DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP15–504–000] Dominion South Carolina Gas, Inc; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Columbia to Eastover Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will consider the environmental impacts of the Columbia to Eastover Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Dominion South Carolina Gas, Inc (DCG) in Calhoun, Richland, and Lexington Counties, South Carolina. The Commission will use this EA 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. You can make a difference by providing 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. Your input will help the Commission staff determine what issues they need to evaluate in the EA. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please send your comments so that the Commission receives them in Washington, DC on or before August 17, 2015. If you sent comments on this project to the Commission before the opening of this docket on May 29, 2015, you will need to file those comments in Docket No. CP15–504–000 to ensure they are considered as part of this proceeding. Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded.

Public Participation
For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert staff available to assist you at (202) 502–8258 or efiling@ferc.gov. Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded.

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature on the Commission’s Web site (www.ferc.gov) under the link to Documents and Filings. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file or by text-only comments on a project;

(2) You can file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature on the Commission’s Web site (www.ferc.gov) under the link to Documents and Filings. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file or by text-only comments on a project;

(3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the following address. Be sure to reference the project docket number (CP15–504–000) with your submission: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

Summary of the Proposed Project
DCG proposes the Columbia to Eastover Project to construct and operate 28 miles of new 8-inch-diameter...
pipeline in Calhoun and Richland Counties, South Carolina, with sections of access roads in Lexington County, South Carolina. The Project would deliver 18,000 dekatherms per day of firm transmission natural gas service to International Paper Company to replace the current use of coal and fuel oil, as well as trucked-delivered natural gas, as a means of complying with maximum achievable control technology environmental air quality standards mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The pipeline would originate from DCG’s existing 20-inch-diameter Salley to Eastman pipeline at the DAK Americas industrial facility. In addition to the pipeline, DCG proposes to install the following ancillary facilities:
- a tap and pig launcher;
- a metering and regulation station and pig receiver; and
- eight mainline valves.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would disturb about 423 acres of land for the aboveground facilities and the pipeline. Following construction, DCG would maintain about 121 acres for permanent operation of the project’s facilities; the remaining acreage would be restored and revert to former uses. About 75 percent of the proposed pipeline route parallels existing pipeline or utility rights-of-way.

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, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. We will consider all filed comments during the preparation of the EA.

In the EA we 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;
- land use;
- water resources, fisheries, and wetlands;
- vegetation and wildlife;
- endangered and threatened species;
- cultural resources;
- air quality and noise;
- public safety; and
- 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.

The EA will present our independent analysis of the issues. The EA will be available in the public record through eLibrary. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, we may also publish and distribute the EA to the public for an allotted comment period. We will consider all comments on the EA before making our recommendations to the Commission. To ensure we have the opportunity to consider and address your comments, please carefully follow the instructions in the Public Participation section, beginning on page 2.

With this notice, we are asking agencies with jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise with respect to the environmental issues of this project to formally cooperate with us in the preparation of the EA. Agencies that would like to request cooperating agency status should follow the instructions for filing comments provided under the Public Participation section of this notice.

Consultations Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

In accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s implementing regulations for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are using this notice to initiate consultation with the applicable State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and to solicit their views and those of other government agencies, interested Indian tribes, and the public on the project’s potential effects on historic properties. We will define the project-specific Area of Potential Effects (APE) in consultation with the SHPO as the project develops. On natural gas facility projects, the APE at a minimum encompasses all areas subject to ground disturbance (examples include construction right-of-way, contractor/pipe storage yards, aboveground facilities, and access roads). Our EA for this project will document our findings on the impacts on historic properties and summarize the status of consultations under Section 106.

Environmental Mailing List

The environmental mailing list includes federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental interest groups; Native American Tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. This list also includes all affected landowners (as defined in the Commission’s regulations) who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within certain distances of aboveground facilities, and anyone who submits comments on the project. We will update the environmental mailing list as the analysis proceeds to ensure that we send the information related to this environmental review to all individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed project.

If we publish and distribute the EA, copies will be sent to the environmental mailing list for public review and comment. If you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the document instead of the CD version or would like to remove your name from the mailing list, please return the attached Information Request (appendix 2).

