

- species;
  - General.
- Cultural resources.
- Recreational resources:
  - Whitewater boating;
  - General.
- Land use:
  - Shoreline management;
  - Visual/aesthetics;
  - General.
- Geology:
  - Geomorphology;
  - Erosion;
  - General.
- Socio-economics.
- Engineering:
  - Civil engineering;
  - Hydraulic engineering;
  - Electrical engineering;
  - General.

2. Knowledge of the effects of construction and operation of hydroelectric projects.

3. Working knowledge of laws relevant to expertise, such as: the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Federal Power Act or other applicable laws.

4. Ability to promote constructive communication about a disputed study.

#### How To Submit Applications

Applicants must submit their applications along with the names and contact information of three references. Applicants will be individually notified of the Commission's decision.

**DATES:** The application period closes on May 28, 2004. Additional future application periods may be announced by the Commission.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications must be filed electronically via the Internet. See the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link. Applications should reference "DOCKET No. AD04-4-000, NOTICE REQUESTING APPLICATIONS FOR PANEL MEMBER LIST FOR HYDROPOWER LICENSING STUDY DISPUTE RESOLUTION."

**Other Information:** Requests submitted must be in Word, Times New Roman 13 pt. font, and must not be longer than 10 pages in length. Complete individual contact information must be provided, as formal interviews may be conducted either face to face or via teleconference as necessary prior to establishing the TPM List.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lon Crow, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of Energy Projects, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC

20426; (202) 502-8749;  
[lon.crow@ferc.gov](mailto:lon.crow@ferc.gov).

**Linda Mitry,**  
*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E4-620 Filed 3-17-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP04-57-000]

#### **Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Abandonment of the Carter-Waters Pipeline and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

March 12, 2004.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of a project involving the abandonment of 3.15 miles of the Carter-Waters 4-inch-diameter pipeline XS-6 and appurtenances and one domestic customer tap by Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (Southern Star) in Platte County, Missouri.<sup>1</sup> 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.

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 Southern Star 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 (<http://www.ferc.gov>).

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

Southern Star seeks authority to abandon in place and reclaim approximately 3.15 miles of the Carter-Waters 4-inch-diameter pipeline XS-6 and appurtenances and one domestic customer tap in Platte County, Missouri. About 1.53 miles would be removed and sold for scrap. The remaining 1.62 miles would be abandoned in place. The section of pipeline proposed to be abandoned lies parallel to Southern Star's existing Dearborn 6-inch pipeline XS-7 and is in Platte County, Missouri.

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

Abandonment in place is proposed for areas where Southern Star believes land restoration to original condition would be difficult, e.g., pasture, terraces, creeks, and heavily wooded areas. These sections would be cut and capped causing minimal ground disturbance and minor interruption of land use. The remaining sections of the pipeline would be reclaimed and the land would be backfilled and restored to its prior condition. To facilitate pipe removal, Southern Star would utilize the existing right-of-way, which is 66 feet wide. Approximately 12.24 acres of right-of-way would be temporarily affected.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Land Requirements for Abandonment**

To facilitate pipe removal, Southern Star plans to utilize the existing right-of-way, which is 66 feet wide. After abandonment, either in place or by removal, Southern Star would relinquish the right-of-way to the landowner. Pipeline abandoned in place would also become the property of the landowner.

Temporary access to the right-of-way would be via field roads and existing rock paved roads along the first segment of the pipeline to be removed. Two options for access are proposed. Option 1 would affect 0.67 acre and Option 2 would affect 0.79 acre. A total of approximately 12.24 acres of right-of-way would be temporarily affected by the project.

#### **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 staff requests public comments on the scope

<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 Web site 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).

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 activities associated with the removal of the pipeline under these general headings:

- Geology and soils;
- Land use;
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands;
- Cultural resources;
- Vegetation and wildlife;
- Air quality and noise.

We will also evaluate possible abandonment 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.

#### **Currently Identified Environmental Issues**

One of the issues identified that we think deserves attention based on a preliminary review of the abandonment of facilities and the environmental information provided by Southern Star is the concern expressed by a landowner about abandoning line segments in place at stream crossings. In order to avoid disturbance of stream banks and the associated riparian zone and to eliminate the need for stream bank restoration, Southern Star plans to abandon the pipeline in place where it crosses stream channels.

