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*Comment Date:* 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 21, 2012.

Dated: May 2, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-11359 Filed 5-10-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. EG12-31-000; EG12-32-000; et al.]

#### Quantum Choctaw Power, LLC, USG Nevada LLC, et al.; Notice of Effectiveness of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status

|                             | Docket Nos. |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Quantum Choctaw Power, LLC. | EG12-31-000 |
| USG Nevada LLC .....        | EG12-32-000 |
| Kawailoa Wind, LLC .....    | EG12-33-000 |
| Mariposa Energy, LLC .....  | EG12-34-000 |
| Stephentown Spindle, LLC    | EG12-35-000 |

Take notice that during the month of April 2012, the status of the above-captioned entities as Exempt Wholesale Generators became effective by operation of the Commission's regulations. 18 CFR 366.7(a).

Dated: May 4, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-11358 Filed 5-10-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP12-124-000; CP11-40-000; CP10-34-000]

#### East Cheyenne Gas Storage, LLC; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed West Peetz Well Plan Amendment and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

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 West Peetz Well Plan Amendment involving construction and operation of facilities by East Cheyenne Gas Storage, LLC (East Cheyenne) in Logan County, Colorado. The Commission will use this EA in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

This notice announces the opening of the scoping process the Commission will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the project amendment. Your input will help the Commission staff determine what issues they need to evaluate in the EA. Please note that the scoping period will close on June 2, 2012.

This notice is being sent to the Commission's current environmental mailing list for this project. State and local government representatives should notify their constituents of this proposed project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, a pipeline company representative may contact you about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the Commission approves the project, 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 where compensation would be determined in accordance with state law.

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

The proposed project would amend the East Cheyenne Gas Storage Project, which consists of construction and operation of a natural gas storage facility in two nearly depleted oil production fields in Logan County, Colorado. The project was originally authorized by the

Commission on August 2, 2010 under Docket No. CP10-34-000, and amended on April 12, 2011 under Docket No. CP11-40-000. On January 31, 2012, under Docket No. CP12-35-000, the Commission further amended the certificate by revising the maximum reservoir pressure for the D Sands zone in the West Peetz Field. East Cheyenne is not seeking to revise the maximum reservoir pressure and therefore does not seek to amend the certificate issued to East Cheyenne in Docket No. CP12-35-000.

Following issuance of the August 2 and April 12 Orders, East Cheyenne further evaluated the West Peetz D Sands Formation. Based on the findings, East Cheyenne determined that they should modify the proposed number and location of wells, in addition to well design and installation methods, to develop the authorized working gas capacity for optimal performance. The proposed amendment would involve reconfiguration of the injection/withdrawal (I/W) wells and associated piping, addition of a produced water disposal well and associated piping, and two monitoring wells, and an increase in the amount of cushion gas capacity. Additionally, East Cheyenne would no longer use ten of the originally proposed access roads. The proposed amendment consists of the following changes to the East Cheyenne Gas Storage Project:

- Relocate and convert four currently certificated wells from horizontal to vertical I/W wells;
- Construct four additional I/W wells, three of which would be vertical and the fourth a slant well;
- Plug and abandon two previously certificated and operating I/W wells and replace them with two new vertical I/W wells;
- Install two additional observation wells and one additional produced water disposal well;
- Reconfigure related natural gas lateral pipelines; and
- Install and reconfigure related produced water mainline, laterals, and disposal pipelines.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.<sup>1</sup>

#### Land Requirements for Construction

The certificated East Cheyenne Gas Storage Project is currently storing

<sup>1</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail and are available at [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov) using the link called "eLibrary" 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.

natural gas in nearly depleted reservoirs that underlie an area of approximately 2,360 acres, with an additional 3,400 acres serving as a storage buffer area. The revised facilities would be located in previously surveyed areas within the project site. Construction of the revised facilities would require approximately 501.9 acres of land, an increase of 26 acres from the previous project total of 485.8 acres. Following construction, East Cheyenne would maintain about 200.2 acres as permanent facilities and right-of-way; a decrease of 1.3 acres from the previous project total of 201.5 acres. The remaining 301.7 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 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>2</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, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. We will consider comments filed during the preparation of the EA.