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an “intervenor” which is an official party to the Commission’s proceeding. Intervenors play a more formal role in the process and are able to file briefs, appear at hearings, and be heard by the courts if they choose to appeal the Commission’s final ruling. An intervenor formally participates in the proceeding by filing a request to

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1 A “pig” is a tool that the pipeline company inserts into and pushes through the pipeline for cleaning the pipeline, conducting internal inspections, or other purposes.

2 The appendices referenced in this notice will not appear in the Federal Register. Copies of appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail and are available at www.ferc.gov using the link called “eLibrary” 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 last page of this notice.

3 “We,” “us,” and “our” refer to the environmental staff of the Commission’s Office of Energy Projects.

4 The Council on Environmental Quality regulations addressing cooperating agency responsibilities are at Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1501.6.

5 The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s regulations are at Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 800. Those regulations define historic properties as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.
intervene. Instructions for becoming an intervenor are in the User’s Guide under the “e-filing” link on the Commission’s Web site.

Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission’s Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208–FERC, or on the FERC Web site at www.ferc.gov using the “eLibrary” link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on “General Search” and enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field (i.e., CP15–504). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208–3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502–8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal documents. Go to www.ferc.gov/docs-summaries, and direct links to the free service called eSubscription which is available from the Commission. The filings are accessible in the Commission’s eLibrary system by clicking on the links or querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene or protest in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission’s Regulations (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

E-filing is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

Dated: July 15, 2015.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–17916 Filed 7–21–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Filings Instituting Proceedings

Docket Numbers: RP15–1116–000.
Applicants: Questar Overthrust Pipeline Company.
Description: Annual Fuel Gas Reimbursement Percentage Report for 2015 of Questar Overthrust Pipeline Company under RP15–1116.
Filed Date: 7/19/15.
Accession Number: 20150709–5228.

Comments Due: 5 p.m. ET 7/21/15.
Applicants: Kern River Gas Transmission Company.
Description: Section 4(d) Rate Filing: 2015 Converted Contracts to be effective 8/1/2015.
Filed Date: 7/14/15.
Accession Number: 20150714–5047.
Comments Due: 5 p.m. ET 7/27/15.

The filings are accessible in the Commission’s eLibrary system by clicking on the links or querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene or protest in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission’s Regulations (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

E-filing is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

Dated: July 15, 2015.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Electronic Filing Protocols for Commission Forms; Notice of Meeting of North American Energy Standards Board

Take notice that the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) has announced that it will hold its first conference call on August 13, 2015, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, to initiate its process for developing standards for the submission of Commission forms in XML format. In the Commission’s April 16, 2015, Order in this proceeding, the Commission announced it was beginning a process to develop a revised method for natural gas pipelines, public utilities, and oil pipelines to file forms, and asked NAESB and the electric, natural gas, and oil industries to establish a collaborative process with Commission staff to develop standards for filing forms. On June 10, 2015, Commission staff held a technical conference to explore a transition to XML format, as well as NAESB’s assistance in that transition process.

After the staff technical conference, the Commission received five comments generally supportive of moving forward with the NAESB process. NAESB has agreed to sponsor this project and the August 13, 2015 conference call is to establish procedures for moving forward. The comments also posed certain questions that should be addressed during the NAESB meetings.

NAESB has posted details regarding the conference at https://www.naesb.org/pdf4/naesb_weg-wwg_ffs_081315ma.pdf. Further information regarding participation can be obtained by contacting NAESB by phone (713–356–0060) or email (naesb@naesb.org). Commission notices for future meetings will not be issued. The Commission will post the time and dates for future meetings on its Web site at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/forms/eforms-refresh.asp. Information also may be found on the NAESB Web site at https://www.naesb.org/ferc_forms.asp (NAESB Members) or https://www.naesb.org/committee_activities.asp (non-Members).

For more information about this conference call or the proceeding, please contact Robert Hudson, Office of Enforcement, at (202) 502–6620 or Robert.Hudson@ferc.gov or Nicholas Gladd, Office of General Counsel, at (202) 502–8836 or Nicholas.Gladd@ferc.gov.

Dated: July 16, 2015.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–17947 Filed 7–21–15; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #2

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

Applicants: Entergy Services, Inc.
Description: Tariff Amendment: EAI–ESI Response 7–16–2015 to be effective 12/31/9998.
Filed Date: 7/16/15.
Accession Number: 20150716–5154.