

the application. 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, 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 Apex Expansion proposed facilities include: (1) Approximately 28 miles of 36-inch-diameter pipeline to be constructed in an unlooped portion of Kern River's existing mainline system across the Wasatch Mountains in northern Utah, in Morgan, Davis and Salt Lake counties; (2) three additional 16,000 ISO-rated horsepower (hp) compressor units to be installed at existing compressor stations: Coyote Creek in Uinta County, Wyoming; Elberta in Utah County, Utah; and Dry Lake in Clark County, Nevada; (3) restaging of three existing boost compressors, one at each of three existing compressor stations: Coyote Creek, Elberta and Dry Lake; (4) replacement of a boost compressor at Kern River's existing Fillmore compressor station in Millard County, Utah; and (5) the new Milford Compressor Station with a single unit 30,000 ISO-rated hp compressor to be constructed in Beaver County, Utah. The proposed facilities will add a net 78,000 ISO-rated hp to the Kern River system.

The estimated total cost of the proposed 2010 Expansion is \$373 million, which will be financed with a combination of internally generated funds and new debt. Kern River proposes to charge incremental transportation rates and fuel reimbursement charges to Apex Expansion shippers.

Any questions regarding this application should be directed to Michael Loeffler, Senior Director, Certificates and External Affairs, Apex Expansion Project, Kern River Gas Transmission Company, MidAmerican Energy Pipeline Group, 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124, or (402) 398-7103.

On March 13, 2009, the Commission staff granted Kern River's request to utilize the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Pre-Filing Process and assigned Docket Number PF09-7-000 to staff activities involving the Apex Expansion. Now, as of the filing Kern River's application on November 2, 2009, the NEPA Pre-Filing Process for this project has ended. From this time

forward, Kern River's proceeding will be conducted in Docket No. CP10-14-000, as noted in the caption of this Notice.

Pursuant to section 157.9 of the Commission's rules, 18 CFR 157.9, within 90 days of this Notice the Commission staff will either: complete its environmental assessment (EA) and place it into the Commission's public record (eLibrary) for this proceeding; or issue a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review. If a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review is issued, it will indicate, among other milestones, the anticipated date for the Commission staff's issuance of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) or EA for this proposal. The filing of the EA in the Commission's public record for this proceeding or the issuance of a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review will serve to notify Federal and state agencies of the timing for the completion of all necessary reviews, and the subsequent need to complete all Federal authorizations within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's FEIS or EA.

There are two ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project. First, any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this project should, on or before the comment date stated below, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.10). A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties. A party must submit 14 copies of filings made with the Commission and must mail a copy to the applicant and to every other party in the proceeding. Only parties to the proceeding can ask for court review of Commission orders in the proceeding.

However, a person does not have to intervene in order to have comments considered. The second way to participate is by filing with the Secretary of the Commission, as soon as possible, an original and two copies of comments in support of or in opposition to this project. The Commission will consider these comments in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but the filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project

provide copies of their protests only to the party or parties directly involved in the protest.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commentors will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of the environmental documents, and will be notified of meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commentors will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, the non-party commentors will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission (except for the mailing of environmental documents issued by the Commission) and will not have the right to seek court review of the Commission's final order.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

*Comment Date:* December 7, 2009.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[EG09-76-000; EG09-80-000; EG09-81-000; EG09-82-000; EG09-83-000; EG09-84-000; EG09-85-000; EG09-86-000; EG09-87-000; EG09-88-000; EG09-89-000]

**Sollunar Energy, Inc.; Fowler Ridge II Wind Farm LLC; St. Clair Power, L.P.; North Hurlburt Wind, LLC; South Hurlburt Wind, LLC; Horseshoe Bend Wind, LLC; Ashtabula Wind II, LLC; Elk City Wind, LLC; FPL Energy Stateline II, Inc.; FPL Energy Illinois Wind, LLC; Silver Sage Windpower, LLC; Notice of Effectiveness of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status**

November 16, 2009.

Take notice that during the month of October 2009, the status of the above-captioned entities as Exempt Wholesale Generators became effective by

operation of the Commission's regulations at 18 CFR 366.7(a).

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-28013 Filed 11-20-09; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP10-2-000]

#### **Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Elk City Storage Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

November 16, 2009.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment (EA) on the environmental impacts of the Elk City Storage Expansion Project (Project) proposed by Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (Southern Star). Southern Star has proposed to construct and operate a new natural gas compressor station in Montgomery County, Kansas, and amend the current operational plan for the existing natural gas storage field.

The Notice of Intent (NOI) explains the scoping process that will be used to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the Project. Your input will help determine which issues will be evaluated in the EA. Please note that the scoping period for this Project will close on December 14, 2009.

Comments on the Project may be submitted in written form or electronically, as described below. This NOI is being sent to Federal, State, and local government agencies; elected officials; affected landowners; environmental and public interest groups; Indian tribes and regional Native American organizations; commentators and other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. We<sup>1</sup> encourage government representatives to notify their constituents of this proposed Project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

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

Southern Star proposes to construct a compressor station adjacent to an existing Southern Star dehydration plant and install two 450-foot, 30-inch

diameter pipelines connecting the proposed compressor station with the existing dehydration plant. The compressor station will be approximately 5.5 acres and the pipeline construction corridor will be 100-foot-wide. A new pond will be constructed south of the compressor station to replace the existing pond that will be filled during construction of the compressor station.

A location map depicting the proposed facilities is attached to this NOI as Appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### **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 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 of the issues to 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.

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

- Geology and soils.
- Water resources.
- Aquatic resources Vegetation and wildlife.
- Threatened and endangered species.
- Land use, recreation, and visual resources.
- Cultural resources.
- Socioeconomics.
- Air quality and noise.
- Reliability and safety.
- Cumulative impacts.

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.

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**

We have already identified issues that we think deserve attention based on our previous experience with similar projects in the region. This preliminary list of issues, which is presented below, may be revised based on your comments and our continuing analyses specific to the Project.

- Potential noise and vibration impacts from compressor station.
- Air quality impacts from the compressor station.
- Wetland and waterbody impacts.

#### **Public Participation**

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the 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 written comments are timely and properly recorded, please send in your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before December 14, 2009.

Comments on the proposed Project can be submitted to the FERC in written form. For your convenience, there are three methods which you can use to submit your written comments to the Commission. In all instances please reference the Project docket number (CP10-2-000) with your submission. The three methods are:

(1) You may file your comments electronically by using the Quick Comment feature, which is located at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the link called "Documents and Filings". A Quick Comment is an easy method for

<sup>1</sup> "We", "us", and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not printed in the **Federal Register**, but they are being provided to all those who receive this notice in the mail. Copies of the NOI can be obtained from the Commission's Web site at the "eLibrary" link, Commission's Public Reference Room, or by calling (202) 502-8371. For instructions on connecting to eLibrary, refer to the end of this notice.