other parties. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 2).

You do not need intervenor status to have your scoping comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mrs. Medha Kochhar, EA Project Manager, at (202) 208-2270.

Lois D. Cashell,  
*Secretary.*

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#### [Docket No. CP96-97-000]

#### **Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Hockessin Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

January 16, 1996.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the facilities proposed in the Hockessin Expansion Project.<sup>1</sup> This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether an environmental impact statement is necessary and whether to approve the project.

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company (ESNG) seeks to:

<sup>1</sup> Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

(1) Provide additional firm contract demand sales and storage service to several of its existing customers;

(2) Abandon firm sales service to one of its existing customers; and

(3) Construct and operate certain new pipeline and compressor facilities required to stabilize capacity on its system and to provide the additional firm sales and storage service.

ESNG indicates that the proposed project (1) would stabilize system capacity and integrity of declining inlet gas pressure at the Hockessin meter and regulating station, and (2) enable ESNG to provide 4,796 Mcf of additional firm daily capacity on ESNG's system.

ESNG seeks authority to:

- construct and operate a 2,170-horsepower (hp) Delaware City Compressor Station (C.S.), with a 1,085-hp back-up unit, in New Castle County, Delaware;
- construct and operate 0.89 mile of 16-inch-diameter pipeline in New Castle County, Delaware to tie the suction side of the proposed Delaware C.S. into the Hockessin Line;
- uprate the maximum allowable operating pressure from 500 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) to 590 psig on 28.7 miles of the Salisbury Lateral from the outlet of ESNG's existing Bridgeville C.S. in Sussex County, Delaware to the Citizens Meter and Regulatory Station in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland; and
- abandon 100 Mcfd of firm sales service to Playtex Apparel, Inc., a direct sales customer.

The general location of the project facilities and specific locations for facilities on new sites are shown in appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 4.8 acres of land for the proposed pipeline and about 2.7 acres for the new compressor station. About 0.9 acre would be fenced around the compressor station facilities.

#### The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the Federal Register. Copies are available from the Delaware's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.