#### **Public Participation**

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commenter, 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, 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 2.
- Reference Docket No. CP04-57-000.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before April 12, 2004.

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.

#### **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**

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 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. 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.

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 <http://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/>

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

*EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx* along with other related information.

**Linda Mitry,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E4-612 Filed 3-17-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Intent to File Application For A New License

March 12, 2004.

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

- a. *Type of Filing:* Notice of intent to file an application for new license.
- b. *Project No.:* 120.
- c. *Date Filed:* February 27, 2004.
- d. *Submitted by:* Southern California Edison Company.
- e. *Name of Project:* Big Creek No. 3 Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* The project is located in Fresno County, California, within the Sierra National Forest. The project is situated on the San Joaquin River with the nearest towns being Big Creek, Shaver Lake, North Fork, and Auberry.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Section 15 of the Federal Power Act, 18 CFR 16.6.

h. Pursuant to section 16.19 of the Commission's regulations, the licensee is required to make available the information described in section 16.7 of the regulations. Such information is available from the Northern Hydro Regional Office, 54205 Mountain Poplar Road, Big Creek, CA 93605, (559)-893-3611.

i. *FERC Contact:* James Fargo, 202-502-6095, [james.fargo@ferc.gov](mailto:james.fargo@ferc.gov).

j. *Expiration Date of Current License:* February 28, 2009.

k. *Project Description:* The project consists of Dam 6 Forebay, a dam with a capacity of 993 acre-feet, Powerhouse No. 3 with five turbine generators with a total installed capacity of 174.45 megawatts, and the water conveyance system of unlined tunnels, steel piping, penstocks and valving.

l. The licensee states its unequivocal intent to submit an application for a new license for Project No. 120. Pursuant to 18 CFR 16.9(b)(1) each application for a new license and any competing license applications must be filed with the Commission at least 24 months prior to the expiration of the existing license. All applications for license for this project must be filed by February 28, 2007.

n. A copy of this filing 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 TTY 202-502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

o. 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 as shown in the paragraph above.

**Linda Mitry,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E4-614 Filed 3-17-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions to Intervene, and Protests

March 12, 2004.

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

- a. *Type of Application:* Preliminary permit.
- b. *Project No.:* 12487-000.
- c. *Date Filed:* January 30, 2004.
- d. *Applicant:* Greensfields Irrigation District.
- e. *Name of Project:* Gibson Dam Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* The proposed project would be located at the Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) Gibson Dam, on the Sun River in Teton and Lewis and Clark Counties, Montana.

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

h. *Applicant Contacts:* Ed Everaert, Manager, Greensfields Irrigation District, P.O. Box 157, Fairfield, MT 59436, (406) 467-2533.

i. *FERC Contact:* Mr. Robert Bell, (202) 502-6062.

j. *Deadline for Filing Motions to Intervene, Protests and Comments:* 60 days from the issuance date 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. Comments, protests, and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper; see 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. Please include the project number (P-12487-000) on any comments or motions filed.

The Commission's rules of practice and procedure require all interveners filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person in the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervener 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.

k. *Competing Application:* Project No. 12478-000; date filed: October 28, 2003; date issued: January 9, 2004; due date: March 9, 2004.

l. *Description of Project:* The proposed run-of-river project using the BOR's existing Gibson Dam would consist of: (1) a 100-foot-long, 10-foot-diameter steel penstock, (2) a powerhouse containing two 8 megawatt generating units with a total installed capacity of 16 megawatts, (3) a proposed 3-mile-long, 15 kilovolt transmission line, and (4) appurtenant facilities. The project would have an annual generation of 45 gigawatt-hours.

m. *Locations of Applications:* A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission in the Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington DC 20426, or by calling (202) 502-8371. This filing 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 the document. For assistance, call toll-free 1-866-208-3676 or e-mail [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h. above.

n. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

o. *Competing Preliminary Permit—* Anyone desiring to file a competing application for preliminary permit for a