

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission

[Docket No. PF18–8–000]

Pointe LNG, LLC and Pointe Pipeline
Company, LLC; Notice of Intent To
Prepare an Environmental Impact
Statement for the Planned Pointe LNG
Project, Request for Comments on
Environmental Issues, and Notice of
Public Scoping Session

The staff of the Federal Energy
Regulatory Commission (FERC or
Commission) will prepare an
environmental impact statement (EIS)
that will discuss the environmental
impacts of the Pointe LNG Project
(Project) involving construction and
operation of facilities by Pointe LNG,
LLC and Pointe Pipeline Company, LLC
(collectively Pointe LNG) in
Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. The
Commission will use this EIS in its
decision-making process to determine
whether the project is in the public
interest.

This notice announces the opening of
the scoping process the Commission
will use to gather input from the public
and interested agencies about issues
regarding the project. The National
Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
requires the Commission to take into
account the environmental impacts that
could result from its action whenever it
considers the issuance of authorization.
NEPA also requires the Commission to
discover 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 EIS on the important
environmental issues. By this notice, the
Commission requests public comments
on the scope of the issues to address in
the EIS. To ensure that your comments
are timely and properly recorded, please
submit your comments so that the
Commission receives them in
Washington, DC on or before 5:00 p.m.
Eastern Time on March 7, 2019.

You can make a difference by
submitting your specific comments or
concerns about the project. Your

comments should focus on the potential
environmental effects, reasonable
alternatives, and measures to avoid or
lessen environmental impacts. Your
input will help the Commission staff
determine what issues they need to
evaluate in the EIS. Commission staff
will consider all filed comments during
the preparation of the EIS.

If you sent comments on this project
to the Commission *before* the opening of
this docket on September 14, 2018, you
will need to file those comments in
Docket No. PF18–8–000 to ensure they
are considered as part of this
proceeding.

This notice is being sent to the
Commission’s current environmental
mailing list for this project. State and
local government representatives should
notify their constituents of this planned
project and encourage them to comment
on their areas of concern.

If you are a landowner receiving this
notice, a pipeline company
representative may contact you about
the acquisition of an easement to
construct, operate, and maintain the
planned facilities. The company would
seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable
easement agreement. You are not
required to enter into an agreement.
However, if the Commission approves
the project, that approval conveys with
it the right of eminent domain.
Therefore, if you and the company do
not reach an easement agreement, the
pipeline company could initiate
condemnation proceedings in court. In
such instances, compensation would be
determined by a judge 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?” is available for viewing on
the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) at
[https://www.ferc.gov/resources/guides/
gas/gas.pdf](https://www.ferc.gov/resources/guides/gas/gas.pdf). 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.

Public Participation

The Commission offers a free service
called eSubscription which makes it

easy to stay informed of all issuances
and submittals regarding the dockets/
projects to which you subscribe. These
instant email notifications are the fastest
way to receive notification and provide
a link to the document files which can
reduce the amount of time you spend
researching proceedings. To sign up go
to [www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/
esubscription.asp](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp).

For your convenience, there are four
methods you can use to submit your
comments to the Commission. The
Commission encourages electronic filing
of comments and has staff available to
assist you at (866) 208–3676 or
FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. Please
carefully follow these instructions so
that your comments are properly
recorded.

(1) You can file your comments
electronically using the *eComment*
feature, which is located on the
Commission’s website (www.ferc.gov)
under the link to *Documents and
Filings*. Using eComment is an easy
method for submitting brief, text-only
comments on a project;

(2) You can file your comments
electronically by using the *eFiling*
feature, which is located on the
Commission’s website (www.ferc.gov)
under the link to *Documents and
Filings*. With eFiling, you can provide
comments in a variety of formats by
attaching them as a file with your
submission. New eFiling users must
first create an account by clicking on
“*eRegister*.” You will be asked to select
the type of filing you are making; a
comment on a particular project is
considered a “Comment on a Filing”; or

(3) You can file a paper copy of your
comments by mailing them to the
following address. Be sure to reference
the project docket number (PF18–8–000)
with your submission: Kimberly D.
Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy
Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street
NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

(4) In lieu of sending written
comments, the Commission invites you
to attend the public scoping session its
staff will conduct in the project area,
scheduled as follows:

Date and time	Location
Tuesday, February 19, 2019, 5:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.	Percy Griffin Community Center, 15577 Highway 15, Davant, Louisiana 70040, (504) 934–6285.

The primary goal of the scoping
session is to have you identify the
specific environmental issues and
concerns that should be considered in
the EIS. Individual verbal comments

will be taken on a one-on-one basis with
a court reporter. This format is designed
to receive the maximum amount of
verbal comments, in a convenient way
during the timeframe allotted.

The scoping session is scheduled
from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Central
Time. You may arrive at any time after
5:00 p.m. There will not be a formal
presentation by Commission staff when

the session opens. If you wish to speak, the Commission staff will hand out numbers in the order of your arrival. Comments will be taken until 8:00 p.m. However, if no additional numbers have been handed out and all individuals who wish to provide comments have had an opportunity to do so, staff may conclude the session at 7:00 p.m. Please see appendix 1 for additional information on the session format and conduct.¹

Your scoping comments will be recorded by a court reporter (with FERC staff or representative present) and become part of the public record for this proceeding. Transcripts will be publicly available on FERC's eLibrary system (see below for instructions on using eLibrary). If a significant number of people are interested in providing verbal comments in the one-on-one settings, a time limit of 5 minutes may be implemented for each commentor.

It is important to note that the Commission provides equal consideration to all comments received, whether filed in written form or provided verbally at a scoping session. Although there will not be a formal presentation, Commission staff will be available throughout the scoping session to answer your questions about the environmental review process. Representatives from Pointe LNG will also be present to answer project-specific questions.

Summary of the Planned Project

Pointe LNG plans to construct a liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility on the east bank (left descending bank) of the Mississippi River near river mile 46 in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. The site covers an area of approximately 600 acres, with approximately 6,500 feet of frontage on the Mississippi River. Pointe LNG has acquired this property under long-term leases with options to purchase. The Pointe LNG Project would also include two gas supply pipeline laterals for a total of approximately 6.6 miles of supply pipeline. The Project would be developed to liquefy domestic natural gas for export to foreign markets as LNG.

The Project would be sited, constructed and operated pursuant to Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (15 United States Code 717b). The Project

would consist of three liquefaction trains, with each train having a capacity of 2.0 metric tonnes per annum (MTPA). The total annual capacity of the Project would be approximately 6.0 MTPA. The Pointe LNG Project would consist of the following facilities:

- Natural gas pre-treatment systems;
- a liquefaction facility;
- a mixed refrigerant system;
- a boil-off gas recovery system;
- a propane refrigeration compressor;
- a nitrogen system;
- LNG storage;
- LNG storage tank protection systems;
- a marine loading terminal;
- electric power generation; and
- approximately 6.6 miles of 36-inch-diameter natural gas supply laterals (the Northern and Southern Pipelines).

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 2.²

Land Requirements for Construction

The LNG export terminal would be constructed on the 600 acre site, of which approximately 195 acres would be developed with terminal facilities and about 1,640 feet of river frontage would be used for marine berth and loading facilities. The planned Northern and Southern Pipelines would be 3.2 and 3.4 miles long, respectively. Pointe LNG currently plans to use a 150-foot-wide or less construction right-of-way to install the pipelines, and would maintain a permanent easement of 50 feet centered on each pipeline. The remaining acreage would be restored and would revert to former usage.

The EIS Process

The EIS will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the planned project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils;
- water resources and wetlands;
- vegetation and wildlife;
- threatened and endangered species;
- cultural resources;
- socioeconomics;
- land use;
- air quality and noise;
- public safety; and
- cumulative impacts.

Commission staff will also evaluate possible alternatives to the planned

project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Although no formal application has been filed, Commission staff have already initiated a NEPA review under the Commission's pre-filing process. The purpose of the pre-filing process is to encourage early involvement of interested stakeholders and to identify and resolve issues before the Commission receives an application. As part of the pre-filing review, Commission staff will contact federal and state agencies to discuss their involvement in the scoping process and the preparation of the EIS.

The EIS will present Commission staffs' independent analysis of the issues. The draft EIS will be available in electronic format in the public record through eLibrary³ and the Commission's website (<https://www.ferc.gov/industries/gas/enviro/eis.asp>). If eSubscribed, you will receive instant email notification when the draft EIS is issued. The draft EIS will be issued for an allotted public comment period. After the comment period on the draft EIS, Commission staff will consider all timely comments and revise the document, as necessary, before issuing a final EIS. To ensure Commission staff have the opportunity to consider and address your comments, please carefully follow the instructions in the Public Participation section, beginning on page 2.

With this notice, the Commission is asking agencies with jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise with respect to the environmental issues related to this project to formally cooperate in the preparation of the EIS.⁴ Agencies that would like to request cooperating agency status should follow the instructions for filing comments provided under the Public Participation section of this notice.

Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

In accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's implementing regulations for section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Commission is using this notice to initiate consultation with the applicable State Historic Preservation Office(s), and to solicit their views and those of other government agencies, interested Indian

¹ The appendices referenced in this notice will not appear in the **Federal Register**. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail and are available at www.ferc.gov using the link called "eLibrary" 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.

² The appendices referenced in this notice will not appear in the **Federal Register**. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail and are available at www.ferc.gov using the link called "eLibrary" 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.

³ For instructions on connecting to eLibrary, refer to the last page of this notice.

⁴ The Council on Environmental Quality regulations addressing cooperating agency responsibilities are at Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1501.6.

tribes, and the public on the project's potential effects on historic properties.⁵ Commission staff will define the project-specific Area of Potential Effects (APE) in consultation with the SHPO(s) as the project develops. On natural gas facility projects, the APE at a minimum encompasses all areas subject to ground disturbance (examples include construction right-of-way, contractor/pipe storage yards, compressor stations, and access roads). The EIS for this project will document our findings on the impacts on historic properties and summarize the status of consultations under section 106.

Environmental Mailing List

The environmental mailing list includes: Federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American Tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. This list also includes all affected landowners (as defined in the Commission's regulations) who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within certain distances of aboveground facilities, and anyone who submits comments on the project. Commission staff will update the environmental mailing list as the analysis proceeds to ensure that Commission notices related to this environmental review are sent to all individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the planned project.

A *Notice of Availability* of the draft EIS will be sent to the environmental mailing list and will provide instructions to access the electronic document on the FERC's website (www.ferc.gov). *If you need to make changes to your name/address, or if you would like to remove your name from the mailing list, please return the attached "Mailing List Update Form" (appendix 3).*

Becoming an Intervenor

Once Pointe LNG files its application with the Commission, you may want to become an "intervenor" which is an official party to the Commission's proceeding. Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision and be heard by

the courts if they choose to appeal the Commission's final ruling. An intervenor formally participates in the proceeding by filing a request to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214). Motions to intervene are more fully described at <http://www.ferc.gov/resources/guides/how-to/intervene.asp>. Please note that the Commission will not accept requests for intervenor status at this time. You must wait until the Commission receives a formal application for the project, after which the Commission will issue a public notice that establishes an intervention deadline.

Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208-FERC, or on the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number in the "Docket Number" field, excluding the last three digits (*i.e.*, PF18-8). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

Public sessions or site visits will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx along with other related information.

Dated: February 5, 2019.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD19-12-000]

Security Investments for Energy Infrastructure Technical Conference; Notice of Technical Conference

Take notice that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) and the United States Department of Energy (DOE) will co-host a Security Investments for Energy Infrastructure Technical Conference (conference) on Thursday, March 28, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This Commissioner-

and DOE senior official-led conference will be held in the Commission Meeting Room at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. The purpose of the conference is to discuss current cyber and physical security practices used to protect energy infrastructure and will explore how federal and state authorities can provide incentives and cost recovery for security investments in energy infrastructure, particularly the electric and natural gas sectors.

The conference will address two high-level topics. The first topic will include discussion of types of current and emerging cyber and physical security threats. Specifically, the conference will explore factors that the private sector considers when evaluating energy infrastructure security threats and vulnerabilities, as well as the availability of resources and challenges associated with evaluating these issues. In addition, the conference will discuss cyber and physical security best practices and mitigation strategies.

The second topic will center on how federal and state authorities can facilitate investments to improve the cyber and physical security of energy infrastructure. The conference will concentrate on federal and state authorities' current cost recovery policies. In addition, this panel will also look at how security investments are presently incentivized and what type of incentives would be most effective to facilitate security investment (*e.g.*, accelerated depreciation, adders to return on equity, etc.).

Further details of this conference will be provided in a supplemental notice.

The conference will be open and free to the public; however, interested attendees are encouraged to preregister online at: <https://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/registration/03-28-19-form.asp>.

Information regarding the conference will be posted on the Calendar of Events on the Commission's website, <http://www.ferc.gov>, prior to the event. The conference will also be webcast and transcribed. Anyone with internet access who desires to listen to this event can do so by navigating to the Calendar of Events at <http://www.ferc.gov> and locating this event in the Calendar. The event will contain a link to the webcast. The Capitol Connection provides technical support for webcasts and offers the option of listening to the meeting via phone-bridge for a fee. If you have any questions, visit <http://www.CapitolConnection.org> or call (703) 993-3100. Transcripts of the technical conference will be available for a fee from Ace-Federal Reporters, Inc. at (202) 347-3700.

⁵ The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations are at Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 800. Those regulations define historic properties as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.