

used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

Summary of the Proposed Project

East Tennessee Natural Gas Company (East Tennessee) proposes to expand the capacity of its facilities in Tennessee and Virginia to transport an additional 10,300 dekatherms (Dth) per day of natural gas to Roanoke Gas Company. Specifically, East Tennessee seeks authority to:

- Construct about 9.95 miles of 12-inch-diameter pipeline in Washington, Smyth and Wythe Counties, Virginia;
- Hydrostatically test piping at three compressor stations in Robertson, Trousdale, and Putnam Counties, Tennessee, 10.88 miles of 22-inch-diameter pipeline in Smith and Overton Counties, Tennessee, and 20.95 miles of 8-inch diameter pipeline in Washington County, Virginia; and
- Construct 20 feet of 22-inch-diameter pipeline at six manifold locations for tie-ins in Smith and Overton Counties, Tennessee, and Washington County, Virginia.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.² If you are interested in obtaining detailed maps of a specific portion of the project, or procedural information, please write to the Secretary of the Commission.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 153.3 acres of land. Following construction, about 60.3 acres would be maintained as new permanent right-of-way. The remaining 93.0 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 impact 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 constituent 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
- endangered and threatened species
- vegetation and wildlife
- land use
- cultural resources
- air quality and noise
- 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 Commissions' 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

We have already identified one issue that we think deserves attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by East Tennessee. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- Four residences are located within 50 feet of the proposed construction right-of-way

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 carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your letter to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch, PR-11.1
- Reference Docket No. CP98-40-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before February 11, 1998.

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 comments considered.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-521 Filed 1-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Surrender of Exemption

January 5, 1998.

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

- a. *Type of Application:* Surrender of Exemption.
- b. *Project No.:* 8732-004.
- c. *Date Filed:* December 22, 1997.
- d. *Applicant:* City of Manassas, Virginia, Department of Public Works.

section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

²The 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.

e. *Name of Project:* Broad Run Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On Broad Run at Lake Manassas, in Prince William County, Virginia.

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

h. *Contact:* Mr. Allen P. Todd, Director of Utilities, City of Manassas, 8500 Public Works Drive, Manassas, VA 22110, (703) 257–8226.

i. *FERC Contact:* Mr. Lynn R. Miles, (202) 219–2671.

j. *Comment Date:* February 20, 1998.

k. *Description of the Proposed Action:* The exemptee requests to surrender the exemption for its existing project.

l. This notice also consists of the following standard paragraphs: B, C1, 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, .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.

C1. *Filing and Service of Responsive Documents*—Any filings must bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS", "PROTEST", OR "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, NE., Washington, DC 20426. A copy of any 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.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–509 Filed 1–8–98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GT98–11–000]

Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company; Notice of Filing

January 5, 1998.

Take notice that on December 24, 1997, Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company (Williston Basin), 200 North Third Street, Suite 300, Bismarck, North Dakota 58501, tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, the following revised tariff sheets to become effective December 24, 1997:

Second Revised Volume No. 1
Ninth Revised Sheet No. 776
Twentieth Revised Sheet No. 831

Williston Basin states that the revised tariff sheets are being filed simply to update its Master Receipt/Delivery Point List.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed as provided by Section 154.210 of the Commission's rules and regulations. 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 motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–508 Filed 1–8–98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Public Outreach Meeting; Birmingham, Alabama

January 5, 1998.

The Office of Hydropower Licensing will hold a public Outreach Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, on Thursday, January 29, 1998. The Outreach Meeting is scheduled to start at 9:00 am and finish at 5:00 pm.

The purpose of the Outreach program is to familiarize federal, state, and other government agencies, Indian tribes, nongovernmental organizations, licensees, and other interested parties with the Commission's hydropower licensing program. The topics for the Outreach Meeting are pre-licensing, licensing, and post-licensing procedures for hydroelectric projects in Alabama and Georgia whose licenses expire between calendar years 2000 and 2010.

Staff from the Commission's Office of Hydropower Licensing will preside over the meetings.

The location of the Outreach Meeting is: Holiday Inn-Redmont, 2105 5th Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203, (205) 324–2101.

If you plan to attend, notify Ron McKittrick or Theresa Gibson, Eastern Outreach Coordinators, fax: 202–219–2152; telephone: 202–219–2783 or 202–219–2793.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–505 Filed 1–8–98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PL98–3–000]

Process for Assuring Non-discriminatory Transmission Services as New Reliability Rules are Developed for Using the Transmission System; Notice of Conference

January 5, 1998.

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The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) hereby announces its intention to convene a public conference to discuss what procedures it should follow, in the absence of federal legislation on reliability issues, to address the effect of new reliability standards on jurisdictional electric transmission