

right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

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 comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC Internet web site (www.ferc.gov) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket#" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket#" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 6032-041 New York]

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Fourth Branch Associates; Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment

November 13, 2001.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations, 18 CFR part 380 (Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897), the Office of Energy Projects has reviewed the Commission's Notice of Termination of License by Implied Surrender for the Machanicville Hydroelectric Project, located on the Hudson River in Saratoga and Rensselaer Counties, New York, and has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the project. No Federal lands or Indian reservations are

occupied by project works or located within the project boundary.

The DEA contains the staff's analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the project and concludes that terminating the license by implied surrender, with appropriate environmental protective measures, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

The staff also concludes that terminating the license by implied surrender constitutes an undertaking for the purposes of section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and that such termination would have an effect on the Mechanicville Hydroelectric Project, a property listed in the National Register of Historic Places. All interested parties are requested to comment as instructed below.

A copy of the DEA is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection. The DEA may also be viewed on the Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "RIMS" link—select "Docket #" and follow the instructions (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Any comments should be filed within 45 days from the date of this notice and should be addressed to David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. Please affix Project No. 6032-041 to all comments. Comments 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 under the "e-Filing" link.

Due to current events, we cannot guarantee that we will receive mail on a timely basis from the U.S. Postal Service, and we do not know how long this situation will continue. However, we continue to receive filings from private mail delivery services, including messenger services in a reliable manner. The Commission encourages electronic filing of any comments in this proceeding. We will include all comments that we receive within a reasonable time in our environmental analysis of this project.

For further information, contact the Ellen Armbruster at (202) 208-1672.

David P. Boergers,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP02-6-000]

Colorado Interstate Gas Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Raton Basin 2002 Expansion Project, and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

November 9, 2001.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of Colorado Interstate Gas Company's (CIG) proposed Raton Basin 2002 Expansion Project in Las Animas and Baca Counties, Colorado, and Cimarron County, Oklahoma.¹ The project would involve the construction and operation of about 68 miles of pipeline, in three looping segments.² 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 CIG 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. 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?" should have been attached to the project notice CIG 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>).

This Notice of Intent (NOI) is being sent to landowners along CIG's proposed route; Federal, state, and local government agencies; national elected

¹ CIG's application was filed under section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and part 157 of the Commission's regulations on October 5, 2001.

² A loop is a segment of pipeline installed adjacent to an existing pipeline and connected to it on both ends. The loop allows more gas to be moved through that segment of the pipeline system.