

of these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-222 for assistance).

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-10027 Filed 4-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-150-000 et al. and CP98-151-000]

Millennium Pipeline Company, L.P., Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Millennium Pipeline Project

April 16, 1999.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared this draft environmental impact statement (draft EIS) on natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Millennium Pipeline Company, L.P. (Millennium) and Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia) in the above-referenced dockets.

The draft EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that approval of the proposed projects, with appropriate mitigating measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact. The draft EIS also evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including system alternatives.

The draft EIS assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities in New York and Pennsylvania:

Millennium:

- 373.5 miles of 36-inch-diameter mainline;
- 43.8 miles of 24-inch-diameter mainline;
- 3 measurement facilities; and
- Associated pipelines facilities, including mainline and block valves, pig launchers and receivers, remote blowdown valves, and remote cathodic protection rectifier beds.

The draft EIS also assesses the potential environmental effects of abandonment of these facilities by Columbia:

Abandonment by Conveyance to Millennium:

- 6.7 miles of 24-inch diameter pipeline in Rockland County, New York that would be used for the new mainline system between mileposts (MPs) 376.4 and 383.3;

- 20.1 miles of laterals and 28 metering and regulation stations in New York and Pennsylvania, and one compressor station in Pennsylvania; and
- Abandonment in place or by removal:*
- 222 miles of pipeline, Line A-5, in New York.

The purpose of the proposed projects would be to transport natural gas from Canada to markets in the eastern United States, including New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

Comment Procedures and Public Meetings

Any person wishing to comment on the draft EIS may do so. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and are properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your comments to: David Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP98-150-000 et al.; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before June 7, 1999.

In addition to written comments, we will hold ten public meetings in the project area to receive comments on the draft EIS. All meetings will begin at 7:00 pm, and are scheduled as follows:

May 17, 1999

Goshen High School, Scottstown Avenue, Goshen, NY, (914) 294-2433

May 18, 1999

Mark Twain Junior High School, 160 Woodlawn Avenue, Yonkers, NY, (914) 376-8540

May 18, 1999

Chautauqua Lake Central High School, 2 Academy Street, Mayville, NY, (716) 753-9305

May 19, 1999

Horseheads High School, 401 Fletcher Street, Horseheads, NY, (607) 739-5601

May 20, 1999

Binghamton High School, 31 Main Street, Binghamton, NY, (607) 762-8200

May 20, 1999

Wellsville Elementary School, 50-98 School Street, Wellsville, NY, (716) 593-5504

Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend and present oral comments on the environmental impact described in the draft EIS. Transcripts of the meetings will be prepared.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commenter a party to the proceeding. Any person may file a motion to intervene on the basis of the Commission Staff's DEIS (see 18 CFR 380.106 and 385.214). You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

After these comments are reviewed, any significant new issues are investigated, and modifications are made to the draft EIS as necessary, a final EIS will be published and distributed by the staff. The final EIS will contain the staff's responses to timely comments received on the draft EIS.

All intervenors, agencies, elected officials, local governments, special interest groups, libraries, media, and anyone providing written comments on the DEIS will receive a copy of the final EIS. If you do not wish to comment on the DEIS but wish to receive a copy of the final EIS, you must write to the Secretary of the Commission indicating this request. Individuals who do not indicate their desire to receive the final EIS will only receive the Executive Summary.

The draft EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-1371.

A limited number of copies are available from the Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch identified above. In addition, the draft EIS has been mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies; public interest groups; individuals who requested a copy of the draft EIS; affected landowners; libraries; newspapers; and parties to this proceeding.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Paul McKee in the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC Internet website (www.ferc.fed.us) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions.

For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-10037 Filed 4-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Motions To Intervene and Protests

April 16, 1999.

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

- a. *Type of Application:* Preliminary Permit.
- b. *Project No.:* P-11708-000.
- c. *Data Filed:* March 26, 1999.
- d. *Applicant:* Universal Electric Power Corporation.
- e. *Name of Project:* John W. Flannagan Dam.
- f. *Location:* On the Pound River near the towns of Haysi Clintwood, Dickenson County, Virginia, utilizing federal lands administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 791(a)—825(r).
- h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Ronald S. Feltenberger, Universal Electric Power Corp., 1145 Highbrook Street, Akron, OH 44301, (330) 535-7115.
- i. *FERC Contact:* Any questions on this notice should be addressed to Charles T. Raabe, E-mail address, Charles.Raabe@ferc.fed.us, or telephone (202) 219-2811.
- j. *Deadline Date:* 60 days from the issuance date of this notice.
- k. *Description of Project:* The proposed project would utilize the existing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' John W. Flannagan Dam and would consist of: (1) A new 50-foot-long, 72-inch-diameter steel penstock; (2) a new 30-foot-long, 30-foot-wide, 30-foot-high powerhouse containing three generating units having a total installed capacity for 3,000-kW; (3) a new exhaust apron; (4) a new 200-foot-long, 14.7-kV transmission line; and (5) appurtenant facilities.

Applicant estimates that the average annual generation would be 18 GWh and that the cost of the studies to be performed under the terms of the permit would be \$1,000,000. Project energy would be sold to utility companies, corporations, municipalities, aggregators, or similar entities.

1. *Locations of the application:* A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call (202) 208-2222 for assistance). A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

Preliminary Permit—Anyone desiring to file a competing application for preliminary permit for a proposed project must submit the competing application itself, or a notice of intent to file such an application, to the Commission on or before the specified comment date for the particular application (see 18 CFR 4.36). Submission of a timely notice of intent allows an interested person to file the competing preliminary permit application no later than 30 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing preliminary permit application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30(b) and 4.36.

Preliminary Permit—Any qualified development applicant desiring to file a competing development application must submit to the Commission, on or before a specified comment date for the particular application, either a competing development application or a notice of intent to file such an application. Submission of a timely notice of intent to file a development application allows an interested person to file the competing application no later than 120 days after the specified comment date for the particular application. A competing license application must conform with 18 CFR 4.30(b) and 4.36.

Notice of intent—A notice of intent must specify the exact name, business address, and telephone number of the prospective applicant, and must include an unequivocal statement of intent to submit, if such an application may be filed, either a preliminary permit application or a development application (specify which type of application). A notice of intent must be served on the applicant(s) named in this public notice.

Proposed Scope of Studies under Permit—A preliminary permit, if issued, does not authorize construction. The term of the proposed preliminary permit would be 36 months. The work proposed under the preliminary permit would include economic analysis, preparation of preliminary engineering plans, and a study of environmental impacts. Based on the results of these

studies, the Applicant would decide whether to proceed with the preparation of a development application to construct and operate the project.

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, .211, .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.

Filing and Service of Responsive Documents—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE COMPETING APPLICATION", "COMPETING APPLICATION", "PROTEST", "MOTION TO INTERVENE", as applicable, and the Project Number of the particular application to which the filing refers. Any of the above-named 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, D.C. 20426. An additional copy must be sent to Director, Division of Project Review, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above-mentioned address. A copy of any notice of intent, competing application or motion to intervene must also be served upon each representative of the Applicant specified in the particular application.

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.

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