

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Washington, DC 20426.

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**Philis J. Posey,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP07-81-000]

#### **Petal Gas Storage, L.L.C.; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Petal No. 3 Compressor Station Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

April 3, 2007.

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 Petal No. 3 Compressor Station Project, involving construction and operation of facilities by Petal Gas Storage, L.L.C. (Petal) in Forrest County, Mississippi. The EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether or not to authorize the project.

This notice announces the opening of the scoping period that will be used to gather environmental input from the public and interested agencies on the project. Your input will help the Commission staff determine which issues need to be evaluated in the EA. Please note that the scoping period will close on May 3, 2007.

An effort is being made to send this notice to all individuals, organizations, Native American Tribes, and government entities interested in and/or potentially 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. We encourage government representatives to notify their constituents of this planned project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

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 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**

Petal proposes to construct a new compressor station consisting of three 5,000-horsepower, electric-drive compressor units at its existing Petal Storage Facility in Forrest County, Mississippi. Petal would construct a new 60-foot by 200-foot building to house the proposed units and other appurtenant facilities. In addition, a 1,605-foot-long, 20-inch-diameter pipeline would be constructed in order to connect the proposed compressor station to Petal's existing gas storage operations.<sup>1</sup>

Petal currently has an estimated working storage capacity of 18 billion cubic feet of natural gas in four storage caverns. The Petal Storage Facility is capable of delivering natural gas into five interstate pipeline systems. The proposed addition of the Petal No. 3 Compressor Station would allow Petal to utilize the full storage capacity of the Petal Storage Facility.

The general location of Petal's proposed facilities is shown on the map attached as appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Land Requirements for Construction**

Construction of the proposed Petal No. 3 Compressor Station Project would affect a total of about 21.1 acres of land. Following construction, about 12.1 acres of land would be allowed to revert to its previous conditions. Disturbance associated with aboveground facilities

<sup>1</sup> Petal's application in Docket No. CP07-81-000 was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

<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 last page of this notice. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

would comprise about 6.7 acres of permanently affected land. A new 1,485-foot-long access road would be constructed surrounding the compressor station building, permanently disturbing 0.5 acre of land.

A 75-foot-wide construction right-of-way is proposed for the associated pipeline. Petal would maintain a 50-foot-wide permanent right-of-way for operation and maintenance of the proposed facilities. Permanent disturbance of the pipeline would total about 1.8 acres. All land that would be affected by the proposed compressor station, pipeline, and access road is owned by Petal.

#### **The EA Process**

We are preparing the 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.

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 and libraries in the project area, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

#### **Public Participation**

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commenter, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. Your comments should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, reasonable alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations and 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: Philis J. Posey, Acting 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 1;
- Reference Docket No. CP07-81-000;
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before May 3, 2007.

Please note that the Commission encourages electronic filing of comments. See 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Internet Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "eFiling" 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."

**Becoming an Intervenor**

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an "intervenor". Intervenor play a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must send one electronic copy (using the Commission's e-Filing system) or 14 paper copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. If you want 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). 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 environmental comments considered.

**Additional Information**

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., CP07-81-000), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the 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 rule makings.

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>.

**Philis J. Posey,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[GA-78-200703; FRL-8296-1]

**Adequacy Status of the Atlanta Early Progress 8-Hour Ozone Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets for Transportation Conformity Purposes**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of adequacy.

**SUMMARY:** In this notice, EPA is notifying the public that we have found that the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets (MVEBs) in the Atlanta Early Progress State Implementation Plan (SIP), submitted on January 16, 2007, by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, are adequate for transportation conformity purposes. As a result of EPA's finding, the Atlanta area must use the MVEBs from the January 16, 2007, Atlanta Early Progress SIP for future conformity determinations for the 8-hour ozone standard.

**DATES:** These MVEBs are effective April 24, 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Lynorae Benjamin, Environmental Engineer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Air Planning Branch, Air Quality Modeling and Transportation Section, 61 Forsyth Street, SW., Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Ms. Benjamin can also be reached by telephone at (404) 562-9040, or via electronic mail at [benjamin.lynorae@epa.gov](mailto:benjamin.lynorae@epa.gov). The finding is available at EPA's conformity Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/cursrips.htm>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Today's notice is simply an announcement of a finding that EPA has already made. EPA Region 4 sent a letter to GA EPD on January 24, 2007, stating that the MVEBs in the Atlanta Early Progress SIP, submitted on January 16, 2007, are adequate. The Atlanta 8-hour ozone nonattainment area is comprised of the following twenty counties: Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Newton, Paulding, Rockdale, Spalding and Walton. EPA's adequacy comment period ran from October 30, 2006, through November 29, 2006. During EPA's adequacy comment period no adverse comments were received. This finding has also been announced on EPA's conformity Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/stateresources/transconf/pastsips.htm>. The adequate MVEBs are provided in the following table:

ATLANTA 8-HOUR OZONE MVEBS  
[Tons per day]

	2006
VOC .....	306.75
NO <sub>x</sub> .....	172.27

Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990. EPA's conformity rule requires that transportation plans, programs and projects conform to state air quality implementation plans and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they do. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards.

The criteria by which EPA determines whether a SIP's MVEBs are adequate for