

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 400–051–CO]

**Public Service Company of Colorado;
Notice of Availability of Draft
Environmental Assessment**

May 1, 2009.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission or FERC) regulations, 18 CFR part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897), the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the application for a new major license for the Ames Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 400), located on Lake Fork, Howards Fork, and South Fork of the San Miguel River, in San Miguel County, about 6 miles north of Telluride, Colorado. The Ames Project occupies 99 acres of the Uncompahgre National Forest administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

Staff prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes the probable environmental effects of relicensing the project and concludes that relicensing the project, with appropriate staff-recommended environmental measures, would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

A copy of the EA is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection. The EA may also 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 documents. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1–866–208–3676, or for TTY, (202) 502–8659.

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

Comments on the EA should be filed within 45 days from the issuance date of this notice, and should be addressed to the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Room 1–A, Washington, DC 20426. Please affix "Ames Hydroelectric Project No. 400–051" to all comments. Comments may be filed electronically via 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 under the "eFiling" link. For further information, contact David Turner at (202) 502–6091.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9–10691 Filed 5–7–09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. CP09–83–000]

Dominion Transmission, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Dominion Hub II Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

May 1, 2009.

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 Dominion Hub II Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Dominion Transmission, Inc. (DTI) in Tompkins County, New York. This EA will be used by the Commission in its decisionmaking process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

This notice announces the opening of the scoping process we will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Your input will help the Commission staff determine what issues need to be evaluated in the EA. Please note that the scoping period will close on June 1, 2009.

This notice is being sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American Tribes; other interested parties in this proceeding; and local libraries and newspapers. State and local government representatives are asked to notify their constituents of this proposed project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

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 Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>). 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).

Summary of the Proposed Project

DTI proposes to retire an existing 5,800-horsepower (hp) Dresser-Clark 990 turbine and replace it with a new 10,310-hp Solar Taurus 70 compressor unit at the Borger Compressor Station in Tompkins County, New York. The new unit would be installed in a new compressor building, to be constructed adjacent to the existing compressor building. The retired unit would be taken out of service and used for spare parts. In addition, DTI proposes to replace exhaust silencers on two existing turbines at the Borger Compressor Station to meet facility-wide noise requirements. The location of the Borger Compressor Station is shown in appendix 1.¹

The proposed facilities would provide a Maximum Daily Transportation Quantity of up to 20,000 dekatherms per day (Dth/d) of new incremental firm transportation service for one customer. The service would have a primary receipt point at Leidy, Pennsylvania, and a primary delivery point at West Schenectady, New York.

Land Requirements for Construction

All land disturbed by construction of the proposed compressor unit would be contained entirely within the fenced 58.64-acre Borger Compressor Station. Construction of the unit would temporarily impact about 14.94 acres of land within the station's boundaries, and would include any necessary workspaces, a driveway, and parking areas. Approximately 3.3 acres would be used for operation of the proposed facilities, including a new compressor building and auxiliary facilities.

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 to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. This

¹ The appendix referenced in this notice is not being published in the **Federal Register**. Copies of all appendices are available on the Commission's Web site at the "eLibrary" link 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. Copies of the appendix were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

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, the Commission staff requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. All comments received will be 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.

In the EA, we² will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Land use;
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands;
- Cultural resources;
- Vegetation and wildlife;
- Air quality and noise;
- Endangered and threatened species; and
- Public safety.

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 presented in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to the entities on our mailing list (see how to remain on our mailing list under Environmental Mailing List, below). 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.

With this notice, we are asking agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues to formally cooperate with us in the preparation of the EA. These agencies may choose to participate once they have evaluated the proposal relative to their responsibilities. 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.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the Dominion Hub II Project. Your comments should focus on the potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impacts. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please send in your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before June 1, 2009.

For your convenience, there are three methods which you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances, please reference the project docket number CP09–83–000 with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has dedicated eFiling expert staff available to assist you at 202–502–8258 or efiling@ferc.gov.

(1) You may file your comments electronically by using the Quick Comment feature, which is located on the Commission’s Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the link to *Documents and Filings*. A Quick Comment is an easy method for interested persons to submit text-only comments on a project;

(2) You may file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission’s Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the link to *Documents and Filings*. eFiling involves preparing your submission in the same manner as you would if filing on paper, and then saving the file on your computer’s hard drive. You will attach that file as your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on “Sign up” or “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 may file your comments via mail to the Commission by sending an original and two copies of your letter to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426; Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas Branch 1, PJ–11.1.

Environmental Mailing List

An effort is being made to send this notice to all individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. This includes all

landowners who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within distances defined in the Commission’s regulations of certain aboveground facilities.

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

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an “intervenor,” which is an official party to the Commission’s proceeding. Intervenor play a more formal role in the process and are able to file briefs, appear at hearings, 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. Instructions for becoming an intervenor are included in the User’s Guide under the “e-filing” link on the Commission’s Web site.

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 Web site (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, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1–866–208–3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502–8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission now offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. 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/esubscribenow.htm.

