

the commentator a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214).<sup>1</sup> Only intervenors have the 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 project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC (3372) or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the "eLibrary" link, select "General Search" from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and "Docket Number" (*i.e.*, CP04-34) and follow the instructions. Searches may also be done using the phase "Line 1278 Replacement" in the "Text Search" field. For assistance with eLibrary, the eLibrary helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659 or at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov). The eLibrary link on the FERC Internet Web site 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. To register for this service, go to <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm>.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project Nos. 2403-048, 2534-068, 2666-023, 2712-055, and 2600-056]

#### PPL Maine, LLC; Bangor-Pacific Hydro Associates; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

April 18, 2005.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (18 CFR part 380 [FERC Order No. 486, 52 FR 47897]), the Office of Energy Projects staff (staff) reviewed the applications for amendment of licenses for the Veazie Project, which is located on the Penobscot River in Penobscot County, Maine; the Milford Project, which is located on the Penobscot River and Stillwater Branch in Penobscot County, Maine; the West Enfield Project which is located on the Penobscot River in Penobscot County, Maine; the Stillwater Project, which is located on the Stillwater Branch in Penobscot County, Maine; and the Medway Project, which is located on the West Branch Penobscot River in Penobscot County, Maine, and prepared a final environmental assessment (FEA) for the projects. In this FEA, staff analyzes the potential environmental effects of the proposed license amendments and concludes that the amendments would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

A copy of the FEA is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room, or it may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "e-Library" link. Enter the docket number (p-2403) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call (202) 502-8222 or (202) 502-8659 (for TTY).

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP04-395-000 and CP04-405-000]

#### Vista del Sol LNG Terminal LP, Vista del Sol Pipeline LP; Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Vista del Sol LNG Terminal Project

April 15, 2005.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the construction and operation of a liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal and natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Vista del Sol LNG Terminal LP and Vista del Sol Pipeline LP (collectively referred to as Vista del Sol) in the above-referenced dockets.

The final EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The staff concludes that approval of the proposed project with appropriate mitigating measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact. The final EIS also evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including system alternatives, alternative sites for the LNG import terminal, and pipeline alternatives.

Vista del Sol's proposed facilities would transport up to 1.4 billion cubic feet per day (Bcfd) of imported natural gas to the United States market. In order to provide LNG import, storage, and pipeline transportation services, Vista del Sol requests Commission authorization to construct, install, and operate an LNG terminal and natural gas pipeline facilities.

The final EIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following LNG terminal and natural gas pipeline facilities:

- A ship unloading facility with berthing capabilities for one LNG ship with cargo capacities of up to 250,000 cubic meters (m<sup>3</sup>);
- Three 155,000 m<sup>3</sup> full containment LNG storage tanks;
- Vaporization equipment capable of an average sendout capacity of 1.1 Bcfd and a maximum sendout capacity of 1.4 Bcfd;
- Ancillary utilities, buildings, and service facilities;
- One 25.3 mile-long, 36-inch-diameter natural gas sendout pipeline; and
- Associated pipeline support facilities, including six meter stations at

<sup>1</sup> Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

interconnects with nine existing pipeline systems, one pig launcher, and one pig receiver.

The final EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426. (202) 502-8371.

A limited number of copies are available from the Public Reference Room identified above. In addition, copies of the final EIS have been mailed to Federal, State, and local agencies; public interest groups; individuals and affected landowners who requested a copy of the final EIS; libraries; newspapers; and parties to this proceeding.

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA, no agency decision on a proposed action may be made until 30 days after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes a notice of availability of a final EIS. However, the CEQ regulations provide an exception to this rule when an agency decision is subject to a formal internal process that allows other agencies or the public to make their views known. In such cases, the agency decision may be made at the same time the notice of the final EIS is published, allowing both periods to run concurrently. Should the FERC issue Vista del Sol authorizations for the proposed project, it would be subject to a 30-day rehearing period. Therefore, the Commission could issue its decision concurrently with the EPA's notice of availability.

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 on the FERC Internet Web site also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

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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 the eSubscription link on the FERC Internet Web site.

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP05-73-000]

#### Northern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Waconia Pig Launcher Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

April 15, 2005.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) on Northern Natural Gas Company's (Northern Natural) proposed Waconia Pig Launcher Project. Northern Natural's proposal involves construction and operation of two pig launchers at a site in Carver County, Minnesota. This notice announces the opening of the scoping process that will be used to gather environmental input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Please note that the scoping period will close on May 16, 2005.

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; parties on the Commission's official service list for this proceeding; and local libraries and newspapers. State and local government representatives are asked to notify their constituents of this proposed 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 Northern Natural representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facility. Northern Natural 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, Northern Natural 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?" is available for viewing on the FERC Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>). This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including how to participate in the Commission's proceedings.

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

A pipeline "pig" is a device used to clean or inspect the inside of a pipeline. A pig launcher is an aboveground facility where pipeline pigs are inserted or retrieved from the pipeline. Northern Natural<sup>1</sup> seeks the authority to construct and operate two pig launchers and appurtenant equipment at a location where the Waconia Branchlines diverge from the Willmar Branchline, about 4 miles south-southwest of Waconia in Carver County, Minnesota. The proposed pig launchers would enable Northern Natural to insert internal inspection pigs into each of the branchlines in order to perform risk and integrity assessments. Northern Natural is required to conduct these studies to comply with the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 and the Department of Transportation's Final Integrity Management Rule for High Consequence Areas.

The Waconia Branchlines are two parallel pipelines, 6 and 8 inches in diameter, which carry natural gas between the Willmar Branchline and Waconia, Minnesota. An aboveground mainline valve is presently located at the site where the pig launchers would be installed. The general location of the project is shown in Appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### Land Requirements

About 1.43 acres of agricultural land (*i.e.*, a parcel measuring 250 feet by 250 feet) would be disturbed during construction. Northern Natural's current easement for the valve site would need to be increased by about 0.08 acre (100 feet by 35 feet) to accommodate the proposed pig launcher.

<sup>1</sup> Northern Natural's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and part 157 of the Commission's 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 (map), are 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 Additional Information section below. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.