COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
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Molly Joseph Ward
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director

(804) 698-4000
1-800-592-5482

May 6, 2015

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 1st Street, N.E.
Room 1A
Washington, D.C. 20426

RE: FERC Docket No. PF15-3-000, Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Mountain Valley Pipeline Project

Dear Secretary Bose:

This letter responds to your notice in the Federal Register, Volume 80, Number 81, dated April 28, 2015, pages 23535-23538, subject as above (hereinafter cited as "Notice"). The Notice requests our comments on environmental issues warranting attention in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that is to be prepared for the project (page 23535, left column).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

According to the Notice, Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture (hereinafter "MFP"), proposes to construct and operate approximately 294 miles of 42-inch diameter buried steel pipelines for transmission of natural gas in 11 counties in West Virginia and 5 counties (Franklin, Giles, Montgomery, Pittsylvania, and Roanoke) in Virginia; pipeline route locations are in an appendix which does not appear in the Notice (Notice, page 23535, left and center columns; page 23536, left and center columns under "Summary of the Planned Project" heading). Construction of the proposed facilities would disturb about 5,458 acres of land for the pipeline and above-ground facilities, not including temporary access roads. After construction, MVP would maintain about 2,687 acres for permanent operation of project facilities, not including permanent access roads. The remaining acreage (2,771 acres) would be restored, according to the Notice, and revert to former uses. Approximately 15 percent of the planned route parallel existing pipeline, utility, and road rights-of-way (Notice, page 23536, center column, "Land Requirements for Construction" heading).

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW UNDER THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT: PROJECT SCOPING AND AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

As stated in the Notice, the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") requires the Commission to take environmental impacts into account when considering the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (Notice, page 23536, center column). Specifically, NEPA and its implementing regulations (Title 40, *Code of Federal Regulations*, Parts 1500-1508) require draft and final Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) for federal, federally licensed or federally funded undertakings which will or may give rise to significant impacts upon the human environment.

The role of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in relation to the review of this project is as follows. DEQ's Office of Environmental Impact Review (OEIR) will coordinate Virginia's review of the EIS and comment on behalf of the Commonwealth. Appropriate permitting offices of DEQ and other state agencies will consider permit applications and act according to regulatory requirements.

While this Office does not participate in scoping efforts beyond the advice given in this letter, other agencies are free to provide scoping comments concerning the preparation of the EIS. Accordingly, we are sharing our response to the letter with selected state and local Virginia agencies which have responsibilities bearing on the proposed action. These are likely to include the following:

Department of Environmental Quality:
- Office of Environmental Impact Review
- Blue Ridge Regional Office
- Division of Air Program Coordination
- Division of Land Protection and Revitalization (formerly Waste Division)
- Division of Stormwater Management

Department of Conservation and Recreation
Department of Health (Office of Drinking Water)
Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Department of Historic Resources
Department of Transportation
Department of Aviation
Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy
Department of Emergency Management
New River Valley Planning District Commission
Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission
West Piedmont Planning District Commission
Franklin County
Giles County
Montgomery County
Pittsylvania County
Roanoke County

In order to ensure an effective coordinated review of the EIS, we request electronic copies, with 6 hard copies (CD or paper) for our files and for small localities. Electronic copies may be sent to eir@deq.virginia.gov or made available for download at a website, file transfer protocol (ftp) site or the VITAShare file transfer system (*https://vitashare.vita.virginia.gov*). Please also issue shape files with the Draft EIS that identify the analyzed routes. The document should include appropriate U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps as part of its information. We recommend, as well, that project details be adequately described for the benefit of reviewers of the Draft EIS.

