

be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate and permission and approval for the proposed abandonment are required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for El Paso to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-27995 Filed 10-31-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-18-000]

Koch Gateway Pipeline Company; Notice of Application

October 26, 2000.

Take notice that on October 24, 2000, Koch Gateway Pipeline Company (Koch Gateway), P.O. Box 1478, Houston, Texas 77251-1478, filed an application in Docket No. CP01-18-000 pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and Section 157.18 of the Commission's Regulations for permission and approval to abandon by removal approximately 12,497 feet of 16-inch pipeline from Station Number 945+63 to Station Number 820+66 on its Latex-Forth Worth Mainline designated as Index 1¹ in Harrison County, Texas (SWEPCO Segment), all as more fully set forth in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance). Any questions regarding this application should be directed to: Kyle Stephens, director of Certificates, Koch Gateway Pipeline Company, P.O. Box 1478, Houston, Texas, 77251-1478, (713) 544-7309.

Koch Gateway states that the SWEPCO Segment is in direct conflict with an active surface lignite mine

operated by Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO), a division of American Electric Power. Koch Gateway states that in November 1996, Koch Gateway moved the remaining customers from Index 1 to Index 65-2 and idled Index 1 from Station Number 00+0 to Station Number 1190+15 in east Texas. SWEPCO operates an active surface lignite coal mine that provides the lignite fuel for its local electric generation facility, the Pirkey Power Plant, in the vicinity of the east end of Index 1. For the surface area covered by the mine, SWEPCO owns the land in fee or underlying landowners have assigned their surface rights to SWEPCO. Although portions of both Index 1 and Index 65-2 have been relocated to accommodate previous surface mining activities, the mining activities will again be in direct conflict with Index 1 and Index 65-2. Koch Gateway will relocate the active line, Index 65-2,² but believes it is in the public convenience and necessity to request abandonment of the SWEPCO Segment of idled line—Index 1—at this time.³ This will save SWEPCO the relocation costs associated with Index 1. Due to the pending encroachment by the mining operations, Koch Gateway proposes herein to abandon by removal the SWEPCO Segment—Station Number 945+63 to Station Number 820+66—except for two road crossings. To address SWEPCO's Removal Request, Koch Gateway states it needs to begin removal of the SWEPCO Segment by January 1, 2001.

Koch Gateway states it will provide the required landowner notifications and notifications to government entities affected by the proposed project including towns, communities and government agencies. Also, Koch Gateway states that public notice of the proposed project will be published twice in a daily or weekly newspaper of general circulation in each county in which the project is located; and further, copies of the application will be available at a library in a central location in each county in which the project is located.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said

² To avoid encroachment by SWEPCO on this line currently serving customers, the portion of Index 65-2 from Station Number 249+32 to Station Number 415+64 will be relocated pursuant to 18 C.F.R. Section 157.208(a)(1) under Koch Gateway's blanket certificate authorized in FERC Docket No. CP82-430-000.

³ Koch Gateway states that it is in the process of preparing an application under Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act to abandon the currently idled segments of Index 1 not covered by the immediate application. Koch Gateway is currently negotiating with affected landowners and will file such an application in the near future.

application should on or before November 16, 2000, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a petition to intervene or a protest 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 Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a petition to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules. Beginning November 1, 2000, comments and protests may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no petition to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a petition for leave is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Koch Gateway to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-27998 Filed 10-31-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-16-000]

Northern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Application

October 26, 2000.

Take notice that on October 19, 2000, Northern Natural Gas Company

¹ Index numbers are Koch Gateway's internal designation for transmission facilities.

(Northern), 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124, filed in Docket No. CP01-16-000 an application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) for permission and approval to abandon Unit #12, with appurtenances, at the Stevens Co. #2 compressor station located in Stevens County, Kansas, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Specifically, Northern requests authority to abandon and remove Unit #12, as skid-mounted 506 hp rental unit,¹ and appurtenant facilities consisting of suction and discharge piping, control and exhaust equipment, a foundation, fuel metering and similar equipment. Northern states that the unit will be removed and returned to the rental company, and the appurtenant facilities will be disposed of or returned to inventory. Northern asserts that the compressor unit is no longer required due to changes in the operating conditions that have eliminated the need for this compressor unit. Northern also states that the abandonment will not: (1) impact any firm service obligations to its customers; (2) results in the abandonment of service to any of Northern's existing shippers; or (3) adversely effect capacity.

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to Keith L. Petersen, Director, Certificates and Report for Northern, 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124, at (402) 398-7421 or Michele Winckowski, Senior Regulatory Analyst, at (402) 398-7082.

Any person desiring to be heard or any person desiring to make any protests with reference to said application should on or before November 16, 2000, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 or 385.214) and the Regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a

party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules. Beginning November 1, 2000, comments and protests may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the NGA and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed abandonment are required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Northern to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-27997 Filed 10-31-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-13-000]

Southern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Albany Compressor Station Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

October 26, 2000.

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 Albany Compressor Station Project involving the operation of facilities by Southern Natural Gas Company (Southern) in Dougherty County, Georgia.¹ The proposal consists of

returning to full time operation an existing backup compressor unit at the Albany Compressor Station. 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.

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 Southern provided to landowners. This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions and how to participate in the Commission's proceedings. It is available for viewing on the FERC Internet website (www.ferc.fed.us).

Summary of the Proposed Project

Southern wants to reinstate a 1,232 horsepower reciprocating compressor unit at the Albany Compressor Station to full time service. At this time the unit is only used as a backup unit that is available in the event other facilities on the system are taken out of service for maintenance or repair.

The location of the Albany Compressor Station is shown in appendix 1.²

Land Requirements for Construction

The compressor unit was installed at the Albany Compressor Station in 1982. No ground disturbance would be required. All activities would be confined to the existing Albany Compressor Station.

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 discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "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

² The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available on the Commission's website at the "RIMS" link or from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. For instructions on connecting to RIMS 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).

¹ This rental compressor unit was installed pursuant to Northern's blanket certificate authority granted by order in Docket No. CP82-401-000 issued on September 1, 1982 (20 FERC ¶ 62,410).

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