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**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP07-44-000; CP07-45-000]

#### **Southeast Supply Header, LLC; Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Southeast Supply Header Project**

August 10, 2007.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared this Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Southeast Supply Header, LLC (SESH) under the above-referenced dockets. SESH's Southeast Supply Header Project (Project) would be located in various counties and parishes in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

The Final EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The FERC staff concludes that the proposed Project, with the appropriate mitigation measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

(EPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) are federal cooperating agencies for the development of this EIS. A federal cooperating agency has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved with the proposal and is involved in the NEPA analysis.

The purpose of the Project is to provide new transportation capacity that significantly enhances access to reliable, onshore gas supplies to serve growing demand in the Southeast. To provide this service, SESH proposes to construct and operate approximately 270 miles of natural gas pipeline and associated ancillary facilities capable of transporting up to approximately 1.14 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas.

The Final EIS addresses the potential environmental impacts resulting from the construction and operation of the following facilities:

- Approximately 104 miles of 42-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline extending southeasterly from Richland Parish, Louisiana to Lawrence County, Mississippi;
- Approximately 165 miles of 36-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline extending southeasterly from Lawrence County, Mississippi to Mobile County, Alabama;
- Approximately 1.7 miles of 6-, 16-, 20-, 24- and 42-inch-diameter laterals in Jefferson Davis, Covington, and Forrest counties, Mississippi and Mobile County, Alabama;
- Three new compressor stations, the Delhi, Gwinville, and the Lucedale Compressor Stations, located in Richland Parish, Louisiana, and Jefferson Davis and George counties, Mississippi, respectively;
- Two natural gas booster stations, the Collins Booster Station and Petal Booster Station in Covington and Forrest counties, Mississippi, respectively; and
- Other ancillary facilities including 13 meter and regulator facilities, 18 mainline valves, 2 tap valves, and 3 pig launcher and/or receiver facilities.

Dependent upon Commission approval, SESH proposes to commence construction of the proposed Project in November 2007.

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

A limited number of copies of the Final EIS are available from the Public Reference Room identified above. In

addition, CD copies of the Final EIS have been mailed to affected landowners; various federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; local libraries and newspapers; intervenors; and other individuals that expressed an interest in the proposed Project. Hard copies of the Final EIS have been mailed to those who requested that format during the scoping and comment periods for the proposed Project.

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA, no agency decision on a proposed action may be made until 30 days after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes a notice of availability of a Final EIS. However, the CEQ regulations provide an exception to this rule when an agency decision is subject to a formal internal process that allows other agencies or the public to make their views known. In such cases, the agency decision may be made at the same time the notice of the Final EIS is published, allowing both periods to run concurrently. Should the FERC issue SESH authorizations for the proposed Project, it would be subject to a 30-day rehearing period. Therefore, the Commission could issue its decision concurrently with the EPA's notice of availability.

Additional information about the proposed 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>). To access information via the FERC Web site click on the "eLibrary" link then click on "General Search" and enter the docket number (i.e., CP07-44) excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. The "eLibrary" link provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. For assistance with "eLibrary," please contact FERC Online Support at [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

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service, please go to <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP07-411-000]

#### **Texas Eastern Transmission, LP; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Cedar Bayou Lateral Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

August 13, 2007.

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 Cedar Bayou Lateral Project involving construction and operation of natural gas pipeline facilities by Texas Eastern Transmission, LP (Texas Eastern) in Chambers County, Texas. The EA will be used by the Commission 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 determine which issues need to be evaluated in the EA. Please note that the scoping period will close on September 14, 2007. Details on how to submit comments are provided in the Public Participation section of this notice.

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. Texas Eastern 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, Texas Eastern could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with Texas state law.

This notice is being sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. State and local government

representatives are asked to notify their constituents of this proposed project and to 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?" 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**

Texas Eastern proposes to construct about 3.79 miles of 20-inch-diameter pipeline in Chambers County to provide up to 360,000 dekatherms per day of firm lateral line service to the existing Cedar Bayou Power Plant. Texas Eastern would also construct a metering and regulating station and other ancillary facilities (i.e., a pig launcher, pig receiver, and several valves) as a part of its Cedar Bayou Lateral Project.

The general location of the proposed facilities is shown in Appendix 1.<sup>1</sup>

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

The proposed pipeline would be located almost entirely within an existing utility corridor. Construction of the project, including the aboveground facilities, would affect about 29.4 acres of land. About 28 acres of this would be temporary disturbance, as the land would be allowed to revert to existing condition after construction.

#### **The EA Process**

We<sup>2</sup> are preparing this EA to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) which requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impact that could result if it authorizes Texas Eastern's proposal. By this notice, we are also asking federal, state, and local agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues to formally cooperate with us in the preparation of the EA. Agencies that would like to request cooperating status

should follow the instructions for filing comments provided below.

NEPA also requires the FERC 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, we are requesting public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA.

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 and soils
- water resources
- wetlands
- land use and visual quality
- cultural resources
- vegetation, fisheries, and wildlife (including threatened and endangered species)
- air quality and noise
- reliability and 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 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.

#### **Public Participation**

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentator, 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 berthing alignments, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful

<sup>1</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) at the "eLibrary" link or from the Commission's Public Reference Room at (202) 502-8371. For instructions on connecting to eLibrary, refer to the "Additional Information" section at the end of this notice. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail. Requests for detailed maps of the proposed facilities should be made directly to Texas Eastern.

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