

Following the assignment, Avista Corp., will sell capacity and energy under the service agreement to Montana Power Company pursuant to Avista Corp.'s FERC Electric Tariff Volume No. 9.

*Comment date:* October 6, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**18. El Paso Electric Company, El Paso Electric Generating Company, El Paso Transmission and Distribution Company,**

[Docket No. ES00-46-001]

Take notice that on September 15, 2000, El Paso Electric Company, El Paso Electric Generating Company, and El Paso Transmission and Distribution Company submitted an amendment to their application. Attached as Exhibit E to the application was an Intercompany Agreement, which allocated responsibility for the repayment of First Mortgage Bonds. The Applicants amend their filing to substitute a revised copy of the Intercompany Agreement.

*Comment date:* October 4, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**19. American Electric Power Service Corporation on behalf of: Appalachian Power Company, et al., FirstEnergy Corp. on behalf of: The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison Company, et al., Pennsylvania Power Company, The Toledo Edison Company, Virginia Electric and Power Company**

[Docket Nos. ER99-3144-004 and EC99-80-004 (not consolidated)]

Take notice that on September 15, 2000, the Alliance Companies American Electric Power Service Corporation (on behalf of Appalachian Power Company, Indiana Michigan Power Company, Kentucky Power Company, Kingsport Power Company, Ohio Power Company and Wheeling Power Company), Consumers Energy Company, The Detroit Edison Company, FirstEnergy Corp. (on behalf of The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison Company, Pennsylvania Power Company and The Toledo Edison Company) and Virginia Electric and Power Company submitted a transmittal letter and three volume set of documents in compliance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) December 20, 1999 Order on Proposed Disposition and Related Rate Filings (December 20, 1999 Order) and the Commission's May 18, 2000 Order on Compliance Filing and Requests for Rehearing and Clarification (May 18, 2000 Order) in the above-referenced proceedings.

The filing includes revisions to the Applicants' proposal to create the Alliance RTO in the form of Alliance Transco. Alliance Transco will be formed as a limited liability company (LLC) that will be controlled and managed by its managing member, an independent entity with no affiliation with a market participant. The filing also includes a proposed rate design methodology that eliminates multiple transmission access charges, as directed by the Commission, and a proposed Alliance RTO Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) reflecting terms and conditions in compliance with the December 20, 1999 Order and the May 18, 2000 Order.

*Comment date:* October 6, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**20. Sithe Edgar LLC et al.**

[Docket No. ER00-3691-000]

Take notice that on September 14, 2000, Sithe Edgar LLC, Sithe New Boston LLC, Sithe Framingham LLC, Sithe West Medway LLC, Sithe Wyman LLC, Sithe Mystic LLC, AG-Energy, L.P., Power City Partners, L.P., Seneca Power Partners, L.P., Sterling Power Partners, L.P., Sithe Power Marketing, L.P. and Sithe Power Marketing, Inc. (together, the Sithe Jurisdictional Affiliates), tendered for filing a Notification of Change in Status and Petition for Acceptance of Pro Forma Revised Rate Schedules and Supplements, by which the Sithe Jurisdictional Affiliates provide notice that upon the closing of the sale of 49.9 percent of the outstanding stock of Sithe Energies, Inc. to Exelon (Fossil) Holdings, L.L.C. the Sithe Jurisdictional Affiliates will be affiliated with an electric utility with a franchised service territory. Due to the affiliation post-transaction with a traditional electric utility, the Sithe Jurisdictional Affiliates are submitting for filing pro forma revised FERC Electric Rate Schedules Nos. 1 and 2 and Codes of Conduct.

*Comment date:* October 5, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**Standard Paragraphs**

E. Any person desiring to be heard or to protest such filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission in

determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection. This filing may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. CP00-141-000]

**Northwest Pipeline Corporation; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed White River Replacement Project**

September 21, 2000.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Northwest Pipeline Corporation (Northwest) in the above-referenced docket.

