

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 "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For Assistance, call (202) 502-8222 or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. 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.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP02-420-000]

Red Lake Gas Storage, L.P.; Notice of Public Comment Meeting and Site Visit for the Proposed Red Lake Gas Storage Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

October 16, 2002.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is issuing this notice to announce the date and location of a public scoping meeting on the proposed Red Lake Gas Storage Project. The Commission staff will be preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for Red Lake Gas Storage, L.P.'s project in Mohave County, Arizona. The planned facilities would consist of two solution-mined underground salt caverns, about 52 miles of various diameter pipeline, a 25,000-horsepower (hp) compressor station, a 9,000-hp compressor station, four water withdrawal wells, four brine disposal wells, and appurtenant facilities. The EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity. You are invited to attend the public meeting to enter into the Commission's record any comments you might have. Comments received at the scoping

meeting will help us to determine the issues to be evaluated in the EA. The date, time, and location are shown below:

Date and Time: November 14, 2002, 7 to 10 pm.

Location Phone: Mohave Community College, Kingman Campus, Room Number 111, 1971 Jagerson Avenue, Kingman, AZ 86401.

Phone: (928) 757-4331.

For additional information, please contact Mr. Thomas Russo of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 502-8004.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-26935 Filed 10-22-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP03-1-000]

El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Power-Up Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

October 16, 2002.

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 Power-up Project involving construction and operation of facilities by El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) in Pinal and Cochise Counties, Arizona, Hidalgo and Luna Counties, New Mexico, and El Paso, Winkler, and Culbertson Counties, Texas.¹ These facilities would consist of about 151,600 horsepower (hp) of compression at nine existing or new compressor stations. 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.

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

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 El Paso 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

El Paso wants to expand the capacity of its facilities in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas to transport an additional 320,000 thousand cubic feet (mcf) per day of natural gas on its Line 2000. El Paso seeks authority to construct and operate:

Phase I Facilities (February 2004)

1. Wink Compressor Station—Install three Taurus 60s turbine compressor units, with appurtenances, rated at approximately 23,100 hp at a new site in Section 32, P.S.L. Block 5, Winkler County, Texas.

2. El Paso Compressor Station—Install one Mars 100 turbine compressor unit, with appurtenances, rated at 15,000 hp at the existing El Paso Compressor Station located in Section 18, Block 80, El Paso County, Texas.

3. Lordsburg Compressor Station—Install one Mars 100 turbine compressor unit, with appurtenances, rated at 15,000 hp at the existing Lordsburg Compressor Station located in Section 8, Township 23 South, Range 17 West, Hidalgo County, New Mexico.

4. Tom Mix Compressor Station—Install two Taurus 70 turbine compressor units, with appurtenances, rated at 20,620 hp at a former oil pumping station located in Section 21, Township 8 South, Range 13 East, Pinal County, Arizona.

Phase 2 Facilities (April 2004)

5. Black River Compressor Station—Install one Mars 100 turbine compressor unit, with appurtenances, rated at 15,000 hp at a former oil pumping station located in Section 17, T&P Township 2, Block 60, Culbertson County, Texas.

6. Florida Compressor Station—Install one Mars 100 turbine compressor unit, with appurtenances, rated at 15,000 hp at the existing Florida Compressor Station located in Section 14, Township