

Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

Public meetings to receive comments on the Supplement will be held in early March of 1997. We will provide the locations and times for these meetings in a future notice.

After these comments are reviewed, any significant issues are investigated, and modifications are made to the DEIS, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will be published and distributed. The FEIS will contain the staff's responses to timely comments received on the DEIS and the Supplement.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commentor a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214).

The date for filing timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention. You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

The Supplement has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at:

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,
Public Reference and Files
Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street,
NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202)
208-1371.

and

Town Manager's Office, Town Hall,
Wells, ME 04090, (207) 646.5113.

Copies of the Supplement have been mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies; public interest groups; public libraries; newspapers; interested individuals; and parties to this proceeding. For a limited number of copies of the Supplement, contact the Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch identified above.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-3034 Filed 2-6-97; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. CP97-176-000]

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Terra Alta Storage Field Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

February 3, 1997.

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 construction and operation of about 2.6 miles of various diameter pipeline to replace about 2.9 miles of pipeline which would be abandoned as proposed in the Terra Alta Storage Field Project.¹ 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.

Summary of the Proposed Project

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia) wants to upgrade and modernize facilities at its Terra Alta Storage Field in Preston County, West Virginia. Columbia seeks authority to construct and operate approximately:

(1) 1.4 miles of 8-inch-diameter storage pipeline and appurtenances (replacing and abandoning about 1.4 miles of 8-, 10-, 12-, 16-, and 20-inch-diameter pipeline and appurtenances on Line X-76-F-1);

(2) 105 feet of 4-inch-diameter storage pipeline and appurtenances (replacing and abandoning about 1,143 feet of 4-inch-diameter pipeline on Storage Well Line X-76-W-7375);

(3) 0.4 mile of 16-inch-diameter storage pipeline and appurtenances (replacing and abandoning about 0.4 mile of 8-, 10-, and 12-inch-diameter storage pipeline on Line X-76-F-2);

(4) 0.4 mile of 8-inch-diameter storage pipeline and appurtenances (replacing by abandonment about 0.4 mile of 6-, and 12-inch-diameter storage pipeline on Line X-76-F-4);

(5) 0.2 mile of 10-inch-diameter storage pipeline and appurtenances (replacing by abandonment about 0.2 mile of 8-, 10- and 12-inch-diameter storage pipeline on Line X-76-F-6);

(6) 26 feet of 10-inch-diameter storage pipeline and appurtenances (replacing by abandonment about 26 feet of 8-inch-diameter storage pipeline on Storage Well Line X-76-W-7394); and

(7) 0.1 mile of 6-inch-diameter storage pipeline and appurtenances (replacing by abandonment about 0.1 mile of 4-inch-diameter storage pipeline on Line X-76-W-7380).

Columbia would also abandon about 0.2 mile of 6-inch-diameter pipeline referred to as Storage Well Line X-76-W-7379.

In addition, under Section 2.55 of the Commission's regulations, Columbia plans to remove drips; replace mainline tees and methanol lines; and install launching and receiving valves. These actions would provide more efficient operation and maintenance of the storage field as well as restore deteriorated facilities and will also be examined in the EA.

The location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.² If you are interested in obtaining procedural information please write to the Secretary of the Commission.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 40.5 acres of land. No new right-of-way would be required. Temporary work areas and abandoned right-of-way would be restored and allowed to revert to their 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 to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "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 requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in 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 and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- geology and soils

¹ Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

² The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the Federal Register. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

- water resources, fisheries, and wetlands
- vegetation and wildlife
- endangered and threatened species
- public safety
- land use
- cultural resources
- air quality and noise
- hazardous waste

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, 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.

Currently Identified Environmental Issues

We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Columbia. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- The project follows the course of Saltlick Creek, a high quality warmwater fishery, and crosses it numerous times.
- A total of 13 wetlands (.92 acre) would be affected by the project.
- A number of residences are in the vicinity and two residences are within 50 feet of the proposed construction area.
- Construction of related pig launching and receiving facilities may have visual impacts.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by sending a letter addressing your specific comments or concerns about the project. 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 follow the instructions below to ensure that your comments are received and properly recorded:

- Address your letter to: Lois Cashell, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory

Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Washington, DC 204265:

- Reference Docket No. CP97-176-000;
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before March 6, 1997.