DATA BASE ASSISTANCE

Below is a list of databases that may assist FERC and/or the applicant in the preparation of the EIS for this project:

- DEQ Online Database: Virginia Environmental Geographic Information Systems

  Information on Permitted Solid Waste Management Facilities, Impaired Waters, Petroleum Releases, Registered Petroleum Facilities, Permitted Discharge (Virginia Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permits) Facilities, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Sites, Water Monitoring Stations, National Wetlands Inventory:

  - www.deq.virginia.gov/ConnectWithDEQ/VEGIS.aspx

- DEQ Virginia Coastal Geospatial and Educational Mapping System (GEMS)

  Virginia's coastal resource data and maps; coastal laws and policies; facts on coastal resource values; and direct links to collaborating agencies responsible for current data:

  - http://128.172.160.131/gems2/

- DEQ Permit Expert

  Helps determine if a DEQ permit is necessary:

  - www.deq.virginia.gov/permitexpert/

- DHR Data Sharing System

  Survey records in the DHR inventory:

  - www.dhr.virginia.gov/archives/data_sharing_sys.htm

- DCR Natural Heritage Search

Produces lists of resources that occur in specific counties, watersheds or physiographic regions:

- www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/dbsearchtool.shtml

- DGIF Fish and Wildlife Information Service

  Information about Virginia's Wildlife resources:

  - http://vafwis.org/fwis/

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) Database: Superfund Information Systems

  Information on hazardous waste sites, potentially hazardous waste sites and remedial activities across the nation, including sites that are on the National Priorities List (NPL) or being considered for the NPL:

  - www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/cursites/index.htm

- EPA RCRAInfo Search

  Information on hazardous waste facilities:

  - www.epa.gov/enviro/facts/rcrainfo/search.html

- EPA Envirofacts Database

  EPA Environmental Information, including EPA-Regulated Facilities and Toxics Release Inventory Reports:

  - www.epa.gov/enviro/index.html

- EPA NEPAssist Database

  Facilitates the environmental review process and project planning:

http://nepaassisttool.epa.gov/nepaassist/entry.aspx

I hope this information is helpful to you. If you have questions about the environmental review process, please feel free to call me at (804) 698-4325 or John Fisher of this Office at (804) 698-4339.

Sincerely,

Bettina Sullivan, Program Manager
Environmental Impact Review and
Long-Range Priorities

Enclosure A – FERC Notice

cc: Richard Huff, Franklin County
Chris McKlarney, Giles County
F. Craig Meadows, Montgomery County
Thomas Gates, Pittsylvania County
Clarence Monday, Roanoke County

ec: Julia Wellman, DEQ-CO
Keith Fowler, DEQ-VRO
Kevin Harlow, DEQ-BRRO-R
Michael Sexton, DEQ-BRRO-L
Kotur S. Narasimhan, DEQ-DAPC
G. Stephen Coe, DEQ-DLPR
Larry Gavan, DEQ-OSM
Holly Sepety, DEQ-OSM
Daniel Moore, DEQ-OSM
Amy M. Ewing, DGIF
Roberta D. Rhur, DCR
Roger W. Kirchen, DHR
Alfred Ray, VDOT
Elizabeth Jordan, VDOT
R. N. Harrington, VDA
Roy Soto, VDH-ODW
Tony Watkinson, VMRC
David Spears, DMME
Jeffrey D. Stern, VDEM
Kevin Byrd, NRV PDC
Wayne G. Strickland, RVA RC
David R. Hoback, WP PDC

as applicable; (2) set forth in the heading the project number of the proceeding to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting or protesting; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, protests, or motion to intervene must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). All comments or protests should relate to project works which are the subject of the termination of exemption. A copy of any protest must be served upon each representative of the exemptee specified in item g above. A copy of all other filings in reference to this notice must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

p. Agency Comments—Federal, state, and local agencies are invited to file comments on the described proceeding. If any agency does not file comments within the time specified for filing comments, it will be presumed to have no comments.

Dated: April 16, 2015.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–09751 Filed 4–27–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PF15–3–000]

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Planned Mountain Valley Pipeline Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Meetings

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the Mountain Valley Pipeline Project (MVP Project) involving construction and operation of natural gas facilities by Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (Mountain Valley), a joint venture between affiliates of EQT Corporation and NextEra Energy, Inc., in West Virginia and Virginia. For further details about the project facilities and locations, see "Summary of the Proposed Project" below. The Commission will use this EIS 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 us with 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 EIS. 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 June 16, 2015.

