Issuance of EA—July 18, 2016

A 90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline—October 16, 2016

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project’s progress.

Project Description

Paulsboro proposes to abandon about 2.4 miles of 6- and 8-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline extending across the Delaware River between Delaware County, Pennsylvania and Gloucester County, New Jersey. Paulsboro would replace the abandoned pipeline with 2.6 miles of 12- and 24-inch-diameter pipeline installed under the Delaware River using the horizontal directional drill method. The purpose of the Project is to facilitate the United States Army Corps of Engineers’ dredging activities for the Delaware River Main Channel Deepening Project (45-Foot Project). The Project would increase natural gas transportation capacity from 38 million standard cubic feet per day (MMSCf/d) to 57.7 MMSCf/d to the sole customer served by the pipeline, Paulsboro Refining Company, LLC.

Background

On January 19, 2016, the Commission issued a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Delaware River Pipeline Relocation Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues (NOI). The NOI was published in the Federal Register and mailed to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers.

In response to the NOI, the Commission received comments from Consolidated Rail Corporation, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office, and Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office. The primary issues raised by the commentors included state permit requirements and environmental compliance; potential impacts on cultural and natural resources; cumulative impacts; pipeline safety; future upgrades of Paulsboro’s facilities and systems; and natural gas production methods.

The Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Coast Guard, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EA.

Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

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 (www.ferc.gov). Using the “eLibrary” link, select “General Search” from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and “Docket Number” excluding the last three digits (i.e. CP16–27), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208–3676, TTY (202) 502–8659, or at FERConlineSupport@ferc.gov. The eLibrary link on the FERC Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.


Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.