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding or become an "intervenor". 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 copies of its filings to all other parties. 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).

You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-3036 Filed 2-6-97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-5477-2]

Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

Responsible Agency: Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7167 OR (202) 564-7153.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements Filed January 27, 1997 Through January 31, 1997 Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

EIS No. 970035, Draft EIS, USN, GU, AK, AS, HI, Marianas Islands Military Training, Implementation, Marianas Training Plan, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Asia, Hawaii and Alaska, *Due:* March 24, 1997, *Contact:* Fred Minato (808) 471-9338.

EIS No. 970036, Draft EIS, FHW, CA, Carquinez Bridge Project, Replace/Retrofit the westbound I-80 between Cummings Skyway and CA-29, US Coast Guard and COE Section 10 and 404 Permits, Contra Costa and Solano Counties, CA, *Due:* March 28, 1997, *Contact:* John R. Schultz (916) 498-5041.

EIS No. 970037, Final EIS, USN, CA, Las Pulgas and San Mateo Basin, Cease and Desist Order, Sewage Effluent Compliance Project, NPDES Permit, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton,

San Diego County, CA, *Due:* March 10, 1997, *Contact:* David Walls (703) 696-2138.

EIS No. 970038, Final EIS, AFS, WA, Crown Jewel Mine and Mill Project, Construction and Operation, Gold and Silver Mining and Milling Project, Plan of Operations Approval, Special-Use-Permits and COE Section 404 Permit, Chesaw, Okanogan County, WA, *Due:* March 10, 1997, *Contact:* Phil Christy (509) 486-5137.

EIS No. 970039, Final EIS, FHW, PA, US 222 Relocation/Reconstruction Project, Construction of the Warren Street Extension, Funding, Berks County, PA, *Due:* March 10, 1997, *Contact:* Manuel A. Marks (717) 782-3461.

EIS No. 970040, Draft EIS, FHW, PA, Tunkhannock Transportation Improvement Project, Improvement along US-6 (S.R.0006 Section E12) through the Borough of Tunkhannock and Tunkhannock Township, Possible COE Section 404 Permit, Wyoming County, PA, *Due:* March 24, 1997, *Contact:* Manuel Marks (717) 782-3461.

EIS No. 970041, Draft EIS, AFS, FL, Florida National Forests, Revised Land and Resource Management Plan, Implementation, Apalachicola, Choctowhatchee, Ocala and Osceola National Forests, Several Counties, FL, *Due:* May 10, 1997, *Contact:* Karl P. Siderits (904) 942-9300.

EIS No. 970042, Draft EIS, UAF, TX, Programmatic EIS—Kelly Air Force Base (AFB), Disposal and Reuse, Implementation, San Antonio County, TX, *Due:* March 26, 1997, *Contact:* Ted Shieck (210) 536-3807.

EIS No. 970043, Draft EIS, COE, IL, Savanna Army Depot Activity (SVADA), Disposal and Reuse for BRAC-95, Implementation, Jo Daviess and Carroll County, IL, *Due:* March 24, 1997, *Contact:* Rob Dow (703) 693-9217.

EIS No. 970044, Final EIS, AFS, CA, Dinkey Allotment Livestock Grazing Strategies, Implementation, Sierra National Forest, Fresno County, CA, *Due:* March 10, 1997, *Contact:* Terry Elliott (202) 297-0706.

Amended Notices

EIS No. 960576, Final EIS, AFS, WA, Huckleberry Land Exchange Consolidate Ownership and Enhance Future Conservation and Management, Federal Land and Non Federal Land, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce, Kittitas and Lewis Counties, WA, *Due:* March 21, 1997, *Contact:* Doug Schrenk (206) 888-