

N. Thompson Street, Iowa, Louisiana 70647.

### 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 2).<sup>4</sup> Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

### Environmental Mailing List

This notice is being sent to individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. It is also being sent to all identified potential right-of-way grantors. By this notice we are also asking governmental agencies, especially those in appendix 3, to express their interest in becoming cooperating agencies for the preparation of the EA.

### Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance with eLibrary, the eLibrary helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at

[FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). The eLibrary link on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

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Finally, public meetings or site visits will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx> along with other related information.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
Secretary.

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**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP04-12-000]

#### TransColorado Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Compression Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

November 12, 2003.

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 Compression Expansion Project involving construction and operation of facilities by TransColorado Gas Transmission Company (TransCo) in various counties in Colorado.<sup>1</sup> These facilities would consist of three new compressor stations, additional compression at one existing compressor station, and an upgrade at one existing compressor station, providing a total of 20,120 additional horsepower. The new compression facilities would provide TransCo the ability to transport an additional 125,000 dekatherms per day. This EA will be used by the Commission in its decisionmaking 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 Colorado 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 Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)).

### Summary of the Proposed Project

TransCo seeks authority to construct three new compressor stations; install additional compression at one existing compressor station; and make an upgrade at one existing compressor station. All facilities would be in Colorado. Specifically, TransCo would:

- Construct one new compressor station (Whitewater) in Mesa County and install one 4,735-horsepower (hp) compressor;
- Construct one new compressor station (Redvale) and 692 feet of 10-inch-diameter pipeline in Montrose County, and install one 4,735-hp compressor;
- Construct one new compressor station (Mancos) in Montezuma County and install two 3,550-hp compressors;
- Install one 3,550-hp compressor at an existing compressor station (Dolores) in Dolores County;
- Re-wheel a compressor at an existing compressor station (Olathe) in Montrose County, with no change in horsepower; and
- Construct, modify, and operate certain ancillary facilities entirely within or immediately adjacent to TransCo's existing facilities or those proposed in this application.

The general location of all project facilities as well as more detailed locations of the proposed new

<sup>4</sup> Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

<sup>1</sup> TransCo's application was filed with the Commission under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

compressor stations are shown in appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

### Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the new compressor stations (including access roads) would require about 17.8 acres of land. Of this, about 1.2 acres would revert to previous use while the rest would be maintained for operation of the new facilities. In addition, upgrades at the existing compressor stations would affect about 6.7 acres of land already in use for natural gas transmission.

### 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<sup>3</sup> to discover and address 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 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, soils, and groundwater
- Land use and visual quality
- Cultural resources
- Socioeconomics
- Vegetation and wildlife (including threatened and endangered species)
- Air quality and noise
- Reliability and safety

We will not discuss impacts to the following resource areas since they are not present in the project area, or would not be affected by the proposed facilities.

- Surface water resources, fisheries, and wetlands

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 below.

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

- Visual impacts on Federal land, including National Forest.
- Noise impacts on nearby residents.

### 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), 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 an original and two copies of your letter to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas Branch 1.
- Reference Docket No. CP04-12-000.

- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before December 12, 2003.

Please note that we are continuing to experience delays in mail deliveries from the U.S. Postal Service. As a result, we will include all comments that we receive within a reasonable time frame in our environmental analysis of this project. However, the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of any comments or interventions or protests to this proceeding. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create a free account which can be created on-line.

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<sup>4</sup> Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of all appendices, other than appendix 1 (maps), are available on the Commission's website at the "eLibrary" link or from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 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. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

<sup>3</sup> "We," "us," and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).

Bureau of Land Management and the U.S Forest Service have already agreed to be cooperating agencies.

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Finally, any public meetings or site visits conducted as part of our review of this project will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx> along with other related information.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E3-00300 Filed 11-18-03; 8:45 am]

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#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

#### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Application Ready for Environmental Analysis and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, Terms and Conditions, and Prescriptions

November 7, 2003.

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.:* 178-017.

c. *Date filed:* April 14, 2003.

d. *Applicant:* Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

e. *Name of Project:* Kern Canyon Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* On the Kern River, near the Town of Bakersfield, Kern County, California. The project occupies approximately 11.26 acres of public land located within the Sequoia National Forest.

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

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. Randal S. Livingston, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Power Generation, Mail Code N11E, P.O. Box 770000, San Francisco, CA 94177 (415) 973-7000.

i. *FERC Contact:* Allison Arnold, (202) 502-6346 or [allison.arnold@ferc.gov](mailto:allison.arnold@ferc.gov).

j. *Deadline for filing comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions:* 60 days from the issuance of this notice.

All documents (original and eight copies) should be filed with: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

Comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "eFiling" link.

k. This application has been accepted for filing and is now ready for environmental analysis.

l. The Kern Canyon Hydroelectric Project consists of: (1) An existing 150-foot-long and 23-foot-high dam; (2) an existing 3-acre reservoir having a usable capacity of 27-acre-feet; (3) a 1.58-mile-long horseshoe shaped tunnel; (4) a 520-foot-long steel penstock varying in diameter from 96 inches to 90 inches; (5) a powerhouse containing one generating unit with an installed capacity of 9,540 kilowatts; (6) existing transmission facilities; and (7) appurtenant facilities. The project is estimated to generate an average of 67.6 gigawatthours annually. The dam and existing project facilities are owned by the applicant.

m. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

n. Public notice of the filing of the initial development application, which has already been given, established the due date for filing competing applications or notices of intent. Under the Commission's regulations, any competing development application must be filed in response to and in compliance with public notice of the initial development application. No competing applications or notices of intent may be filed in response to this notice.

The Commission directs, pursuant to § 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.

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). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on