UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC

Docket No. CP15-144-000

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED JACKSONVILLE EXPANSION PROJECT

(January 15, 2016)

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the Jacksonville Expansion Project, proposed by the Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC (FGT) in the above-referenced docket. FGT requests authorization to construct about 8.7 miles of natural gas pipeline and associated aboveground facilities in Suwannee, Columbia, Bradford, and Clay Counties, Florida. The purpose is to provide a total of approximately 75,000 MMBtu/d of natural gas capacity to be delivered at various amounts at several points throughout Florida.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of constructing and operating the Jacksonville Expansion Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FERC staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The proposed Jacksonville Expansion Project includes the following facilities:

- approximately 3.0 miles of 30-inch-diameter looping pipeline and associated facilities¹ in Suwannee and Columbia Counties;
- one new compressor unit, re-wheel an existing turbine compressor unit, and construct and modify piping and valves at Compressor Station 16 in Bradford County;
- approximately 5.7 miles of 20-inch-diameter looping pipeline and associated facilities in Bradford and Clay Counties; and
- a new regulation station in Bradford County.

¹Associated facilities include new or relocated pig launchers and receivers, valves, and cathodic protection equipment

Docket No. CP15-144-000

- 2 -

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:

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 **February 15, 2016.**

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to file your comments to the Commission. In all instances, please reference the project docket number (CP15-144-000) 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.

- You can file your comments electronically using the <u>eComment</u> feature on the Commission's website (<u>www.ferc.gov</u>) under the link to <u>Documents and</u> <u>Filings</u>. This is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only 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

Docket No. CP15-144-000

- 3 -

(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 CFR 385.214).² Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision. The Commission grants affected landowners and others with environmental concerns intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which no other party can adequately represent. Simply filing environmental comments will not give you intervenor status, but **you do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.**

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. 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., CP15-144). 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 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.

> Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr., Deputy Secretary.

² See the previous discussion on the methods for filing comments.

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Document Content(s)
CP15-144-000-11516.DOCX1-3