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This filing is accessible on-line at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link and is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an "eSubscription" link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive e-mail notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please e-mail [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on July 1, 2008.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-14448 Filed 6-25-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP08-428-000]

#### Venice Gathering System, LLC; Notice of Filing

June 19, 2008.

Take notice that on June 18, 2008, Venice Gathering System, LLC (VGS), 1000 Louisiana, Suite 4300, Houston, Texas 77002, filed an application, pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and Part 157 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, requesting approval of the abandonment in-place of certain pipeline facilities currently operating as part of its offshore pipeline system, in Venice, Louisiana (VGS Lateral). The application is on file with the Commission and open for public inspection. 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 VGS Lateral is a 20-inch pipeline, 26.2 miles in length, from the South Timbalier 35-D Platform to a subsurface tie-in at the 26-inch pipeline in Grand Isle 71. The abandonment of the VGS Lateral also includes smaller laterals attached to the VGS Laterals. The VGS Lateral has deteriorated significantly, and was significantly damaged by Hurricane Rita in 2005. The facilities are no longer required by VGS to meet its service obligations, and all shippers who received service on the facilities during the last 18 months have consented to the proposed abandonment. The VGS Lateral will be flushed to remove all hydrocarbons and will be filled with inhibited seawater prior to final abandonment in-place.

Any questions regarding the application are to be directed to Cary F. Loughman, Venice Gathering System, LLC, 1000 Louisiana, Suite 4300, Houston, TX 77002; phone number (783) 584-1523 or by e-mail at [cloughman@targaresources.com](mailto:cloughman@targaresources.com).

Any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this project should, on or before the below listed comment date, 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.

Motions to intervene, protests and comments 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.

*Comment Date:* July 3, 2008.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-14447 Filed 6-25-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EL08-68-000]

#### WestConnect; Notice of Filing

June 19, 2008.

Take notice that on June 10, 2008, pursuant to Rule 207 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Commission, 18 CFR 385.207, WestConnect filed a "Petition for Declaratory Order Relating To Its Proposed Two-Year Experimental Regional Transmission Pricing Initiative," requesting that the Commission provide guidance with respect to the structure and implementation of WestConnect's proposed two-year experimental regional transmission pricing initiative.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). 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 notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. On or before the comment date, it is not necessary to serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

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*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on July 10, 2008.

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PF08-17-000]

#### Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline L.L.C.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Maritimes Phase V Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

June 19, 2008.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will address the environmental impacts of the Maritimes Phase V Project proposed by Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, L.L.C. (Maritimes). The Commission will use the EA in its decision-making process to determine whether or not to authorize the project. This notice explains the scoping process we<sup>1</sup> will use to gather environmental input from the public and interested agencies on the projects. Your input will help the Commission determine the issues that need to be evaluated in the EA. Please note that the scoping period will close on July 21, 2008.

Details on how to submit written comments are provided in the Public Participation section of this notice.

This Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Maritimes Phase V Project (NOI) is being sent to federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; affected landowners; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; and other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. We encourage government representatives to notify their constituents of this planned project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

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 project facilities. Each pipeline company would seek to

negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement for its project. However, if the projects are approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law.

A fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility on My Land? What Do I Need To Know?" is available for viewing on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>). This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain and how to participate in the FERC's proceedings.

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

Maritimes proposes to construct, own, operate, and maintain certain natural gas transportation facilities within the states of Maine and Massachusetts. The general locations of the proposed pipeline and compression facilities are shown in the figures included as Appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

The purpose of the project is to provide transportation service for gas from a new gas field ("Deep Panuke") located offshore of Nova Scotia to the New England market area. The Maritimes Phase V Project would increase the capacity of Maritimes existing system by about 250,000 dekatherms per day.

Maritimes proposes to construct:

- About four miles of 36-inch-diameter pipeline loop (Richmond Loop) extending south from the existing Richmond Compressor Station in Sagadahoc County, Maine; and
- A fenced loop terminus site at the southern end of the Richmond Loop which would include a pig receiver and valves.

Maritimes would add compression and modify the following compressor stations in Maine:

- Baileyville Compressor Station (existing)—additional 8,960 horsepower (HP) of compression, additional cooling, and restaging of existing compressor units (Washington County);

<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 Room, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 502-8371. For instructions on connecting to eLibrary refer to the Public Participation section 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 Maritimes.

- Woodchopping Ridge Compressor Station (under construction)—additional 8,960 HP of compression, additional cooling, and restaging of existing compressor unit (Hancock County);

- Brewer Compressor Station (under construction)—additional 8,960 HP of compression, additional cooling, and restaging of existing compressor unit (Penobscot County);

- Searsmont Compressor Station (under construction)—additional 8,960 HP of compression, additional cooling, and restaging of existing compressor unit (Waldo County);

- Richmond Compressor Station (existing)—additional 8,960 HP of compression, additional cooling, and restaging of existing compressor units (Sagadahoc County); and

- Eliot Compressor Station (under construction)—additional 18,085 HP of compression, additional cooling, and restaging of existing compressor unit (York County).

In addition, Maritimes would:

- Install additional meter and regulator runs and replace equipment at the existing Dracut Meter Station (Middlesex County, Massachusetts); and
- Uprate the Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure on the existing 24-inch-diameter pipeline from 1,440 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) to 1,600 psig between the Baileyville Compressor Station and the Westbrook Compressor Station. This uprate would require the modification of the existing valves and meter stations at 23 locations along the existing pipeline. No ground disturbance would be required at 18 of the locations.<sup>3</sup>

Work at the compressor stations is proposed to begin in July 2009. Construction of the Richmond Loop and the other modifications are proposed to begin in 2010. The proposed in-service date for the Phase V facilities is November 1, 2010.

#### Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the Richmond Loop would disturb about 50 acres of land. After construction Maritimes would retain 11.9 acres as new permanent right-of-way.

Generally, the width of the proposed construction right-of-way for the

<sup>3</sup> Maritimes does not expect excavation to be necessary at most of the uprate facilities. Maritimes has identified five locations that would require excavation: The Veazie Tap Valve (Penobscot County, Maine); the Orrington Meter Station and associated valve (Penobscot County, Maine); the Bowdoin Meter Station and associated valve (Sagadahoc County, Maine); the Lewiston Meter Station and associated valve (Cumberland County, Maine); and the Westbrook PNGTS Inlet Meter Station (Cumberland County, Maine).

<sup>1</sup> "We," "us," and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the FERC's Office of Energy Projects.