

(866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EL07-14-000]

#### **Wisconsin Public Power Inc., Municipal Wholesale Power Group, and Great Lakes Utilities, Complainants v. Wisconsin Power & Light Co., Respondent; Notice of Complaint**

November 2, 2006.

Take notice that on November 1, 2006, Wisconsin Public Power Inc., Municipal Wholesale Power Group, and Great Lakes Utilities (collectively, Wisconsin Publics) filed a complaint against Wisconsin Power & Light Co., (WPL) pursuant to section 206 of the Federal Power Act (FPA). Wisconsin Publics states that in Docket Nos. ER06-1517 and ER06-1518 WPL has made filings under section 205 of the FPA to change its rates, terms, and conditions for service to Wisconsin Publics WPL's PR-1 Tariff and W-3A Tariff, respectively. Wisconsin Publics notes that it has recently submitted extensive protests regarding both of those filings, and has requested consolidation of Docket Nos. ER06-1517 and ER06-1518. Wisconsin Publics states that this complaint also seeks an investigation and refund effective date under section 206 of the FPA, and asks that this third proceeding be consolidated with both of the ER Dockets.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). 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 proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. The Respondent's answer and all interventions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. The Respondent's answer, motions to intervene, and protests must be served on the Complainants.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the

"eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

This filing is accessible online at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link and is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an "eSubscription" link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive e-mail notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please e-mail [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov), or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. eastern time on November 21, 2006.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP07-4-000]

#### **Mississippi Hub, L.L.C.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Mississippi Hub Gas Storage Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

November 3, 2006.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of a proposal by Mississippi Hub, L.L.C. (MS HUB) to construct, own, and operate a new salt cavern natural gas storage facility in Simpson and Jefferson Davis Counties, Mississippi.<sup>1</sup> The proposal would provide for the injection, storage, and withdrawal of natural gas in two underground caverns created in the Bond Salt Dome formation using a solution mining (leaching) process. Once complete, the project would provide approximately 12 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of working gas storage capacity, capable of injecting 600 million cubic feet per day (MMcfd) and delivering gas at maximum rates up to 1,200 MMcfd. Proposed project facilities

include gas compression and withdrawal facilities, a leaching plant, an electrical substation, raw water withdrawal and brine disposal facilities, approximately 11.4 miles of pipeline and utility corridor, metering facilities and ancillary equipment.

This notice announces the opening of the public comment period that will be used to gather environmental input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Comments are requested by December 4, 2006.

This notice is being sent to potentially affected landowners; Federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American Tribes, other interested parties; local libraries and newspapers. 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, you may be contacted by a MS HUB company representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The 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. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the natural gas 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 MS HUB 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**

MS HUB seeks authority to construct and operate the following:

(1) *Natural Gas Handling Facility Site;* Simpson County (approximately 80 acres). The facility would include two storage caverns; a 29,205 horsepower compressor station; separation, dehydration, metering, and appurtenant facilities; leaching plant; one freshwater well; and a non-jurisdictional electrical substation. Solution mining of the caverns would occur over an approximate five-year time span.

(2) *Primary Raw Water Withdrawal and Brine Disposal Facility*

<sup>1</sup> MS HUB's application was filed with the Commission under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

(approximately 45 acres), located south of the Natural Gas Handling Facility in Jefferson Davis County, including three raw water wells, two brine disposal wells, pipelines, roads, and ancillary equipment.

(3) *SONAT (Southern Natural Gas Company) Tie-in and Metering/Secondary Raw Water Withdrawal and Brine Disposal Facility* (approximately 40 acres), located north of the Natural Gas Handling Facility in Simpson County, including two raw water wells, three brine disposal wells, pipelines, roads, ancillary equipment, and metering equipment for an interconnection to the SONAT pipeline system.

(4) *CrossTex Tie-In and Metering Facility Site* (approximately 0.52 acre), located in Simpson County along the West Pipeline Corridor. The site would include metering, pressure control, and related ancillary equipment, pipelines, and roads.

(5) *SONAT Crossover Tie-in and Metering Facility Site* (approximately 0.52 acre), located in Jefferson Davis County at the terminus of the West Pipeline Corridor. The site would include metering, pressure control, and related ancillary equipment, pipelines, and roads.

(6) *Utility and Pipeline Corridors*. Five pipeline corridors (Utility, South, North, East, and West) totaling 11.4 miles, are proposed for the collocation of raw water and brine disposal pipelines, 36-inch-diameter natural gas pipelines, and an overhead electric utility line (non-jurisdictional). All corridors except the 0.2 mile Utility Corridor would parallel existing utility or pipeline right-of-ways. Construction right-of-way widths range from 300-foot-wide (Utility Corridor) to 75-foot-wide (West Pipeline Corridor). Following construction, the permanent pipeline rights-of-way would be 50-foot-wide for all pipeline corridors.

