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For further information, contact Dianne Rodman by telephone at 202-502-6077 or by e-mail at dianne.rodman@ferc.gov.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP07-031-000]

Dominion Transmission, Inc. Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed USA Storage Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

January 17, 2007.

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 USA Storage Project involving construction and operation of natural gas facilities by Dominion Transmission, Inc. (DTI) in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, Virginia and West Virginia.¹ DTI proposes to drill 14 new storage wells and install approximately a total of 1.57 miles of associated six-inch-diameter pipeline that would connect the new wells to the existing piping network within DTI's Pennsylvania natural gas storage complexes. In addition, DTI plans to construct a new compressor station at its West Virginia storage complex and expand three of its existing compressor stations located in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

¹ DTI's application was filed with the Commission under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

This notice announces the opening of the public comment period that will be used to gather environmental input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Comments are requested by February 19, 2007.

With this notice, the FERC staff is asking other federal, state, local and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues to cooperate with us in the preparation of the EA. These agencies may choose to participate once they have evaluated DTI's proposal relative to their responsibilities. Agencies that would like to request cooperating status should follow the instructions for filing comments described in Appendix 1.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The pipeline company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law.

A brochure prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility On My Land? What Do I Need To Know?" is available for viewing on the FERC Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov>. This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain and how to participate in the Commission's proceedings.

Summary of the Proposed Project

DTI seeks authority to construct and operate the following natural gas facilities:

- Potter and Clinton Counties, PA:
 - Drill six new storage wells and install a total of approximately 0.45 mile of new six-inch-diameter pipeline to connect the new wells to the existing storage piping network within DTI's Greenlick Storage Complex;
- Tioga County, PA:
 - Drill eight new storage wells and install a total of about 1.52 miles of new six-inch-diameter pipeline to connect the new wells to the existing storage piping network within DTI's Sabinsville Storage Complex;
 - Expand the existing Sabinsville Compressor Station by adding a 2,370 horsepower (HP) natural gas-fired reciprocating unit, a 5,800 HP gas

turbine and a desiccant dehydration capacity of 100 mmcf/d;

Gilmer County, WV:

- Construct a new compressor station at the Racket-Newberne Storage Complex that would include a 1,150 HP natural gas-fired reciprocating unit and would have a glycol dehydration capacity of 50 million cubic feet per day (mmcf/d);

Fauquier County, VA:

- Expand the existing Quantico Compressor Station by adding a 7,800 HP gas turbine;

Steuben County, NY:

- Expand the existing Woodhull Compressor Station by adding two additional 1,800 HP reciprocating units; and

Frederick and Washington Counties, MD and Franklin County, PA:

- Hydrostatically re-test three sections of DTI's existing 30-inch-diameter PL-1 pipeline which would allow the system to operate at a 1,250 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) of Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP). The total pipeline length that would be hydrostatically re-tested is approximately 4.46 miles.

The expansions of and additions to these existing natural gas facilities would allow DTI to meet its precedent agreements to provide 184,994 Dekatherms per day (Dt/d) of new firm transportation capacity on its existing PL-1 pipeline system for delivery to two existing delivery points. The new facilities would allow an additional 4.29 billion cubic feet (bcf) of natural gas to be withdrawn from storage, which would be used to fulfill DTI's increasing requests for service.

The general locations of the project facilities are shown in Appendix 2.²

Land Requirements

Construction and expansion of the proposed pipeline and aboveground facilities would affect approximately 132.61 acres of land and includes access roads, pipe/contractor yards, and extra work areas. Following construction, about 41.65 acres would be permanently maintained. The remaining 90.96 acres land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

² The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of all appendices, other than Appendix 2 (map), are available on the Commission's Web site at the "eLibrary" link or from the Commission's Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 502-8371. For instructions on connecting to eLibrary refer to the last page of this notice. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

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. This process is referred to as “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 staff requests public comments on the scope of the issues to 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.

Our³ 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 make our recommendations to the Commission.

Currently Identified Environmental Issues

In the EA, we will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project. We will also evaluate reasonable alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project.

We have already identified the following issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by DTI:

- Two private water supply wells within 150 feet of the construction workspace;
- Six waterbody crossings, one of which is a sensitive surface waterbody;
- Seven wetland crossings;
- Potential impacts to a historic farmstead; and
- Crossing of Susquehannock State Forest, a designated area used for conservation and recreation.

The above preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations and routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow the instructions below to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send an original and two copies of your letter to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas Branch 3.
- Reference Docket No. CP07–031–000.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before February 19, 2007.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of comments. Please refer to 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission’s Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the “e-Filing” link and the link to the User’s Guide. Prepare your submission in the same manner as you would if filing on paper and save it to a file on your hard drive. Before you can file comments, you will need to create an account by clicking on “Login to File” and then “New User Account.” You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making. This filing is considered a “Comment on Filing.”

