

Account No. 191. As a result, Williston Basin will neither refund nor bill its former sales customers for any amounts under the conditions of Subsection No. 39.3.1 of its Tariff.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. 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 proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. 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". 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 or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site under the "e-Filing" link.

Intervention and Protest Date: October 14, 2003.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP03-342-000]

Discovery Gas Transmission, LLC; Notice of Intent to Prepare An Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Market Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

October 8, 2003.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the Market Expansion Project (Project) involving construction and operation of

facilities by Discovery Gas Transmission, LLC (Discovery) in LaFourche and Terrebone Parishes, Louisiana.¹ These facilities would consist of construction of about 2.6 miles of various diameter pipeline, an interconnection facility, related metering and pressure regulation facilities and the purchase of approximately 32 miles of existing pipeline from DPH, Inc and Discovery Producer Services, LLC (DPS). This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

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 facilities. The pipeline company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is 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?" was attached to the project notice Discovery provided to landowners. This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain and how to participate in the Commission's proceedings. It is available for viewing on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>).

Summary of the Proposed Project

Discovery proposes to construct, install operate and maintain pipelines and meter stations at four different sites in Lafourche and Terrebone Parish, Louisiana. Discovery states that it proposes to acquire approximately 31.5 miles of existing pipeline (line 40E) from DPH, Inc., of which 22.8 miles will be used to provide the necessary interconnections, acquire approximately 0.4 miles of existing pipeline from DPS, and abandon approximately 8.8 miles of 20-inch pipeline.

Discovery would install the following facilities:

- 735 feet of 20-inch diameter pipeline from the existing 40E pipeline to the existing Tennessee platform located in Old Lady Lake in Terrebone

¹ Discovery's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

Parish Louisiana. The interconnect construction would require exposing and lifting 1000 feet of the existing 40E pipeline.

- Installation of a new 40-foot by 40-foot meter platform at the 40E pipeline near Point Au Chien, in Terrebone Parish Louisiana.

- Installation of approximately 2.1 miles of 20-inch diameter pipeline running from the 40E pipeline to a new 40-foot by 40-foot platform near Isle de Jean Charles to connect with the existing Columbia Gulf Pipeline.

- Installation of 1840 feet of new 20-inch pipeline near Larose, in Lafourche Parish Louisiana.

- Construction of a new meter station near Thibodaux, in LaFourche Parish Louisiana along with 150 feet of interconnection pipeline to deliver to the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation's system.

- Discovery also proposes to abandon approximately 8.8 miles of currently decommissioned 20-inch diameter 40E pipeline from the current Old Lady Lake Platform south to the Lake Barre platform in the Caillou Island Field. A 20-inch diameter weld cap could be installed after the introduction of a nitrogen gas blanket in the line.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.² 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

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 20.8 acres of land. Following construction, about 11.2 acres would be maintained as new aboveground facility sites. The remaining 9.6 acres of land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

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 us³ to

² 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 website at the "eLibrary" link or from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 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.

³ "We", "us", and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).