

Washington Metering and Regulation (M&R) delivery point in Tuscarawas County, re-wheel compressors on three existing centrifugal compression sets at Dominion's existing Newark Compressor Station in Licking County, and construction of a pig launcher/receiver south of the existing Gilmore M&R station in Tuscarawas County.

In addition, Dominion proposes to construct and operate the following facilities in Pennsylvania: 3.2 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline looping in Greene County (TL-654 PA Loop), installation of regulation equipment at Dominion's existing South Bend Compressor Station in Armstrong County and Leidy M&R Station in Clinton County, and new mainline gate valves at the proposed TL-654 PA Loop in Greene County.

### Background

On March 13, 2018, the Commission issued a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Sweden Valley Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues* (NOI). The NOI was sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local governmental representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; potentially interested Indian tribes; and local libraries and newspapers. In response to the NOI, we received a total of 15 comments letters. The comments addressed support for the project, purpose and need, water resources and wetlands, geology, vegetation, wildlife, fisheries, threatened and endangered species, land use and recreation, air quality/greenhouse gas emissions, alternative analysis, tribal cultural resources and the National Historic Preservation Act, and cumulative impacts. All substantive comments will be addressed in the EA.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is a federal cooperating agency who is assisting us in preparing this EA because they have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to environmental impacts associated with Dominion's proposal.

### Additional Information

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. 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 [www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp).

Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (866) 208-FERC or on the FERC website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)). Using the "eLibrary" link, select "General Search" from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and "Docket Number" excluding the last three digits (*i.e.* CP18-45), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). The eLibrary link on the FERC website also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

Dated: August 21, 2018.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2018-18464 Filed 8-24-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 4784-095]

#### Topsham Hydro Partners Limited Partnership Pejepsot Hydroelectric Project; Notice of Dispute Resolution Panel Meeting and Technical Conference, and Revised Schedule

On August 21, 2018, Commission staff, in response to the filing of a notice of study dispute by the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on August 1, 2018, convened a single three-person Dispute Resolution Panel (Panel) pursuant to 18 CFR 5.14(d).

The Panel will hold a technical conference, via conference call, at the time identified below. The technical conference will address the study dispute identified in Enclosure A of the August 1, 2018 filing which includes predation by non-native predators on native anadromous fish, including the endangered Atlantic salmon. The panel will not address the study comments identified in Enclosure B of the August 1, 2018 filing which includes comments on studies which NMFS is not disputing.

The purpose of the technical session is for the disputing agency, applicant, and Commission to provide the Panel with additional information necessary to evaluate the disputed studies. All local, state, and federal agencies, Indian tribes, and other interested parties are invited to participate in the conference call as observers. The Panel may also

request information or clarification on written submissions as necessary to understand the matters in dispute. The Panel will limit all input that it receives to the specific studies or information in dispute and will focus on the applicability of such studies or information to the study criteria stipulated in 18 CFR 5.9(b). If the number of participants wishing to speak creates time constraints, the Panel may, at its discretion, limit the speaking time for each participant.

The schedule for completing the Formal Study Dispute Process follows:  
 August 21, 2018—Panel Convened  
 August 28, 2018—Panel submits questions to Parties  
 September 6, 2018—Parties submit written comments, answers Panel questions  
 September 11, 2018—Technical Conference Call  
 September 20, 2018—Panel submits findings to Director Office of Energy Projects

### Technical Conference Call

Date: Tuesday September 11, 2018  
 Time: 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. (EST)

### Conference Call-in Information:

Cisco Unified Meeting Place  
 Meeting ID No. 0255  
 Call in within DC, 202-502-6888  
 Call in Outside DC, 1-877-857-1347

For more information, please contact Monte TerHaar, the Dispute Resolution Panel Chair, at [monte.terhaar@ferc.gov](mailto:monte.terhaar@ferc.gov) or 202-502-6035.