If you sent comments on this project to the Commission before the opening of the docket on October 27, 2014, you will need to re-file those comments in Docket No. PF15–3–000 to ensure they are considered as part of this proceeding. Any comments submitted after the establishment of a project docket do not need to be re-filed.

This notice is being sent to the Commission's current environmental mailing list for this project. State and local government representatives should notify their constituents of this planned project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, a Mountain Valley representative may contact you about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the planned facilities. The company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the Commission approves the project, 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 where compensation would be determined 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?" is available for viewing on the FERC Web site (*www.ferc.gov*). 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.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with 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. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. 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 June 16, 2015.

For your convenience, there are four methods you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances, please reference the project docket number (PF15–3–000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert staff available to assist you at (202) 502–8258 or *efiling@ferc.gov*.

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature located on the Commission's Web site (*www.ferc.gov*) under the link to Documents & Filings. This is an easy method for interested persons to submit brief, text-only comments on a project;

(2) You can file your comments electronically using the eFiling feature located on the Commission's Web site (*www.ferc.gov*) under the link to Documents & Filings. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on eRegister. You must select the type of filing you are making. If you are filing a comment on a particular project, please select Comment on a Filing; or

(3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the following address: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.

(4) In lieu of sending written or electronic comments, the Commission invites you to attend one of the public scoping meetings its staff will conduct in the project area, scheduled as follows.

FERC PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS—MVP PROJECT

Date and time	Location
Monday, May 4, 2015, 7:00 p.m.	James Monroe High School, Route 1, Lindside, WV 24951.
Tuesday, May 5, 2015, 7:00 p.m.	Eastern Montgomery High School, 4695 Crozier Road, Elliston, VA 24087.
Thursday, May 7, 2015, 7:00 p.m.	Chatham High School, 100 Cavalier Circle, Chatham, VA 24531.
Monday, May 11, 2015, 7:00 p.m.	Robert C. Byrd Center, 992 North Fork Road, Pine Grove, WV 26419.
Tuesday, May 12, 2015, 7:00 p.m.	West Virginia University Jackson's Mill, 160 WVU Jackson Mill, Weston, WV 26452.
Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 7:00 p.m.	Nicholas County High School, 30 Grizzly Road, Summersville, WV 26651.

We [1] will begin our sign-up of speakers one hour prior to the start of each meeting (at 6:00 p.m.). The scoping meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m., with a description of our environmental review process by Commission staff, after which speakers will be called. Each meeting will end once all speakers have provided their comments or when our contracted time for the facility closes. Please note that there may be a time limit of three minutes to present comments, and speakers should structure their comments accordingly. If time limits are implemented, they will be strictly enforced to ensure that as many individuals as possible are given an opportunity to comment. The meetings will be recorded by a stenographer to ensure comments are accurately recorded. Transcripts will be entered into the formal record of the Commission proceeding. The Commission will give equal consideration to all comments received, whether filed in written form or provided verbally at the scoping meeting.

Mountain Valley representatives will be present one hour prior to the start of the scoping meetings to provide additional information about the project and answer questions.

Summary of the Planned Project

The MVP Project would involve the construction and operation of about 294 miles of 42-inch-diameter buried steel pipeline in Wetzel, Harrison, Doddridge, Lewis, Braxton, Webster, Nicholas, Greenbrier, Fayette, Summers, and Monroe Counties, West Virginia and Giles, Montgomery, Roanoke, Franklin, and Pittsylvania Counties in Virginia. The pipeline would originate at Equitrans, L.P.'s existing transmission system in Wetzel County, West Virginia and terminate at the existing Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company LLC's existing Zone 5 Compressor Station 165 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. Additional facilities would include 4 new compressor stations in Wetzel, Braxton, and Fayette Counties, West Virginia and Montgomery County, Virginia; 4 new meter stations; 49 main line valves, and 6 pig [2] launchers and/or receivers.

