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*Comment Date:* 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on August 7, 2012.

Dated: July 19, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2012-18162 Filed 7-24-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP12-479-000]

#### **Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Line V Pipeline Retirement Project and Request for Comments On Environmental Issues**

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 Line V Pipeline Retirement Project involving abandonment of facilities by Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (Southern Star) in Logan and Oklahoma Counties, Oklahoma. The Commission will use this EA 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. Your input will help the Commission staff determine what issues they need to evaluate in the EA. Please note that the

scoping period will close on August 17, 2012.

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 proposed project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

Southern Star provided landowners with a fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled “An Interstate Natural Gas Facility On My Land? What Do I Need To Know?”. 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 also available for viewing on the FERC Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)).

#### **Summary of the Proposed Project**

Southern Star proposes to abandon 16.14 miles of 20-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline, known as Line V, in Logan and Oklahoma Counties, Oklahoma. Southern Star states that due to the age of Line V and the use of coupled pipe, Line V cannot meet the inspection requirement of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. Line V has been looped with a 20-inch-diameter line and no longer provides service to domestic customers.<sup>1</sup> Southern Star would abandon in-place approximately 13.18 miles of pipe, and would abandon by removal the remaining 2.96 miles of pipe as requested by landowners. Abandonment of the proposed facilities would disturb about 49 acres of land during construction for pipeline removal, extra workspace, access roads, and staging areas. The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### **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 us<sup>3</sup> to

<sup>1</sup> A pipeline loop is a segment of pipe constructed parallel to an existing pipeline.

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice will not appear in the **Federal Register**. Copies of appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail and are available at [www.ferc.gov](http://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.

<sup>3</sup> “We,” “us,” and “our” refer to the environmental staff of the Commission’s Office of Energy Projects.

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 EA on the important environmental issues. By this notice, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. We will consider all filed comments during the preparation of the EA.

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

- Geology and soils;
- Land use;
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands;
- Cultural resources;
- Vegetation and wildlife;
- Air quality and noise;
- Endangered and threatened species;

and

- Public safety.

We will also evaluate reasonable alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

The EA will present our independent analysis of the issues. The EA will be available in the public record through eLibrary. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, we may also publish and distribute the EA to the public for an allotted comment period. We will consider all comments on the EA before making our recommendations to the Commission. To ensure we have the opportunity to consider and address your comments, please carefully follow the instructions in the Public Participation section beginning on page 4.

With this notice, we are asking agencies with jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise with respect to the environmental issues of this project to formally cooperate with us in the preparation of the EA.<sup>4</sup> Agencies that would like to request cooperating agency status should follow the instructions for filing comments provided under the Public Participation section of this notice.

#### **Consultations Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act**

In accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation’s implementing regulations for section

<sup>4</sup> The Council on Environmental Quality regulations addressing cooperating agency responsibilities are at Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, 1501.6.

106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are using this notice to initiate consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), 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.<sup>5</sup> We will define the project-specific Area of Potential Effects (APE) in consultation with the SHPO 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 EA for this project will document our findings on the impacts on historic properties and summarize the status of consultations under section 106.

### 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 August 17, 2102.

For your convenience, there are three methods which you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances please reference the project docket number (CP12-479-000) 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](mailto:efiling@ferc.gov).

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature on the Commission's Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to Documents and 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 on the Commission's Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the link to Documents and 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.

### Environmental Mailing List

The environmental mailing list includes federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American Tribes; 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 submits 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 proposed project.

If we publish and distribute the EA, copies 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

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to

become an "intervenor" which is an official party to the Commission's proceeding. Intervenor 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.

### 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 at [www.ferc.gov](http://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., CP12-479). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto: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 now 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/esubscribenow.htm](http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm).