The EA was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The purpose of the proposed project is to ensure the long-term safety and integrity of its dual pipelines where they cross the meandering White River in King County, Washington, by replacing certain sections at a deeper depth and building a permanent north bank stabilization structure.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction, operation, and abandonment of two parallel gas pipelines including:

- Construct and operate 1,800 feet each of 26-inch-diameter and 30-inch-diameter pipelines;
- Remove 1,700 feet each of the existing 26-inch-diameter and 30-inch-diameter pipelines;
- Remove from the White River channel a 665-foot length of 26-inch-diameter pipeline which was previously abandoned in-place;

- Construct a bioengineered permanent stabilization structure on the north bank;

- Construct permanent habitat enhancement structures near the south bank.

The EA has been placed in the public files of the FERC. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch 888 First Street, N.E., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-1371.

Copies of the EA have been mailed to Federal, state and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding.

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. To ensure consideration prior to a Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that we receive your comments before the date specified below. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your comments to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Gas Group 2, PJ11.2;
- Reference Docket No. CP00-141-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before October 23, 2000.

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 Procedures (18 CFR 385.214). 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 comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (202) 208-0004 or on the FERC Internet website ([www.ferc.fed.us](http://www.ferc.fed.us)) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the

RIMS help line can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" links on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS help line can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-580-002]

#### **Southern LNG Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Sendout Modification Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

September 21, 2000.

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 Sendout Modification Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Southern LNG Inc. (Southern LNG) on Elba Island in Chatham County, Georgia.<sup>1</sup> The project involves limited modifications to the sendout system at Southern LNG's existing, certificated liquefied natural gas (LNG) marine import terminal (Elba Island Terminal). 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.

#### **Background**

In 1972, in Docket No. CP71-264, the Federal Power Commission (FERC's predecessor) authorized Southern Energy Company (Southern LNG's predecessor), to construct and operate the Elba Island Terminal. Southern LNG initiated construction in 1973. The terminal encompasses about 140 acres on the 840-acre Elba Island in an estuary of the Savannah River. Elba Island lies approximately 8 miles upstream of the river's discharge into the Atlantic Ocean

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

and approximately 5 miles downstream from Savannah, Georgia. The existing authorized facilities at the Elba Island Terminal include the following:

- LNG unloading facilities, including marine berth, pier, and arms for unloading LNG from vessels;
- LNG storage facilities, including three double-wall storage tanks, each with the capacity of 400,000 barrels (four billion cubic feet vaporized equivalent);
- LNG sendout facilities, including pumps and vaporizers with a maximum capacity of 540 million cubic feet per day (MMcfd);
- Boil-off compressors;
- Pressure relief, vent, and disposal systems;
- Spill containment facilities, including a 400,000-barrel capacity main spill containment for each LNG storage tank; and
- Fire water system sourced from a fresh-water pond and river water.

Southern LNG commenced operation in July, 1978. Between 1978 to 1980, the Elba Island Terminal was used to import LNG purchased from El Paso Algeria Corporation and delivered by cryogenic tankers. In April, 1980, Southern LNG was unable to continue importation of LNG due to economic considerations. After LNG shipments were discontinued, Southern LNG retained an inventory of LNG through April, 1982.

Since 1982, the Elba Island Terminal has been maintained in a limited state of readiness to ensure that the plant could be safely and reliably reactivated. An ongoing preventative maintenance program has been in place since that time and needed repairs, replacements, enhancements and additions have been identified for implementing during the recommissioning process.

On July 13, 1999, Southern LNG filed an application with the Commission in Docket No. CP99-580-000, to recommission the Elba Island Terminal for the purpose of providing open-access service to shippers desiring to contract for receipt, storage, and vaporization of LNG and delivery of vaporized LNG at the existing point of interconnect with the interstate pipeline of Southern Natural. The project involved returning Southern LNG's existing, certificated Elba Island Terminal to active service. Southern LNG stated that the storage and vaporization facilities would not be significantly altered, replaced or relocated, and that the storage and throughput capacity of the facilities would remain the same as originally placed in service in 1978.

In addition, in Docket No. CP99-579-000, Southern LNG requested Section 3