

The EA was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Wyoming Interstate Company Ltd. (WIC) proposes to build new pipeline and compression facilities to increase the transportation capacity of its current system in Colorado and Wyoming. The new facilities would enable WIC to transport an additional 269 million cubic feet of natural gas per day from the Powder River Basin. Specifically, WIC seeks Commission authority to construct and operate the following facilities:

- 149 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline extending from WIC's existing mainline in Weld County, Colorado, to Converse County, Wyoming, where it would interconnect with nonjurisdictional gathering facilities;
- A new compressor station in Converse County, Wyoming, which would consist of one turbine-driven, centrifugal compressor unit rated at 7,170 hp;
- Two new meter stations in Converse County, Wyoming; and
- A new check meter and side valve at the interconnection with WIC's mainline in Weld County, Colorado.

The EA has been placed in the public files of the FERC. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-1371.

Copies of the EA have been mailed to Federal, state and local agencies, public interest groups, landowners, local newspapers and libraries, and parties to this proceeding.

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. To ensure consideration prior to a Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that we receive your comments before the date specified below. Please carefully follow the instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded.

• Send two copies of your comments to: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A, Washington, D.C. 20426.

• Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch, PR11.1;

• Reference Docket No. CP99-102-000; and

• Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before June 28, 1999.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commentor a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214).

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 395.214(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 environmental comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC 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. 99-14173 Filed 6-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP87-203-007]

CNG Transmission Corporation; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed CNG Tioga Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

May 28, 1999.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an

environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of CNG Transmission Corporation's (CNG) proposal to modify the active storage field boundary, to authorize a protective boundary, and to convert certain observation wells to storage wells at CNG's Tioga Storage Complex in Tioga County, Pennsylvania.

CNG requests authority to operate four storage wells which were previously drilled as observation wells and converted to storage wells. In addition, CNG requests authorization to convert and operate two additional observation wells to storage wells. CNG would also construct 0.1 mile of 6-inch-diameter and 0.2 mile of 4-inch-diameter pipeline to connect these two wells to existing storage field pipeline facilities. CNG states that neither the certificated capacity nor the certified deliverability of the Tioga Storage Complex would be increased by the conversion of these wells. This EA on the CNG Tioga Expansion Project¹ will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about the acquisition of an easement to abandon, 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 addressing a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain, is attached to this notice as appendix 1.²

Summary of the Proposed Project

CNG seeks authorization for the following:

- Operate four storage wells (well Nos. TW-209, TW-707, TW-708, and TW-800) which were previously drilled as observation wells and converted to storage wells.

¹ CNG 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.

- Convert and operate observation well Nos. TW-605 and TW-403 as storage wells.
- Construction of 536 feet of 6-inch-diameter (LN-2465-S) and 1,117 feet of 4-inch-diameter pipeline (LN-2464-S) to connect well Nos. TW-605 and TW-403 to existing gas storage pipeline facilities.

The location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 2.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 66.2 acres of land. Following construction, about 18.8 acres would be maintained as permanent pipeline right-of-way and about 20.0 acres would be required for new well sites and aboveground facilities. The remaining 27.4 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.
- Endangered and threatened species.
- Public safety.
- Land use.
- Cultural resources.
- Air quality and noise.
- Hazardous waste.

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 make our recommendations to the Commission.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section on pages 4 and 5 of this notice.

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

- A total of about 18.9 acres of forest would be disturbed.
- The project may affect 2 wetlands.
- Blasting may be required in some areas.

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/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: David P. Boergers, 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-11.2;
- Reference Docket No. CP87-203-007; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before June 28, 1999.

If you do not want to send comments at this time but still want to remain on our mailing list, please return the Information Request (appendix 4). If you do not return the Information Request, you will be taken off the mailing list.

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor." Intervenor play a more formal role in the process. 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 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. 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 3). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC website at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (please call (202) 208-2222 for assistance).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-14177 Filed 6-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6354-2]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request; See List of ICRs Planned To Be Submitted in Section A

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that EPA is planning to submit the following 19 continuing Information Collection Requests (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Before submitting the ICRs to OMB for