The determination of whether to distribute the EA for public comment will be based on the response to this notice. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the EA, please return the Information Request form (Appendix 3). An effort is being made to send this notice to all individuals affected by the proposed project. This includes all landowners who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within distances defined in the Commission’s regulations of certain aboveground facilities.

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding, or “intervenor”. 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). Intervenor has the right to seek rehearing of the Commission’s decision. Motions to Intervene should be electronically submitted using the Commission’s eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons without Internet access should send an original and 14 copies of their motion to the Secretary of the Commission at the address indicated previously. Persons filing Motions to Intervene on or before the comment deadline indicated above must send a copy of the motion to the Applicant. All filings, including late interventions, submitted after the comment deadline must be served on the Applicant and all other intervenors identified on the Commission’s service list for this proceeding. Persons on the service list with email addresses may be served electronically; others must be served a hard copy of the filing.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Environmental Mailing List

If you wish to remain on our environmental mailing list, please return the Information Request form included in Appendix 3. If you do not return this form, you will be removed from our mailing list.

Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission’s Office of External Affairs, at 1–866–208–FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site <http://www.ferc.gov> using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on “General Search” and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1–866–208–3676, or for TTY, contact (202)502–8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the

³ “We”, “us”, and “our” refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).

Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission now offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries and direct links to the documents. Go to <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>.

Finally, public meetings or site visits will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx> along with other related information.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP06-429-000]

Florida Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed St. Petersburg Relay Replacement Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

January 19, 2007.

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 St. Petersburg Relay Project, involving construction and operation of facilities by Florida Gas Transmission Company (FGT).¹

FGT proposes to replace a total of about 6.6 miles of its St. Petersburg 12-inch-diameter lateral pipeline in east-central Pinellas County, Florida. Testing of the 12-inch St. Petersburg Lateral identified stress erosion cracking anomalies reflective of the age and condition of the pipeline. Replacement of the pipeline sections and valve assemblies described below are necessary to comply with United States Department of Transportation requirements for a high consequence Class 3 area under Title 49 CFR,

Pipeline Integrity Management, Subpart O (Section 192). The pipeline is located in a highly developed, urbanized area that includes residential subdivisions, shopping malls and existing county and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) road rights-of-way.

The sections of pipeline to be replaced are described as follows:

- Relay #1—3.6 miles of pipeline,
- Relay #2—0.09 mile of pipeline,
- Relay #3—0.40 mile of pipeline,
- Relay #4—2.1 miles of pipeline, and
- Relay #5—0.5 mile of pipeline.

FGT also proposes to install a 12-inch pig launcher and receiver and replace two 8-inch block valves with 10-inch block valves to allow passage for a pipeline integrity tool to be run after the segments have been replaced. The general location of the project is shown on the map attached as Appendix 1.²

No change in the maximum allowable operating pressure of the pipeline would occur as a result of the proposed replacements. Therefore, there would be no impact to FGT's peak day or annual gas deliveries.

The proposed project would disturb up to 63.6 acres of land, 14.5 acres of which are within FGT's permanent easement and 49.1 acres of which are proposed temporary workspace and extra temporary workspace. Temporary workspace and extra temporary workspace would be required at public road and waterbody crossings, hydrostatic test locations, crossovers, tie-ins, staging/fabrication of pipeline sections, and drag sections.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The pipeline company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law.

A fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility on My Land? What Do I Need to Know?" addresses a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain and how to

participate in the Commission's proceedings. It is available for viewing on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>).

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. This process is referred to as "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 staff requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. All comments received will be considered during the preparation of the EA.

The Commission's staff will prepare an EA that will describe the potential environmental impacts that could result from construction and operation of the proposed project under the general headings:

- Water resources, wetlands, and waterbodies.
- Vegetation and wildlife.
- Threatened and endangered species.
- Cultural resources.
- Geology and soils.
- Land use and residences.
- Air quality and noise.
- Reliability and safety.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be presented in the EA. 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.

Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, State, and local government agencies; public interest groups; Native American tribes; interested individuals; affected landowners; newspapers; libraries; and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A 30-day comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments submitted in any Commission Order that is issued for the project.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section below.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific

¹ FGT's original proposal to construct the St. Petersburg Lateral Replacement Project was filed as a prior notice application under Section 157.208(b) of the Commission's regulations. It is now being processed as an application for construction under Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act due to the filing of a protest that was not resolved.

² The appendix referenced in this notice is not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of the appendix (maps) are available from the Commission's Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 502-8371. Copies of the appendix will be sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.