

including the time to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate form or petition, and submit the completed request to the USPTO.

The time per response, estimated annual responses, and estimated annual hour burden associated with each instrument in this information collection is shown in the table below.

*Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden:* 5,000 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost Burden (Hourly):* \$2,190,000.00. The USPTO expects that attorneys will complete the instruments associated with this information collection. The professional hourly rate used for the calculation is the \$438 average rate for attorneys in

private firms as published in the 2017 Report of the Economic Survey by the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA). Using this hourly rate, the USPTO estimates \$2,190,000.00 per year for the total hourly costs associated with respondents.

IC No.	Information collection instrument	Estimated time for response (hours) (a)	Estimated annual responses (b)	Estimated annual burden hours (a) × (b) = (c)	Rate (\$/hr) (d)	Total cost (\$/hr) (c) × (d) = (e)
1 .....	Submissions Under 37 CFR 1.28(c) .....	2	1,875	3,750	\$438.00	\$1,642,500.00
2 .....	Submissions Under 37 CFR 1.29(k) .....	2	625	1,250	438.00	547,500.00
<b>Total ..</b>	.....	.....	2,500	5,000	.....	2,190,000.00

*Estimated Total Annual Cost Burden (Non-Hourly):* \$335.00. There are no capital startup, maintenance, or operating fees associated with this collection. There are, however, postage costs associated with this collection.

Specifically, customers may incur postage costs when submitting the information in this collection to the USPTO by mail through the United States Postal Service. The USPTO estimates that the average first class

postage cost for a one-pound, priority mail submission will be \$6.70 and approximately 60 submissions will be submitted to the USPTO requiring postage.

IC No.	Information collection instrument	Responses (yr) (a)	Postage costs (b)	Total non-hour cost burden (yr) (a) × (b) = (c)
1 .....	Submissions Under 37 CFR 1.28(c) .....	38	\$6.70	\$254.60
2 .....	Submissions Under 37 CFR 1.29(k) .....	12	6.70	80.40
<b>Total</b>	.....	50	.....	335.00

Therefore, the USPTO estimates that the total annual (non-hour) cost burden for this collection, in the form of postage costs is \$335.00 per year.

**IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection;

they will also become a matter of public record.

**Marcie Lovett,**  
Director, Records and Information Governance Division, Office of the Chief Technology Officer, USPTO.

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**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Defense Science Board; Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, Defense Science Board, Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Defense (DoD) is publishing this notice to announce that the following Federal Advisory Committee meeting of the Defense Science Board (DSB) will take place.

**DATES:** July 18, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.–July 19, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The Executive Conference Center, 4075 Wilson Boulevard, 3rd Floor, Arlington, VA 22203.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Defense Science Board Designated Federal Officer (DFO) Mr. Edward C. Gliot, (703) 571-0079 (Voice), (703) 697-1860 (Facsimile), [edward.c.gliot.civ@mail.mil](mailto:edward.c.gliot.civ@mail.mil) (Email). Mailing address is Defense Science Board, 3140 Defense Pentagon, Room 3B888A, Washington, DC 20301-3140. Website: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dsb/>. The most up-to-date changes to the meeting agenda can be found on the website.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Due to circumstances beyond the control of the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Designated Federal Officer, the Defense Science Board was unable to provide public notification required by 41 CFR 102-3.150(a) concerning the meeting on July 18 through 19, 2018, of the Defense Science Board. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee Management Officer for the Department of Defense,

pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.150(b), waives the 15-calendar day notification requirement.

This meeting is being held under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C., Appendix), the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b), and 41 CFR 102–3.140 and 102–3.150.

*Purpose of the Meeting:* The mission of the DSB is to provide independent advice and technical enterprise. The objective of the meeting is to obtain, review, and evaluate classified information related to the DSB's mission. The meeting will focus on the DSB's 2018 Summer Study on Strategic Surprise tasking, to include DoD dependence on the U.S. electric power grid, homeland air defense, maritime situational awareness, threats and promise of biotechnology, countering autonomous systems, technical approaches to counter-intelligence, resilient positioning, navigation and timing, various undersea issues, gray zone conflict, resilience of the defense industrial base, and logistics.

*Agenda:* The DSB meeting will begin on Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. with opening remarks from Mr. Edward Gliot, DSB Executive Director, Dr. Craig Fields, DSB Chairman and Dr. Eric Evans, Vice Chairman. Following opening remarks, DSB members will hold classified small group discussions covering DoD dependence on the U.S. electric power grid, homeland air defense, maritime situational awareness, threats and promises of biotechnology, countering autonomous systems, technical approaches to counter-intelligence, resilient positioning, navigation and timing, various undersea issues, gray zone conflict, resilience of the defense industrial base, and logistics. After break, DSB members will hold classified discussions covering DoD dependence on the U.S. electric power grid, homeland air defense, maritime situational awareness, threats and promises of biotechnology, countering autonomous systems, technical approaches to counter-intelligence, resilient positioning, navigation and timing, various undersea issues, gray zone conflict, resilience of the defense industrial base, and logistics. The meeting will adjourn at 5:00 p.m. On the second day of the meeting, Thursday, July 19, 2018, the day will begin at 8:00 a.m. with a classified session covering DoD dependence on the U.S. electric power grid, homeland air defense, maritime situational awareness, threats and promises of biotechnology, countering autonomous systems, technical approaches to counter-intelligence,

resilient positioning, navigation and timing, various undersea issues, gray zone conflict, resilience of the defense industrial base, and logistics. After break, the classified discussion will continue on the same topics. The meeting will adjourn at 3:00 p.m.

*Meeting Accessibility:* In accordance with section 10(d) of the FACA and 41 CFR 102–3.155, the DoD has determined that the DSB meeting will be closed to the public. Specifically, the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, in consultation with the DoD Office of General Counsel, has determined in writing that the meeting will be closed to the public because it will consider matters covered by 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1). The determination is based on the consideration that it is expected that discussions throughout will involve classified matters of national security concern. Such classified material is so intertwined with the unclassified material that it cannot reasonably be segregated into separate discussions without defeating the effectiveness and meaning of the overall meetings. To permit the meeting to be open to the public would preclude discussion of such matters and would greatly diminish the ultimate utility of the DSB's findings and recommendations to the Secretary of Defense and to the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering.

*Written Statements:* In accordance with section 10(a)(3) of the FACA and 41 CFR 102–3.105(j) and 102–3.140, interested persons may submit a written statement for consideration by the DSB at any time regarding its mission or in response to the stated agenda of a planned meeting. Individuals submitting a written statement must submit their statement to the DSB DFO provided above at any point; however, if a written statement is not received at least three calendar days prior to the meeting, which is the subject of this notice, then it may not be provided to or considered by the DSB until a later date.

Dated: July 18, 2018.

**Shelly E. Finke,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register, Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP18–18–000]

#### Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Gateway Expansion Project, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the Gateway Expansion Project, proposed by Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) in the above-referenced docket. Transco requests authorization to modify certain facilities in Essex and Passaic Counties, New Jersey, to increase the firm transportation capacity on the existing pipeline to allow greater access to natural gas supplies. The proposed modifications would occur within existing facilities, with no new permanent right-of-way.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Gateway Expansion Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FERC 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 proposed Gateway Expansion Project includes the following facilities:

#### Essex County

##### *Compressor Station 303*

- Expansion of the building and installation of a 33,000 horsepower electric-motor driven compression unit and ancillary equipment; and
- extension of security fencing and access to new equipment.

##### *Roseland Meter and Regulator*

- Installation of a 36-inch-diameter Main Line block valve with automation controls.

##### *Roseland Electric Substation*

- Installation of an electric transformer unit.

#### Passaic County

##### *Paterson Meter and Regulator*

- Replacing the existing 12-inch-diameter headers with two new 6-inch-diameter ultrasonic meter skids and associated equipment; and