

Electric and Power Company, 91 FERC ¶ 61,209 (2000). The Company requests that the Commission accept these compliance tariff sheets for filing and make them effective June 1, 2000, the date the Commission permitted the modified OATT and the modified market-based sales tariff to become effective.

Copies of the filing were served upon the office service list compiled by the Secretary is this proceeding.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest such 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 Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions and protests should be filed on or before July 21, 2000. Protests will be considered by the Commission to determine the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. 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. This filing may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-17818 Filed 7-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP00-36-000]

Guardian Pipeline, L.L.C.; Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Guardian Pipeline Project

July 10, 2000.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared this draft environmental impact statement (draft EIS) on natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Guardian Pipeline, L.L.C. (Guardian) in the above-referenced docket.

The draft EIS 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 as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact.

The draft EIS evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including system alternatives; route alternatives; and minor route variations.

The draft EIS assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following facilities in Illinois and Wisconsin:

- 140.2 miles of 36-inch diameter pipeline extending from Joliet, Illinois to Ixonia, Wisconsin;
- 8.5 miles of 16-inch-diameter lateral pipeline in Walworth and Waukesha Counties, Wisconsin (Eagle Lateral);
- A total of 0.16 mile of 30, 24, and 16-inch-diameter pipeline to connect the project to existing pipeline systems in Will County, Illinois;
- One 25,080-horsepower compressor station (Joliet Compressor Station) in Will County, Illinois;
- Seven new meter stations; and
- Associated pipeline facilities, including eight mainline valves.

Wisconsin Gas Company (WGC) also proposes to construct about 35 miles of 30-, 24-, and 16-inch diameter pipeline (WGC Lateral Line Project) extending eastward from the northern terminus of the Guardian Pipeline in Wisconsin. WGC's Lateral Line Project is under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW). Although these facilities are not under the jurisdiction of the FERC, they are analyzed in this draft EIS. The PSCW is participating in the EIS process as a cooperating agency, as is the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). FERC is coordinating the public comment process on the draft EIS and will share any comments on the WGC Lateral Line Project with the PSCW and WDNR.

The purpose of the Guardian Pipeline Project is to transport up to 750,000 decatherms per day of natural gas from the Chicago Hub to markets in northern Illinois and Wisconsin. According to Guardian, the project would:

- Introduce a competitive alternative natural gas pipeline to markets in northern Illinois and Wisconsin;
- Provide area shippers with access to competing providers of transportation, storage, and related services at or upstream of the Chicago Hub; and
- Contribute toward increasing electric reliability in the upper Midwest by providing additional pipeline capacity to meet the growth in gas-fired electric generation plants.

Comment Procedures and Public Meetings

Any person wishing to comment on the draft EIS may do so. To ensure consideration of your comments on the

proposal in the final EIS, it is important that we receive your comments before the date specified below. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your comments to: Secretary, Federal Regulatory Energy Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the DEER Gas Group 1, PJ 11.1;
- Reference Docket No. CP00-36-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before August 28, 2000.

In addition to written comments, we will hold four public meetings in the project area to receive comments on the draft EIS. All meetings will begin at 7 p.m., and are scheduled as follows:

August 14, 2000

Joliet, Illinois, Fireside Resort Hotel,
4200 West Jefferson, (815) 725-0111
DeKalb, Illinois, Northern Illinois
University, Holmes Student Center,
Normal & Lucinda Roads, (815) 753-1744

August 15, 2000

Delavan, Wisconsin, Lake Lawn Lodge,
2400 East Geneva St., (800) 338-5253
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, Olympia
Conference Center, 1350 Royale Mile
Road, (800) 558-9573

Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend and present oral comments on the environmental impact described in the draft EIS. Transcripts of the meetings will be prepared.

After these comments are reviewed, any significant new issues are investigated, and modifications are made to the draft EIS, a final EIS will be published and distributed by the staff. The final EIS will contain the staff's responses to timely comments filed on the draft EIS.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commenter 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).

Anyone may intervene in this proceeding based on this draft EIS. You must file your request to intervene as specified above. You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

This draft EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at: Federal

Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, (202) 208-1371.

A limited number of copies are available from the Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch identified above. In addition, copies of the draft EIS have been mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, individuals who have requested the draft EIS, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Paul McKee in the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC Internet 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. Or 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.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-17816 Filed 7-13-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP00-165-000]

Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Sundance Expansion Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Schedule to Hold Site Visits

July 10, 2000.

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 Sundance Expansion Project (Sundance Project) involving construction and operation of facilities by Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco) in several counties

in North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi.¹ These facilities would consist of about 38 miles of 42- and 48-inch diameter pipeline, 41,225 horsepower (hp) of additional compression, piping modification at one compressor station, and installation of gas coolers at another compressor station. This EA 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 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 prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility on My Land? What Do I Need to Know?" was attached to the project notice Transco provided to landowners. 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. It is available for viewing on the FERC Internet website (www.ferc.fed.us).

Summary of the Proposed Project

Transco wants to expand the capacity of its mainline pipeline facility in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and North Carolina to transport an additional 236,383 dekatherms per day of natural gas to 12 shippers. Transco seeks authority to construct and operate the following facilities:

- 12.03 miles of 42-inch diameter pipeline loop from milepost 772.81 on Transco's mainline in Clark County, Mississippi to milepost 784.84 in Choctaw County, Alabama (the "Desoto loop");
- 9.36 miles of 48-inch diameter pipeline loop from milepost 851.46 on Transco's main line in Dallas County, Alabama to milepost 860.82 in Perry County, Alabama (the "Summerville loop");

¹ Transco's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commissions' regulations.

- Piping modifications at Transco's existing Compressor Station No. 105, located in Coosa County, Alabama;

- 8.97 miles of 42-inch diameter pipeline loop from milepost 1247.03 on Transco's mainline in Cleveland County, North Carolina to milepost 1256.00 in Gaston County, North Carolina (the "Kings Mountain loop");

- 7.67 miles of 42-inch diameter pipeline loop from milepost 1287.11 on Transco's mainline to milepost 1294.78 in Iredell County, North Carolina (the "Mooresville loop");

- One new 18,975 horsepower compressor unit, and the uprating of an existing 15,000 horsepower compression unit, and an existing 16,500 horsepower compressor unit to 18,975 horsepower each at Transco's existing Compressor Station No. 115, located in Coweta County, Georgia. The proposed Sundance project will increase the total certificated compression at this station to 56,425 horsepower;

- One new 15,000 horsepower compression unit, and the uprating of an existing 4,000 horsepower compression unit to 4,800 horsepower at Transco's existing Compressor Station No. 125, located in Walton County, Georgia. The proposed Sundance project will increase the total certificated compression at this station to 38,800 horsepower; and

- Gas coolers at Transco's existing Compressor Station No. 150, located in Iredell County, North Carolina.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.²

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed pipeline additions would require about 516.4 acres of land. Following construction, about 164.9 acres would be maintained as new pipeline right of way. The remaining 351.5 acres of land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

Installation of new facilities at the four existing compressor stations would require a total of about 8.1 acres of land area. However, no increase in land area would be required during operation of these facilities.

² The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available on the Commission's website at the "RIMS" link or from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. For instructions on connecting to RIMS refer to the last page of this notice. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.