The MVP Project would provide about 2 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day to markets in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern United States. The general location of the project facilities are shown in appendix 1.[3]

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the planned facilities would disturb about 5,458 acres of land for the pipeline and aboveground facilities, not including temporary access roads which are not yet determined. Following construction, Mountain Valley would maintain about 2,687 acres for permanent operation of the project's facilities, not including permanent access roads; the remaining acreage would be restored and revert to former uses. About 15 percent of the planned pipeline route parallels existing pipeline, utility, and road rights-of-way.

The EIS 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. The 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 EIS on the important environmental issues. By this notice, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EIS. We will consider all filed comments (including verbal comments presented at the public scoping meetings) during the preparation of the EIS.

In the EIS we will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the planned project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils;
- Water resources and wetlands;
- Vegetation and wildlife;
- Cultural resources;
- Land use, recreation, and visual resources;
- Socioeconomics;
- Air quality and noise;
- Cumulative impacts; and
- Public safety.

As part of our analysis under the NEPA, we will consider or recommend measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts on specific resources. We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the planned project or portions of the project. Mountain Valley has proposed a number of alternatives, developed through the company's route selection process or identified by stakeholders, in draft Resource Report 10 filed with the FERC in Docket No. PF15–3–000 on April 14, 2015. During scoping, we are specifically soliciting comments on the range of alternatives for the project.

Although no formal application has been filed, we have already initiated our environmental review under the Commission's pre-filing process. The purpose of the pre-filing process is to encourage early involvement of interested stakeholders and to identify and resolve issues before the FERC receives a formal application from Mountain Valley. During the pre-filing process, we contacted federal and state agencies to discuss their involvement in scoping and the preparation of the EIS.

With this notice, we are asking agencies with jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise with respect to the environmental issues related to this project to formally cooperate with us in the preparation of the EIS.[4] Agencies that would like to request cooperating

[1] "We," "us," and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Commission's Office of Energy Projects.

[2] A "pig" is an internal tool that the pipeline company inserts into and pushes through the pipeline for cleaning, inspections, or other purposes.

[3] The appendices referenced in this notice will not appear in the Federal Register. Copies of the 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.

[4] The Council on Environmental Quality implementing regulations for the NEPA addresses cooperating agency responsibilities at Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1501.6.

agency status should follow the instructions for filing comments provided under the Public Participation section of this notice. Currently, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Jefferson National Forest (USFS); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington and Norfolk Districts; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3; U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration; West Virginia Department of Natural Resources; and West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection expressed their intention to participate as cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.

The EIS will present our independent analysis of the issues. We will publish and distribute a draft EIS for public comment. After the comment period, we will consider all timely comments and revise the document, as necessary, before issuing a final EIS.

Proposed Actions of the USFS

The USFS is participating as a cooperating agency because the MVP Project would cross the Jefferson National Forest in West Virginia and Virginia. As a cooperating agency, the USFS intends to adopt the EIS per Tile 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 1506.3 to meet its responsibilities under the NEPA regarding Mountain Valley's planned application to the USFS for a Right-of-Way Grant and Temporary Use Permit for crossing federally administered lands. The USFS additionally will assess how the planned pipeline conforms to the directions contained in the Jefferson National Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP). Changes in the LRMP could be required if the pipeline is authorized across the National Forest. The EIS will provide the documentation to support any needed amendments to the LRMP.

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 Offices, 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.[5] We will define the project-specific Area of Potential Effects (APE) in consultation with the SHPOs 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, compressor stations, and access roads). Our EIS for this project will document our findings on the impacts on historic properties and summarize the status of consultations under section 106.

Currently Identified Environmental Issues

We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention in the EIS, from our preliminary review of the planned facilities, environmental information provided by Mountain Valley, and comments by stakeholders. This preliminary list of issues may change based on your comments and our further analyses. These issues include:

- Karst terrain, sinkholes, and caves;
- Domestic water sources, wells, springs, and waterbodies;
- Forested areas;
- Federally-listed threatened and endangered species, including mussels and bats;
- National Register of Historic Places listed Rural Historic Districts and other historic properties;
- Appalachian Trail, Blue Ridge Parkway, and other scenic by-ways;
- Residential developments and property values;
- Tourism and recreation;
- Local infrastructure and emergency response systems;
- Public safety;
- Operational noise from planned compressor stations; and
- Alternatives and their potential impacts on a range of resources.