Non-jurisdictional facilities would need to be constructed by others in order to complete the project. These facilities include the permanent electrical substation at the Natural Gas Handling Facility Site, overhead electrical power lines, and five permanent electrical power drops. These facilities would be constructed and operated by local electric utility companies. The permanent electric powerline easement along the Utility Corridor would be 175-foot-wide, adjacent to the pipeline right-of-way.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in Appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

### Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 250.2 acres of land. Following construction, about 196.1 acres would be maintained as new aboveground facility sites or pipeline right-of-way. MS HUB has purchased in fee the tracts for the Natural Gas Handling Facility Site, the Primary Raw Water Withdrawal and Brine Disposal Facility Site, and the SONAT Tie-in and Metering/Secondary Raw Water Withdrawal and Brine Disposal Facility Site. Land requirements for meter stations would be purchased. The remainder of pipeline rights-of-way would be acquired by easement.

### The EA Process

We<sup>3</sup> are preparing this EA to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) which 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 to 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 of Intent, the Commission staff requests public comments on the scope of the issues to address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA.

By this notice, we are also asking Federal, state, and local agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues to formally cooperate with us in the preparation of the EA. Agencies that would like to request cooperating status should follow the instructions for filing comments below.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is

available on the Commission's Web site at the "eLibrary" link 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. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

<sup>3</sup> "We", "us", and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP).

published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

### Currently Identified Environmental Issues

In the EA, we will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the project. We will also evaluate reasonable alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project. We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by MS HUB. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

Project-related impact on:

- Noise sensitive areas (i.e. residences) located in proximity to construction operations and the proposed compressor facility;
- habitat for Federally and state-listed aquatic species downstream from project locations;
- gopher tortoise habitat in the project area (state listed endangered species);
- 159.3 acres of forest lands;
- 58.5 acres of prime farmland soils;
- 29 waterbody crossings; and
- 2 wetlands.

### Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations/routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send an original and two copies of your letter to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426.
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of Gas Branch 3.
- Reference Docket No. CP07-4-000.
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before December 4, 2006.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of comments. Please refer to 18 Code of Federal Regulations

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies of all appendices, other than Appendix 1 (maps), are

(CFR) 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and the link to the User's Guide. Prepare your submission in the same manner as you would if filing on paper and save it to a file on your hard drive. Before you can file comments, you will need to create an account by clicking on "Login to File" and then "New User Account." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making. This filing is considered a "Comment on Filing."

The determination of whether to distribute the EA for public comment will be based on the response to this notice. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the EA, please return the Information Request form (Appendix 2). An effort is being made to send this notice to all individuals affected by the proposed project. This includes all landowners who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within distances defined in the Commission's regulations of certain aboveground facilities.

#### Site Visit

On November 16, 2006, the OEP staff will conduct a site visit of the planned MS HUB Storage Project. We will view the proposed facility locations and pipeline route. Examination will be by automobile and on foot. Representatives of MS HUB will be accompanying the OEP staff.

All interested parties may attend. Those planning to attend must provide their own transportation and should meet at 9 a.m. (CST) in the parking lot of the Wal-Mart, 1625 Simpson Highway 49, Magee, Mississippi on November 16, 2006.

For additional information, please contact the Commission's Office of External Affairs at 1-866-208-FERC (3372).

#### Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding, or "intervenor". To become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214). Intervenor has the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision. Motions to Intervene should be electronically submitted using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons without Internet access should send an original and 14 copies of their motion to the Secretary of the Commission at the address indicated

previously. Persons filing Motions to Intervene on or before the comment deadline indicated above must send a copy of the motion to the Applicant. All filings, including late interventions, submitted after the comment deadline must be served on the Applicant and all other intervenors identified on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. Persons on the service list with e-mail addresses may be served electronically; others must be served a hard copy of the filing.

Affected landowners and parties with environmental concerns may be granted intervenor status upon showing good cause by stating that they have a clear and direct interest in this proceeding which would not be adequately represented by any other parties. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

#### Environmental Mailing List

If you wish to remain on our environmental mailing list, please return the Information Request Form included in Appendix 2. If you do not return this form, you will be removed from our mailing list.

#### Additional Information

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<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. 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 1-866-208-3676, 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 <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>.

Finally, public meetings or additional site visits will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/>

[EventsList.aspx](#) along with other related information.

Magalie R. Salas,  
Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP06-403-000]

#### Northern Natural Gas Company, LLC; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Northern Lights Expansion Project

November 3, 2006.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Northern Natural Gas Company, LLC (Northern) in the above-referenced docket.

The EA was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The 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 EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of six pipeline loops and extensions (five in Minnesota and one in Iowa), two pipeline replacement segments (both in Minnesota), and a greenfield pipeline in Minnesota. Northern would also abandon and remove a segment of existing pipeline in Minnesota. The project would also require modifications at an existing compressor station and construction and modification at several town border stations (TBSs) (i.e., meter stations) and regulator stations. Northern states that the purpose of the project is to provide an estimated incremental firm service of 374,225 Decatherms per day (Dth/day) in Northern's market area. The project is designed to optimize the placement of facilities to meet customer growth requirements for a 2-year period while taking into consideration a long-term design that meets customer growth needs throughout an approximately 20-year period, to 2026.

The EA has been placed in the public files of the FERC. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at: