

Transwestern states that the subject facilities, the Lipscomb Mocane Lateral, Delhi Feldman/Leedy Lateral and Feldman Lateral, consist of approximately 92 miles of 12-inch and 26 miles of 16-inch pipeline and one compressor station, the Ivanhoe Compressor Station, with appurtenances. The subject facilities are located north and east of the station block valve at Transwestern's Canadian River Compressor Station. Transwestern further states that KN will integrate the subject facilities into its interstate pipeline system upon approval of the proposed abandonment.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before March 13, 1998, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a petition to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a petition to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no petition to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a petition for leave is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Transwestern to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-4896 Filed 2-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-226-000]

Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc.; Notice of Application

February 20, 1998.

Take notice that on February 11, 1998, Williams Gas Pipelines Central, Inc. (Williams), P.O. Box 3288, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101, filed in Docket No. CP98-226-000 an abbreviated application pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, as amended, and Sections 157.7 and 157.18 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Regulations thereunder, for permission and approval to abandon from interstate service a Natural gas storage service between Williams and Kansas Gas Service Company, now Western Resources, a division of Oneok, Inc., (KGSC), all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Williams states that the natural gas storage agreement dated December 6, 1989, was originally authorized in Docket No. CP90-1297. Williams further states that the agreement was terminated by mutual agreement between Williams and KGSC. Williams asserts that at the same time the storage agreement was executed, KGSC entered into a firm transportation agreement to transport the storage gas. Williams further asserts that the firm transportation maximum daily quantity is equal to the maximum daily withdrawal quantity under the storage agreement, or 75,000 Dth per day. Williams also asserts that both the storage agreement and the firm transportation agreement have a primary term of six years ending March 31, 1997, and year to year thereafter unless terminated by either party by giving two years written notice. Williams indicates that on March 12, 1996, KGSC provided Williams with such notice.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before March 13, 1998, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a petition to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties

to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to the proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a petition to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission on this application if no petition to intervene is filed within the time required herein, and if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that the abandonment is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a petition for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provide for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Williams to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-4900 Filed 2-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-774-000]

CNG Transmission Corporation; Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Market Area Storage Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

February 20, 1998.

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 construction and operation of the facilities proposed in the Market Area Storage Project.¹ This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether

¹ CNG Transmission Corporation's and Texas Eastern 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.

the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

Summary of the Proposed Project

CNG Transmission Corporation (CNG) and Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation (Texas Eastern) (together referred to as the Applicants) want to expand the capacity of the jointly-owned storage facilities to allow for the storage of an additional 10 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas at the Oakford Storage Field in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Also, the proposed facilities would add about 200 million cubic feet per day (MMcf/d) of injection capability and about 393 MMcf/d of additional end-of-January withdrawal capability at the Oakford Storage Field. The Applicants seek authority to construct and operate these facilities in spring 1998:

- 12,000 horsepower (hp) of additional electric motor-driven compression and related piping and appurtenant facilities at the existing Oakford Compressor Station in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania;
- About 6 miles of new and replacement storage field well lines of various sizes and lengths;
- Various valves, piping, filter separators, buildings, and appurtenant facilities at the Oakford Compressor Station;
- A replacement dehydration system at the Oakford Compressor Station capable of processing an additional 400 MMcf/d; and
- 325 feet of 10-inch-diameter suction line at the Lincoln Height Compressor Station in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania replacing an 8-inch-diameter pipeline and related aboveground facilities.

A nonjurisdictional 138 kilovolt (kV) electric substation would be installed at the Oakford Compressor Station by Allegheny Power Company. The Substation would be constructed on a 0.75 acre site on compressor station property along the south side and outside of the existing fence line. It would consist of a 138 kV transformer, poles, breakers, and a 30-foot-long access road all within the existing compressor station facility. About 2 miles of transmission lines would be constructed to the substation.

CNG also seeks authority to increase the deliverability of its Greenlick Compressor Station in Potter County, Pennsylvania, from 912 MMcf/d to 1,062 MMcf/d by modifying certain facilities and constructing and operating related facilities in spring 1999. These activities would include:

- Reworking 4 existing crossover heaters by adding a new electronic

panel board, electronic ignition system, and heat turbulator;

- Installing 1 new vertical filter/separator;
- Reworking six 10-inch ANSI 1500# Ball Valves;
- Replacing two 10-inch ANSI 1500# Ball Valves;
- Removing and installing a new Regan Pump of the same size;
- Reworking nine 12-inch-diameter existing orifice runs; and
- Installing new beads in the existing towers.

The location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.²

Land Requirement for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 110.4 acres of land. Following construction, about 21 acres would be maintained as new aboveground facility sites (mostly within the existing compressor stations) and about 34.6 acres would be within pipeline rights-of-way. The remaining 54.8 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 taken 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

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, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

- 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.

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

- The addition of 12,000 hp of compression may increase the noise level near the Oakford Compressor Station.
- A high-quality cold-water fishery, Beaver Run, would be crossed near milepost 0.65 on storage pipeline JP-302, about 2 miles upstream from the headwaters of Beaver Run Reservoir which is the main drinking water source for Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania.

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 locations or 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, Acting Secretary,

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;

- Label *one* copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch II, PR-11;

- Reference Docket No. CP97-774-000; and

- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before March 23, 1998.

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 3). If you do not return the Information Request, you will be taken off the mailing list.

If you are interested in obtaining procedural information please write to the Secretary of the Commission.

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.

Your do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-4909 Filed 2-25-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application for New Major License

February 20, 1998.

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

a. *Type of Application:* New Major License.

b. *Project No.:* 2674-003.

c. *Date Filed:* May 30, 1997.

d. *Applicant:* Green Mountain Power Corporation.

e. *Name of Project:* Vergennes Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On Otter Creek in the City of Vergennes, Addison County, Vermont.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Michael Scarzello, Green Mountain Power Corporation, 25 Green Mountain Drive, P.O. Box 850, South Burlington, VT 05402, (802) 660-5835.

i. *FERC Contact:* Lee Emery, (202) 219-2779.

j. *Deadline Date:* See attached paragraph D9.

k. *Status of Environmental Analysis:* The application has been accepted for filing and is ready for environmental analysis at this time—see attached paragraph D9.

l. *Description of the Project:* The Vergennes Project's existing facilities consist of the following features: (1) Three concrete overflow dams, each about 10 feet high, with a total length of 231 feet, each having a crest elevation of about 132.78 feet above mean sea level (msl), surmounted by 1.5-foot-high flashboards, and a 29-foot-long, non-overflow dam; (2) an 8.8-mile-long, 133 acre surface area reservoir having a 200 acre-foot usable storage capacity at normal water surface elevation of 134.28 feet msl; (3) the north forebay with trashracks, headgates, and two 7-foot-diameter steel penstocks; (4) the north powerhouse, known as Plant 9B, with a 1,000-kW generating unit; (5) the south forebay, with trashracks, headgates, two surge tanks, and two 10-foot-diameter penstocks; (6) the south powerhouse, known as Plant 9, with two 700-kW generating units; (7) the generator leads from Plant 9 to the Vergennes substation and the 950-foot-long, 2,400-volt overhead generator leads from Plant 9B to the Vergennes substation; and (8) appurtenant facilities.

The total project generating capacity would be 2,400 kW, and the total average annual generation would be 9.455 MWh. The applicant owns the dam and existing project facilities.

m. This notice also consists of the following standard paragraphs: D9.

n. A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at: 888 First St., NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling (202) 208-1371. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at 25 Green Mountain Drive, South Burlington, VT 05402,

(802) 864-5731 and at the City of Vergennes, City Manager's Office, Route 22A (Main Street), Vergennes, VT 05491, or by calling (802) 877-3637.

D9. Filing and Service of Responsive Documents—The application is ready for environmental analysis at this time, and the Commission is requesting comments, reply comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions.

The Commission directs, pursuant to Section 4.34(b) of the Regulations (see Order No. 533 issued May 8, 1991, 56 FR 23108, May 20, 1991), that all comments, recommendations, terms and conditions and prescriptions concerning the application be filed with the Commission within 60 days from the issuance date of this notice. All reply comments must be filed with the Commission within 105 days from the date of this notice.

Anyone may obtain an extension of time for these deadlines from the Commission only upon a showing of good cause or extraordinary circumstances in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2008.

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS," "REPLY COMMENTS," "RECOMMENDATIONS," "TERMS AND CONDITIONS," or "PRESCRIPTIONS"; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the filing; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Any of these documents must be filed by providing the original and the number of copies required by the Commission's regulations to: The Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. An additional copy must be sent to Director, Division of Licensing and Compliance, Office of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, at the above address. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b), and 385.2010.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-4910 Filed 2-25-98; 8:45 am]

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