the facility’s experience with energy management—collected in the SEP Enrollment Form; (2) Basic facility information about its energy use, energy consumption, and energy performance indicators—collected in the SEP Application Form; (3) Information on energy performance improvement in SEP-certified facilities—collected in the SEP Energy Performance Improvement Report; (4) Information on the costs and benefits of participating in SEP (optional; not required for SEP certification)—collected in the SEP Voluntary Costs/Benefits Form. 50001 Ready collects only a subset of the same types of information in categories (1), (2), and (3), and without the need for external audit.

Background data will primarily be used to track basic information about SEP and 50001 Ready participants and identify opportunities to provide participants with technical assistance. Basic information about a facility’s energy use, energy consumption, and energy performance indicators will be used to administer SEP and 50001 Ready. Information on energy performance improvement will be used by DOE to manage and track participation cycles, and to track the results of participation in SEP and 50001 Ready. For SEP, optional information on costs and benefits of SEP participation will be used to conduct and refine analysis on the costs and benefits of SEP participation. Responses to the DOE’s Information Collection Request will be voluntary.

(5) Annual Estimated Number of Respondents: 575;
(6) Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses: 475;
(7) Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours: 650;


Paul Scheihing,
Technology Manager, Advanced Manufacturing Office.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
[Docket Nos. CP17–441–000 and CP17–441–001]
Northwest Pipeline LLC; Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review of the North Seattle Lateral Upgrade Project

On May 11, 2017, Northwest Pipeline LLC (Northwest) filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) in docket number CP17–441–000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to Sections 7(b) and 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act to construct and operate certain natural gas pipeline facilities. The proposed project is known as the North Seattle Lateral Upgrade Project (Project), and would replace an existing 8-inch-diameter pipeline with a 20-inch-diameter pipeline, increasing the design capacity on Northwest’s system to serve Puget Sound Energy.

On October 23, 2017, Northwest filed an amendment to its application, and on November 2, 2017, the Commission issued a Notice of Amendment to the Application for the revised Project. Among other things, that notice alerted agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on a request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff’s Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Project. This instant notice identifies the FERC staff’s planned schedule for the completion of the EA for the Project.

Schedule for Environmental Review


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

Northwest proposes to remove approximately 5.8 miles of the 8-inch-diameter North Seattle Lateral pipeline in Snohomish County, Washington and replace it with 20-inch-diameter pipeline, primarily in the same trench. The North Seattle Lateral Upgrade Project would consist of the following facilities:

- Replace 5.8-miles of 8-inch-diameter pipeline with 20-inch-diameter pipeline;
- rebuild the existing North Seattle/Everett meter station in order to accommodate the increased delivery capacity of the North Seattle Lateral;
- relocate an existing 8-inch pig launcher and a 20-inch pig receiver; and
- replace an existing 8-inch mainline valve with a 20-inch valve.

Background

On June 21, 2017, the FERC issued a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed North Seattle Lateral Upgrade Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Session (NOI) in Docket No. CP17–441–000. The NOI was mailed to 409 parties, including affected landowners; federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries. We also held a public scoping comment session in the Project area on July 13, 2017. The primary issues raised by commenters were impacts on residences (including noise, dust, drainage, and vegetation clearing), biological and water resources impacts, alternative routings for crossing the Fritch Mill property, pipeline safety, and impacts on adjacent utility easements and infrastructure.

On October 23, 2017 Northwest amended its application, reducing the Project’s incremental firm capacity from 196.311 to 159.299 dekatherm per day; reducing the length of the replacement 20-inch-diameter pipeline by about 1 mile; locating the replacement pig launcher/receiver at milepost 7.76; and changing the pipeline route between mileposts 2.1 and 2.2 so as to divert its pipeline system around the Fritch Mill. Accordingly, on November 21, 2017 we issued a Supplemental Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Amended North Seattle Lateral Upgrade Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues (NOI) in Docket No. CP17–441–001. The Supplemental NOI was mailed to 312 parties, including affected landowners; federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries.

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.
Comments on the Supplemental NOI concerned the need for relocating the pipeline off the existing right-of-way; impacts to springs, wetlands, and mature forest from the newly routed segment, and alternatives.

Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of theEA 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 website (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., CP17–441), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the hotline can be reached at (866) 208–3676, TTY (202) 502–8659, or at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. The eLibrary link on the FERC website also provides access to the texts of formal documents. Go to www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

Additional information about the issuance of the EA and to keep track of the filings is 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.