Dated: August 21, 2018.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2018-18467 Filed 8-24-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP18-89-000]

#### Empire Pipeline, Inc.; Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review of the Empire North Project

On February 19, 2018, Empire Pipeline, Inc. (Empire) filed an application in Docket No. CP18-89-000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act to construct and operate certain natural gas pipeline facilities. The proposed project is known as the Empire North Project (Project), and would provide about 205 million cubic feet per day of

incremental firm transportation capacity.

On March 5, 2018, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) issued its Notice of Application for the Project. Among other things, that notice alerted agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on a request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Project. This instant notice identifies the FERC staff's planned schedule for the completion of the EA for the Project.

#### Schedule for Environmental Review

Issuance of EA—November 20, 2018  
90-day Federal Authorization Decision  
Deadline—February 18, 2019

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project's progress.

#### Project Description

Empire proposes to construct and operate gas compression facilities in Tioga County, Pennsylvania and Ontario, New York. The Empire North Project would consist of the following facilities:

- A new 21,000 horsepower compressor station in Jackson Township, Tioga County, Pennsylvania;
- a new 32,000 horsepower compressor station in the Town of Farmington, Ontario County, New York;
- modifications of the existing regulator valves and station piping and installation of metering facilities at the existing New Victor Regulator Station in Ontario County, New York;
- minor modifications to the existing Jackson Meter and Regulator Station in Jackson Township, Tioga County, Pennsylvania; and
- upgrading the maximum allowable operating pressure of the Empire Connector Pipeline from 1,290 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) to 1,440 psig.

#### Background

On April 10, 2018, the Commission issued a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Empire North Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues* (NOI). The NOI was sent to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. In response to the NOI, the

Commission received comments from the New York State Thruway Authority and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The primary issues raised by the commentors are alternatives, accessing the site, the location of a construction staging area near a driveway, cumulative impacts analysis, climate change, air quality, safety, and environmental justice. All substantive comments will be addressed in the EA.

The U.S. Department of Transportation is a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EA.

#### Additional Information

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Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (866) 208-FERC or on the FERC website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)). Using the eLibrary link, select General Search from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and Docket Number excluding the last three digits (*i.e.*, CP18–89), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208–3676, TTY (202) 502–8659, or at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). The eLibrary link on the FERC website also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

Dated: August 17, 2018.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.**,

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2018–18421 Filed 8–24–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2570–032]

#### **AEP Generation Resources, Inc.; Notice of Intent To File License Application, Filing of Pre-Application Document (PAD), Commencement of Pre-Filing Process, and Scoping; Request for Comments on the Pad and Scoping Document, and Identification of Issues and Associated Study Requests**

a. *Type of Filing:* Notice of Intent to File License Application for a New License and Commencing Pre-filing Process.

b. *Project No.:* 2570–032.

c. *Dated Filed:* July 2, 2018.

d. *Submitted by:* AEP Generation Resources, Inc.

e. *Name of Project:* Racine Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* The Racine Project is located at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Racine Locks and Dam on the Ohio River near the Town of Racine in Meigs County, Ohio. The project occupies 23 acres of federal land administered by the Corps.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* 18 CFR part 5 of the Commission's Regulations.

h. *Potential Applicant Contact:* Jonathan Magalski, Environmental Specialist Consultant, c/o Indiana Michigan Power Company, 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, OH 43215; (614) 716–2240 or [jmmagalski@aep.com](mailto:jmmagalski@aep.com).

i. *FERC Contact:* Jay Summers at (202) 502–8764 or email at [jay.summers@ferc.gov](mailto:jay.summers@ferc.gov).

j. *Cooperating agencies:* Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues that wish to cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document should follow the instructions for filing such requests described in paragraph o below.

Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document cannot also intervene. See 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

k. *With this notice, we are initiating informal consultation with:* (a) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or NOAA Fisheries under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 CFR, Part 402 and (b) the State Historic Preservation Officer, as required by section 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the implementing