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

- Geology and soils;
- 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 reasonable alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project amendment, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

The EA will present our independent analysis of the issues. The EA will be available in the public record through eLibrary. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, we may also publish and distribute the EA

to the public for an allotted comment period. We will consider all comments on the EA before making our recommendations to the Commission. To ensure we have the opportunity to consider and address your comments, please carefully follow the instructions in the Public Participation section below.

With this notice, we are asking agencies with jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise with respect to the environmental issues of this project to formally cooperate with us in the preparation of the EA.<sup>3</sup> 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 project amendment. 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 your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before June 2, 2012.

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 (CP12-124-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert eFiling staff available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or [efiling@ferc.gov](mailto:efiling@ferc.gov).

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature on the Commission's Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to Documents and Filings. This is an easy method for interested persons to submit brief, text-only comments on a project;

(2) You can file your comments electronically using the eFiling feature on the Commission's Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to Documents and Filings. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on “eRegister.” You must select

the type of filing you are making. If you are filing a comment on a particular project, please select “Comment on a Filing”;

(3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the following address: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

### Environmental Mailing List

The environmental mailing list includes Federal, State, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American Tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. This list also includes all affected landowners (as defined in the Commission's regulations) who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within certain distances of aboveground facilities, and anyone who submits comments on the project. We will update the environmental mailing list as the analysis proceeds to ensure that we send the information related to this environmental review to all individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project.

If we publish and distribute the EA, copies will be sent to the environmental mailing list for public review and comment. If you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the document instead of the CD version or would like to remove your name from the mailing list, please return the attached Information Request (appendix 2).

### 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 (866) 208-FERC, or on the FERC Web site at [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov) using the “eLibrary” link. Click on the eLibrary

<sup>2</sup> “We”, “us”, and “our” refer to the environmental staff of the Commission's Office of Energy Projects.

<sup>3</sup> The Council on Environmental Quality regulations addressing cooperating agency responsibilities are at Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1501.6.

link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field (i.e., CP12–124). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at (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](http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm).

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

Dated: May 3, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012–11350 Filed 5–10–12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP12–164–000]

#### **Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Line 11–AUX–1 Abandonment Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

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 Line 11–Aux–1 Abandonment Project involving abandonment of facilities by Texas Eastern Transmission, LP (Texas Eastern) in Montgomery County, Texas. The Commission will use this EA in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

This notice announces the opening of the scoping process the Commission will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Your input will help the Commission

staff determine what issues they need to evaluate in the EA. Please note that the scoping period will close on June 4, 2012.

This notice is being sent to the Commission's current environmental mailing list for this project. State and local government representatives should notify their constituents of this proposed project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

Texas Eastern provided landowners with a fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility On My Land? What Do I Need To Know?". 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 also available for viewing on the FERC Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)).

#### **Summary of the Proposed Project**

Texas Eastern proposes to abandon in place approximately 5.7 miles of its 24-inch-diameter Line 11 pipeline currently located under Lake Conroe in Montgomery County, Texas. Texas Eastern originally constructed Line 11 in 1952 and the 5.7-mile-long segment is between Milepost 97.54 and 103.21. Texas Eastern re-designated this segment as Line 11–Aux–1 in 1971 when it installed a new parallel segment of pipeline to serve as the primary crossing of Lake Conroe. Texas Eastern has not provided service for several years on Line 11–Aux–1 and it is not necessary to meet Texas Eastern's firm service obligations. Texas Eastern would fill Line 11–Aux–1 with water and cap it below ground. Texas Eastern would also remove related ancillary pipe casing vents and piping components, and disconnect a related rectifier.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Land Requirements for Construction**

Abandonment of the proposed facilities would disturb approximately 0.5 acre of land, including 10,500 square feet at the southern end of the 5.7-mile-long segment and 11,250 square feet at the northern end. All construction areas would be within Texas Eastern's existing, maintained right-of-way. Following abandonment activities, Texas Eastern would retain rights to the

permanent easement associated with the Line 11–Aux–1 pipeline.

#### **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>2</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, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. We will consider all filed comments during the preparation of the EA.

In the EA we 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;
- 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 reasonable 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.

The EA will present our independent analysis of the issues. The EA will be available in the public record through eLibrary. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, we may also publish and distribute the EA to the public for an allotted comment period. We will consider all comments on the EA before making our recommendations to the Commission. To ensure we have the opportunity to consider and address your comments, please carefully follow the instructions in the Public Participation section beginning on page 4.

With this notice, we are asking agencies with jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise with respect to the environmental issues of this project to formally cooperate with us in the

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