

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC

Docket No. CP13-551-000

NOTICE OF SCHEDULE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
OF THE **LEIDY SOUTHEAST EXPANSION PROJECT**

(June 12, 2014)

On September 30, 2013, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) filed an application in Docket No. CP13-551-000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to Sections 7(c) and 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act to construct and operate certain natural gas facilities. Transco's proposed project, known as the Leidy Southeast Expansion Project, would provide an additional 525,000 dekatherms per day of incremental firm transportation service on its system.

On October 10, 2013, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) issued its *Notice of Application* for Transco's project. Among other things, that notice alerted agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on a request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's Environmental Assessment (EA) for the project. The instant notice identifies the FERC staff's planned schedule for the completion of the EA for the project.

Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of EA	August 8, 2014
90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline	November 6, 2014

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the project's progress.

Project Description

Transco proposes to construct approximately 29.8 miles of 42-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline along its existing pipeline system in four separate segments in Mercer, Somerset, and Hunterdon Counties, New Jersey, and Monroe and Luzerne Counties, Pennsylvania. Transco also proposes to add compression and modify its Compressor Stations 205, 515, and 520 in Mercer County, New Jersey and Luzerne, Columbia, and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania, respectively; and modify existing

compressor stations, meter and regulating stations, mainline valves, and pig¹ launchers and receivers in North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland.

Background

On May 24, 2013, the Commission issued a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Planned Leidy Southeast Expansion Project Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Meetings* (NOI). The NOI was issued during the pre-filing review of the Project in Docket No. PF13-5-000 and sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. In response to the NOI, the Commission received comments from U.S. Congressman Rush Holt, U.S. Senator Robert Mendez, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (New Jersey Field Office), several state agencies, the Municipality of Princeton, Montgomery Township, numerous affected landowners and interested parties, and non-government organizations. The primary issues raised by the commentors are impacts on threatened and endangered species, air quality, wetlands, and waterbodies; pipeline safety during construction and operation; geologic hazards; the cumulative impacts associated with Marcellus shale development; and alternatives.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are cooperating agencies.

Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. 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 www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at 1-866-208-FERC (3372) or on the FERC internet website (www.ferc.gov). Using the "eLibrary" link, select "General Search" from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and "Docket Number" excluding the last three digits (i.e., CP13-551), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. The eLibrary link on the FERC internet website also

¹ A pig is an internal tool that can be used to clean and dry a pipeline and/or to inspect it for damage or corrosion.

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provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

Additional information about the projects can be obtained by contacting the Environmental Project Manager, Jessica Harris, by telephone at 202-502-6805 or by electronic mail at jessica.harris@ferc.gov.

Lauren O'Donnell, Director
Division of Gas-Environment and
Engineering