FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECT

<u>In Reply Refer To</u>: OEP/DG2E/Gas 1 Millennium Pipeline Company, LLC Minisink Compressor Project Docket No. CP11-515-000

TO THE PARTY ADDRESSED:

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared this environmental assessment (EA) for the Minisink Compressor Project proposed by Millennium Pipeline Company, LLC (Millennium) in the above-referenced docket. Millennium requests authorization to construct and operate a natural gas compressor station in Minisink, New York to increase deliveries to its interconnection with Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC at Ramapo, New York, to approximately 675,000 dekatherms per day.

This EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Minisink Compressor Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Staff concludes that the proposed project, with appropriate mitigation, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Millennium's proposed Minisink Compressor Project consists of two 6,130horsepower gas-fired compressor units that would be housed within a new building, as well as an access driveway, parking areas, a station control/auxiliary building, intake and exhaust silencers, turbine lube oil coolers, unit blowdown silencers, a filter-separator with a liquids tank, and an emergency electrical power generator. Pipeline facilities required for the project include approximately 545 feet of new 36-inch-diameter suction and discharge pipelines which would connect the compressor station to the existing mainline. A new mainline valve assembly would also be required on the existing pipeline located between the new suction and discharge pipelines.

The FERC staff mailed copies of the EA to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; newspapers and libraries in the project area; and parties to this proceeding. In addition, the EA is available for public viewing on the FERC's website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at:

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Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Public Reference Room 888 First Street NE, Room 2A Washington, DC 20426 (202) 502-8371

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. 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 the Commission has the opportunity to consider your comments prior to making its decision on this project, it is important that we receive your comments in Washington, DC on or before **April 2, 2012**.

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to file your comments with the Commission. In all instances please reference the project docket number (CP11-515-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert staff available to assist you at 202-502-8258 or <u>efiling@ferc.gov</u>.

- You can file your comments electronically using the <u>eComment</u> feature located on the Commission's website (<u>www.ferc.gov</u>) under the link to <u>Documents and Filings</u>. This is an easy method for submitting brief, textonly comments on a project;
- (2) You can also file your comments electronically using the <u>eFiling</u> feature on the Commission's website (<u>www.ferc.gov</u>) under the link to <u>Documents and</u> <u>Filings</u>. 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 "<u>eRegister</u>." 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

Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18