Finally, public meetings or site visits will be posted on the Commission’s calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/>

² “We,” “us,” and “our” refer to the environmental staff of the Commission’s Office of Energy Projects.

EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx along with other related information.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-10693 Filed 5-7-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP07-444-000; Docket No. CP07-441-000]

Jordan Cove Energy Project, LP; Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, LP; Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Jordan Cove LNG Terminal and Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline Project

May 1, 2009.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the construction and operation of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal and natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Jordan Cove Energy Project, LP (Jordan Cove) and Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, LP (Pacific Connector) in the above-referenced dockets. We¹ call this the Jordan Cove Energy and Pacific Connector Pipeline (JCE & PCGP) Project, or simply the Project. The JCE & PCGP Project facilities would be located in Coos, Douglas, Jackson, and Klamath Counties, Oregon.

The final EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The United States (U.S.) Department of Agriculture Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Coast Guard, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, and Fish and Wildlife Service, and Douglas County, Oregon, are cooperating agencies for the development of this EIS. A cooperating agency has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to potential environmental impacts associated with the proposal and is involved in the NEPA analysis.

Based on the analysis included in the final EIS, the FERC staff concludes that the proposed action would have limited adverse environmental impacts. However, if the Project is constructed and operated in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, and with implementation of Jordan Cove's and Pacific Connector's proposed mitigation measures, and the additional mitigation measures recommended by staff, environmental impacts would be substantially reduced.

The purpose of the Project is to provide a new import access point for overseas LNG and provide a new source of natural gas to markets in the Pacific Northwest, northern Nevada, and northern California. Jordan Cove would off-load and store the LNG in specially designed tanks at its terminal, vaporize the LNG back into natural gas, and provide up to 1.0 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas to the region through the Pacific Connector sendout pipeline and interconnections with existing natural gas pipeline systems.

The final EIS addresses the potential environmental effects associated with the construction and operation of the facilities listed below. The Project would include LNG marine traffic into U.S. territorial waters and transit in the waterway to Jordan Cove's proposed LNG import terminal. The terminal would be located on the bay side of the North Spit of Coos Bay, at about Channel Mile 7.5 up the existing Coos Bay navigation channel, in Coos County, Oregon. Jordan Cove's proposed facilities would include:

- An access channel from the existing Coos Bay navigation channel, and a slip;
- LNG unloading berth and transfer pipeline;
- 2 full-containment LNG storage tanks, each with a capacity 160,000 m³ (or 1,006,000 barrels);
- Vapor handling system, and vaporization equipment capable of regasifying the LNG for delivery into the natural gas sendout pipeline;
- Piping, ancillary buildings, safety systems, and other support facilities;
- A natural gas liquids (NGL) extraction facility, with the NGL to be sold to an entity other than Jordan Cove and likely transported from the terminal using existing railroad lines;
- A 37-megawatt, natural gas-fired, simple-cycle combustion turbine powerplant to provide electric power for the LNG terminal; and
- Disposal areas for the storage of excavated and dredged materials resulting from the construction of the access channel and slip.

Pacific Connector's pipeline would extend from the Jordan Cove LNG

terminal southeast across Coos, Douglas, Jackson, and Klamath Counties Oregon, to its terminus near Malin, including interconnections with Avista Corporation, Williams Northwest Pipeline Corporation (Williams Northwest), Gas Transmission Northwest Corporation, Tuscarora Gas Transmission Company, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company. The facilities proposed by Pacific Connector would include:

- A 234-mile-long, 36-inch-diameter welded steel underground natural gas pipeline;
- A natural gas compressor station at Butte Falls, in Jackson County, consisting of two new 10,310-horsepower (hp) compressor units;
- 4 natural gas meter stations, including the Jordan Cove Receipt Meter Station in Coos County, Clarks Branch Delivery Meter Station in Douglas County, Shady Cove Delivery Meter Station in Jackson County, and the adjoining Tule Lake, Russell Canyon, and Buck Butte Meter Stations in Klamath County;
- A gas control communication system, consisting of new radio towers at each meter station and the compressor station, use of an existing communication site owned by Williams Northwest and leased space on seven other existing communication towers;
- Mainline block valves (MLV) at approximately 16 locations along the pipeline; and,
- 5 pig² launchers and receivers, four co-located with meter stations and the compressor station, and the fifth co-located with a MLV.

The final EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8371.

Volumes 1 and 2 of the final EIS, containing text of the analysis, were printed in hard copy. Volume 3, containing the appendices, was produced as .pdf files on a compact disk (CD) that can be read by a personal computer with a CD-ROM drive. The CD also contains the text of volumes 1 and 2 as .pdf files. A limited number of hard copies and CDs of the final EIS are available from the FERC's Public Reference Room, identified above. This final EIS is also available for public viewing on the FERC's Internet Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov>, via the eLibrary link.

¹ The pronouns "we," "us," or "our" refer to the environmental staff of the FERC's Office of Energy Projects.

² A "pig" is a tool for cleaning and inspecting the inside of a pipeline.