

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 motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-20795 Filed 8-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

[Docket No. CP96-638-000]

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

August 9, 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 KA Replacement Project.¹ 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

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia) wants to replace a section of pipeline that has extensive corrosion and deterioration to the extent that replacement is necessary to maintain service to Columbia's existing customers at existing levels and to ensure safe and reliable operation. Columbia seeks authority to:

- Construct and operate 5.2 miles of 24-inch-diameter replacement pipeline in Wyoming County, West Virginia; and
- Abandon in place 360 feet of 20-inch-diameter pipeline and abandon by removal about 5.0 miles of 20-inch-diameter pipeline in Wyoming County, West Virginia.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.²

¹ Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

² 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, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 98.0 acres of land. Following construction, about 31.3 acres would be maintained as permanent right-of-way of which 9.9 acres would be new permanent right-of-way. The remaining 66.7 acres of land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

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

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 interests 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. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- One residence is located within 50 feet of the proposed construction work area.
- The project may cross properties on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

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 (including alternative routes), 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 St., N.E., Washington, DC 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP96-638-000;
- Send a *copy* of your letter to: Ms. Dawn Deibert Neumann, EA Project Manager, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., N.E., PR-11.2, Washington, DC 20426; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before September 16, 1996.

If you wish to receive a copy of the EA, you should request one from Ms. Neumann 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).

The date for filing timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file

late interventions must show good cause, as required by section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention. You do not need intervenor status to have your scoping comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Ms. Dawn Deibert Neumann, EA Project Manager, at (202) 208-1046.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-20796 Filed 8-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Project No. 1494-123]

Grand River Dam Authority; Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment

August 9, 1996.

A draft environmental assessment (DEA) is available for public review. The DEA was prepared for an application filed by Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA) that requests an amendment to the operating rule curve for impoundment elevations required under license article 401. In summary, GRDA proposes to modify the licensed rule curve by: (1) Delaying the spring rise from elevation 742 feet PD by two weeks, from April 16 to May 1, to better accommodate runoff from spring flows; (2) setting the rule curve's maximum water surface elevation at 744 feet PD instead of 745 feet PD to provide better flood management; and (3) delaying the drawdown from elevation 744 feet PD by about three weeks, from July 6 to August 1, and the drawdown from elevation 743 feet PD by about two weeks, from August 1 to August 16, to better coincide with the recreational boating season. The Pensacola Hydroelectric Project is located on the grand River, near the towns of Langley and Disney, in Craig, Delaware, Mayes, and Ottawa Counties, Oklahoma.

The DEA finds that GRDA's proposed amendment is not a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The DEA was written by staff in the Office of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Copies of the DEA can be obtained by calling the Commission's Public Reference Room at (202) 208-1371.

Comments on the DEA must be filed with the Commission within 30 days from the date of this notice. Comments should be addressed to: Ms. Lois D. Cashell, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First

Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. Please include the project number (1494-123) on any comments filed.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-20798 Filed 8-14-96; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

Notice of Application Filed With the Commission

August 9, 1996.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. *Type of Application:* Transfer of License and Lease of Project Property.

b. *Project No:* 2725-047.

c. *Date Filed:* July 18, 1996.

d. *Applicant:* Oglethorpe Power Corporation and Georgia Power Company.

e. *Name of Project:* Rocky Mountain Pumped Storage Project.

f. *Location:* Heath Creek in Floyd County, Georgia.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. § 791(a)-825(r).

h. *Applicant Contact:* James A. Orr, Esquire, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan, 999 Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta, GA 30309-3996, (404) 853-8578.

i. *FERC Contact:* David Cagnon, (202) 219-2693.

j. *Comment Date:* September 3, 1996.

k. *Description of Transfer:* The Oglethorpe Power Corporation and Georgia Power Company, licensees, propose to partially transfer the license for Project No. 2725 to include an owner trustee and a trustee of a special business trust created under the Delaware Business Act, acting solely in their respective capacities as trustees. The trustees would be added as licensees to facilitate permanent financing of the project through a sale and leaseback transaction.

l. This notice also consists of the following standard paragraphs: B, C2, and D2.

B. Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene—Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, 385.211, 385.214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified

comment date for the particular application.

C2. Filing and Service of Responsive Documents—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS," "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS," "NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE COMPETING APPLICATION," "COMPETING APPLICATION," "PROTEST," or "MOTION TO INTERVENE," as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. Any of these documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies provided by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426. A copy of a notice of intent, competing application, or motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

D2. Agency Comments—Federal, State, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described application. A copy of the application may be obtained by agencies directly from the Applicant. If an agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments. One copy of an agency's comments must also be sent to the Applicant's representatives.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-20799 Filed 8-14-96; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, August 20, 1996 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

STATUS: This Meeting Will Be Closed to the Public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Compliance matters pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g

Audits conducted pursuant to 2 U.S.C.

§ 437g, § 438(b), and Title 26, U.S.C.

Matters concerning participation in civil actions or proceedings or arbitration Internal personnel rules and procedures or matters affecting a particular employee

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, August 22, 1996 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Ninth Floor.)