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

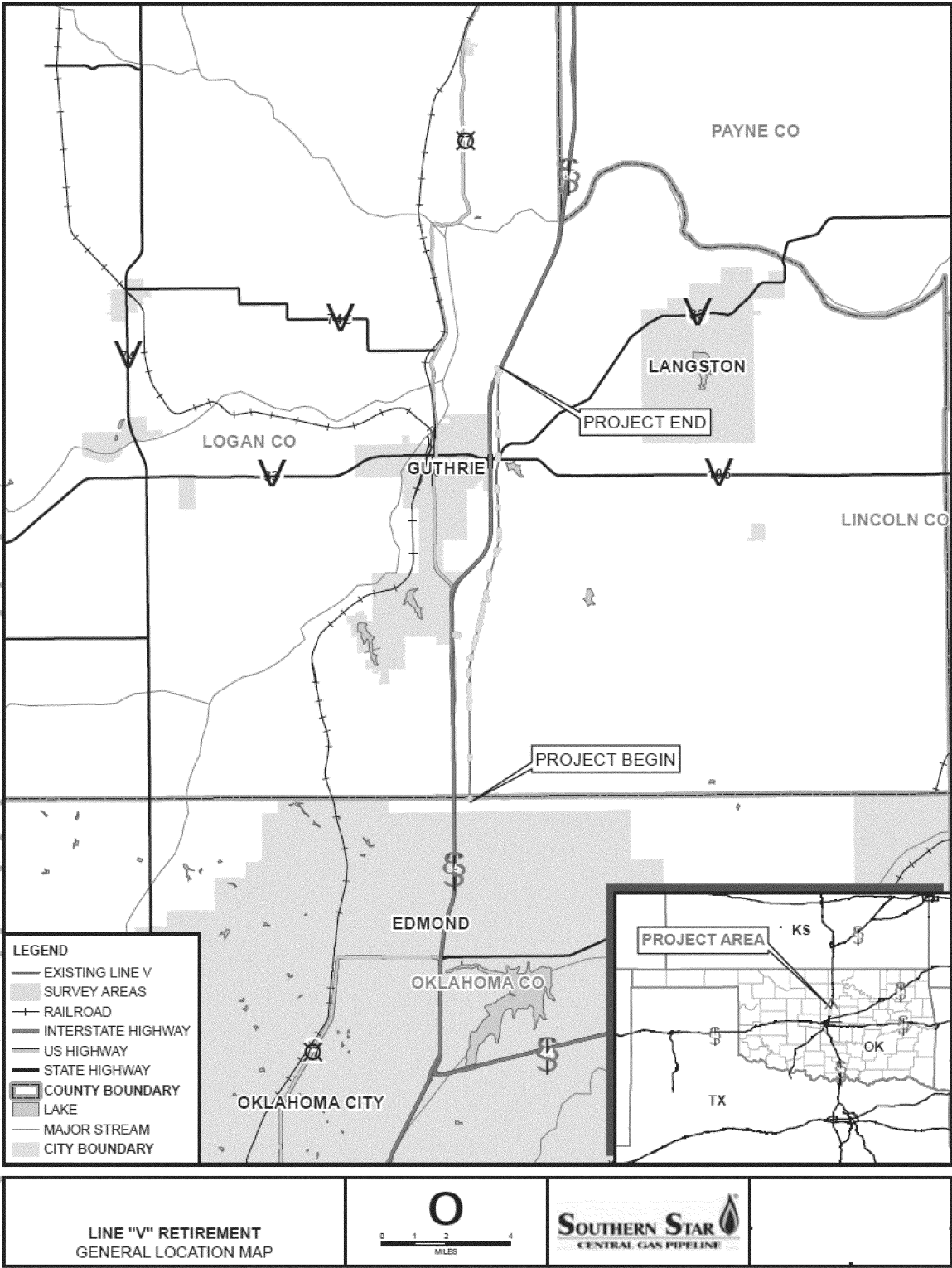
Dated: July 18, 2012.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

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### Appendix 1

<sup>5</sup> The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's regulations 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.