Environmental Mailing List

The environmental mailing list includes federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Indian tribes and Native American organizations; 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 provides a mailing addressed when they submit 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 planned project.

Copies of the completed draft EIS 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

Once Mountain Valley files its formal application with the Commission, 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 intervene. Instructions for becoming an intervenor are in the User's Guide under the e-filing link on the Commission's Web site. Please note that the Commission will not accept requests for intervenor status during the pre-filing process. You must wait until the Commission receives a formal application for the project from Mountain Valley, and the FERC issues a Notice of Application.

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 (*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.*, PF15–3). 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 issuances and submittals in specific

[5] The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation implementing regulations for the National Historic Preservation Act 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.

dockets. 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*.

Finally, public meetings or site visits will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at *www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx* along with other related information.

Dated: April 17, 2015.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–09748 Filed 4–27–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP15–169–000]

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC; Notice of Application

Take notice that on April 13, 2015, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company LLC (Transco), 2800 Post Oak Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77056, filed in the above referenced docket an application pursuant to section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), to amend the certificate of public convenience and necessity granted by the Commission by order issued on March 19, 2015 in the reference proceeding, which order authorized Transco's Rock Spring Expansion Project (Project). The amendment seeks authorization to amend the Project's certificate to incorporate a minor route modification of approximately 0.69 miles in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. The filing is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site web at *http://www.ferc.gov* using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov* or call toll-free, (886) 208–3676 or TYY, (202) 502–8659.

Any questions concerning this application may be directed to Bill Hammons, P.O. Box 1396, Houston, Texas 77251, by telephone at (713) 215–2130.

Pursuant to section 157.9 of the Commission's rules (18 CFR 157.9), within 90 days of this Notice, the Commission staff will either: complete its environmental assessment (EA) and place it into the Commission's public record (eLibrary) for this proceeding; or issue a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review. If a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review is issued, it will indicate, among other milestones, the anticipated date for the Commission staff's issuance of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) or EA for this proposal. The filing of the EA in the Commission's public record for this proceeding or the issuance of a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review will serve to notify federal and state agencies of the timing for the completion of all necessary reviews, and the subsequent need to complete all federal authorizations within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's FEIS or EA.

There are two ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project. First, any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this project should, on or before the comment date stated below file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.10). A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties. A party must submit five copies of filings made in the proceeding with the Commission and must mail a copy to the applicant and to every other party. Only parties to the proceeding can ask for court review of Commission orders in the proceeding.

However, a person does not have to intervene in order to have comments considered. The second way to participate is by filing with the Secretary of the Commission, as soon as possible, an original and two copies of comments in support of or in opposition to this project. The Commission will consider these comments in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but the filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project provide copies of their protests only to the party or parties directly involved in the protest.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commentors will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of the environmental documents, and will be notified of meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commentors will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, the non-party commentors will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission (except for the mailing of environmental documents issued by the Commission) and will not have the right to seek court review of the Commission's final order.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at *http://www.ferc.gov*. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 5 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

Comment Date: April 24, 2015.

Dated: April 14, 2015.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–09838 Filed 4–27–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Interconnection of the Grande Prairie Wind Farm, Holt County, Nebraska (DOE/EIS–0485)

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Record of Decision.

SUMMARY: Western Area Power Administration (Western) received a request from Grande Prairie Wind, LLC (Grande Prairie Wind), a subsidiary of Geronimo Wind Energy, LLC d.b.a. Geronimo Energy, LLC to interconnect their proposed Grande Prairie Wind Farm (Project) to Western's power transmission system. The proposed interconnection point would be on Western's existing Fort Thompson to Grand Island 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission line, approximately seven miles east of the town of O'Neill in Holt County, Nebraska. The Project would be built on private and State cropland and pasture.