

- The Everett Delta Meter Station (MP 0.0);
- Two downstream delivery taps: the Soper Hill Tap (MP 4.4) and the Everett Tap (MP 9.19); and
- A pig launcher and two 12-inch mainline taps (MP 0.0), block valve assembly (MP 4.4), and a pig receiver (MP 9.19).

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.<sup>3</sup> If you are interested in obtaining detailed maps of a specific portion of the project, send in your request using the form in appendix 3.

### Land Requirements for Construction

In total, construction of the project would result in approximately 89 acres of disturbance. Permanent easement for the entire project would result in approximately 50 acres with the remaining 39 acres of land allowed to revert to its former use. A permanent easement is needed for long-term operation and maintenance requirements. Northwest would require a 50-foot-wide permanent easement for the project. The aboveground facilities would need a total of 0.95 acre. The amendments cause an increase in land use of 1.29 acres for construction (temporary) and 0.35 acre for operation (permanent easement). Construction of the lateral would primarily use a 75-foot-wide construction right-of-way. However, a number of areas would require the construction right-of-way to be reduced to less than 75 feet in width. In addition to the typical 75-foot-wide construction right-of-way, additional temporary extra work areas at specific locations such as road and railroad crossings, and waterbody and wetland crossings are required.

### 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 of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA 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
- Cultural resources
- Vegetation and wildlife
- Air quality and noise
- Endangered and threatened species
- Hazardous waste
- Public safety

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed changes in the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section below.

### Currently Identified Environmental Issues

The environmental issues for the certificated route were addressed in the August 10, 2001 EA. We have identified several additional issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the amended facilities and the environmental information provided by Northwest. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- The project would be within 50 feet of 4 additional residences; and
- The crossing of Catherine Creek in the new proposed location.

### Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the change to the original proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative routes), measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact, and how you believe these changes affect the original analysis. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send an original and two copies of your letter to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas Branch 2.
- Reference Docket No. CP01-49-002.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before October 3, 2003.

Please note that we are continuing to experience delays in mail deliveries from the U.S. Postal Service. As a result, we will include all comments that we receive within a reasonable time frame in our environmental analysis of this project. However, the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of any comments or interventions or protests to this proceeding. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create a free account which can be created online.

We may mail the EA for comment. If you are interested in receiving it, please return the Information Request (appendix 4). If you do not return the Information Request, you will be taken off the mailing list.

### Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor". Intervenor play a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to

<sup>3</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 last page of this notice. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.