

385.214) on or before 5 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Dated: December 12, 2011.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**  
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011-32402 Filed 12-16-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2210-207]

#### Appalachian Power Company; Notice of Designation of Certain Commission Personnel as Non-Decisional

Commission staff members Jon Cofrancesco (Office of Energy Projects (202) 502-8951; [jon.cofrancesco@ferc.gov](mailto:jon.cofrancesco@ferc.gov)) and Elizabeth Molloy (Office of the General Counsel; (202) 502-8771; [elizabeth.molloy@ferc.gov](mailto:elizabeth.molloy@ferc.gov)) are assigned to help resolve issues associated with development of a settlement agreement for the Smith Mountain 2011 updated Shoreline Management Plan.

As “non-decisional” staff, Mr. Cofrancesco and Ms. Molloy will not participate in an advisory capacity in the Commission’s review of any offer of settlement or settlement agreement, or deliberations concerning the disposition of the 2011 updated Shoreline Management Plan.

Different Commission “advisory staff” will be assigned to review any offer of settlement or settlement agreement, and to process the 2011 updated Shoreline Management Plan, including providing advice to the Commission with respect to the agreement and the plan. Non-decisional staff and advisory staff are prohibited from communicating with one another concerning the settlement and the 2011 updated Shoreline Management Plan.

Dated: December 9, 2011.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011-32374 Filed 12-16-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP12-18-000]

#### Questar Pipeline Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Mainline 103 Extension 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 Mainline 103 Extension Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Questar Pipeline Company (Questar) in Uintah County, Utah. 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. Details on how to submit comments are in the Public Participation section of this notice. Please note that the scoping period will close on January 18, 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.

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 proposed 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.

Questar 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

Questar seeks authorization to abandon about 8.3 miles of its 14-inch-diameter Mainline 68 and replace it with about 8.5 miles of 20-inch-diameter Mainline 103 in Uintah County, Utah. Questar is replacing this portion of Mainline 68 because it has been undermined and exposed by flash flooding. Questar would extend Mainline 103 away from flood areas in Weaver Canyon, which would result in the replacement being 0.2 mile longer than Mainline 68. Mainline 68 would remain in operation throughout Questar’s extension of Mainline 103. Questar would abandon its Mainline 68 in place, with the exception of areas that are currently exposed, which would be removed. Questar would also construct a pig launcher/receiver<sup>1</sup> facility at its new Mainline 103/68 junction.

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 disturb about 120 acres of land for the pipeline and aboveground facilities. Following construction, Questar would maintain about 52 acres for permanent operation of the project’s facilities; the remaining acreage would be restored and revert to former uses. The proposed pipeline route generally parallels existing pipeline, utility, or road rights-of-way.

#### 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 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

<sup>1</sup> A pipeline “pig” is a device used to clean or inspect the pipeline. A pig launcher/receiver is an aboveground facility where pigs are inserted or retrieved from the 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 <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.