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**Appendix 2**  
**INFORMATION REQUEST**  
**Line V Retirement Project**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send me a paper copy of the published NEPA document  
☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

ATTN: OEP—Gas 1, PJ—11.1, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426

(Docket No. CP12-479-000 Line V Retirement Project)

**Staple or Tape Here**

[FR Doc. 2012-18102 Filed 7-24-12; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. PF11-2-000]

**Freeport LNG Development, L.P., Freeport LNG Expansion, L.P., FLNG Liquefaction LLC; Supplemental Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Planned Liquefaction Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Meeting**

As previously noticed on August 11, 2011, and supplemented herein, 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 Liquefaction Project (Project) involving construction and operation of facilities proposed by Freeport LNG Development, L.P., Freeport LNG Expansion, L.P., and FLNG Liquefaction LLC (collectively referred to as Freeport) in Brazoria County, Texas. This EIS will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public interest.

Changes to the proposed facilities and the scope of our review have occurred since issuance of the Commission's initial notice of intent (NOI) for the Project. Staff has determined that review of the Project will require an EIS. This Supplemental NOI addresses these changes summarized in the Summary of Planned Project section of this notice and announces the opening of a scoping period the Commission will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies on the Project. Your input will help the Commission staff determine what issues need to be evaluated in the EIS. Please note that the scoping period will close on August 20, 2012.

Comments may be submitted in written form or verbally. Further details on how to submit written comments are provided in the Public Participation section of this notice. In lieu of or in addition to sending written comments, the Commission invites you to attend

the public scoping meeting scheduled as listed on page 2.

**FERC Public Scoping Meeting**

*Freeport Liquefaction Project 7:00 p.m.—August 9, 2012*

Lake Jackson Civic Center, 333 Highway 332 E, Lake Jackson, TX 77566, (979) 415-2600.

This notice is being sent to the Commission's current environmental mailing list for the Project. State and local government representatives are asked to 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 pipeline company 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](http://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.

**Summary of the Planned Project**

Freeport plans to add natural gas liquefaction and exportation capabilities to its existing liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal on Quintana Island in Brazoria County, Texas. Since the original notice was issued, the proposed facilities have been modified to include a natural gas Pretreatment Facility as a jurisdictional facility based on public input, the location of the Pretreatment Facility has been changed. The Project would consist of the construction and installation of facilities to be used for liquefaction and export of domestic natural gas.

The planned facilities would consist of the following components:

- Three natural gas liquefaction refrigerant units at the Quintana Island Terminal;

- Expansion of existing Quintana Island Terminal Facilities, including a construction dock and fire water intake structure;

- Natural gas Pretreatment Facility, about 2.5 miles north of the Quintana Island Terminal. It parallels and is located west of County Road (CR) 690, about 0.7 mile north of the intersection of CR 690 and State Highway 332; and

- Several pipelines (boil-off gas, natural gas, natural gas liquids, nitrogen) and utility lines (electric, fiber optic, water) that collectively form a route system between the Terminal, the Pretreatment Plant, Freeport LNG's Stratton Ridge meter station, Freeport LNG's Stratton Ridge underground gas storage facility, and interconnects with other industrial entities.

In addition, a second ship berthing area, third LNG storage tank, and additional LNG vaporization and natural gas send-out facilities that were previously authorized under FERC Docket CP05-361-000 but never constructed would be repurposed to meet the needs of the Project.

Freeport indicates that the Project would produce about 13.2 million metric tons per year of LNG. This would allow Freeport to convert domestically produced natural gas to LNG for storage and export. Freeport LNG expects to be ready to commence LNG exports in late 2015.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in Figure 1 in Appendix 1.<sup>1</sup> Alternative sites for Freeport's proposed site for the Pretreatment Facility (Site F) that will be considered in our review are identified in Figure 2 of Appendix 1.

**Land Requirements for Construction**

The Table below details the land requirements of the proposed Project. Construction of all of the planned facilities would disturb about 610.7 acres of land at or adjacent to the existing Quintana Island Terminal, pretreatment facility and associated jurisdictional and nonjurisdictional pipelines, utilities and access roads.

Following construction, about 215.1 acres would be maintained for permanent operation of the Project facilities; the remaining acreage may be restored and allowed to revert to former uses.

<sup>1</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of appendices were sent to all those receiving this

notice in the mail and are available at [www.ferc.gov](http://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.