

Notice of Ready for Environmental Analysis.	April 2022.
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Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of the notice of ready for environmental analysis.

Dated: August 13, 2021.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-17786 Filed 8-18-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP21-57-000]

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline Amendment Project

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the Mountain Valley Pipeline Amendment Project (Amendment Project), proposed by Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (Mountain Valley) in the above-referenced docket. Mountain Valley requests authorization to change the crossing method of specific waterbodies and wetlands from open-cut dry crossings (as authorized by its October 13, 2017 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity [Certificate]) to trenchless methods (conventional bore, guided conventional bore, or Direct Pipe[®] ¹). In addition, Mountain Valley requests authorization for two minor route adjustments to avoid wetlands and waterbodies and authorization to conduct nighttime construction at eight trenchless crossings.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Amendment 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.

¹ Direct Pipe[®] is a construction method developed by Herrenknecht AG that combines microtunneling and horizontal direction drill (HDD).

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) is a federal cooperating agency who assisted us in preparing this EA because they have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to impacts to waters of the U.S. The COE may adopt the EA per 40 CFR 1501.8 if, after an independent review of the document, it concludes that their requirements and/or regulatory responsibilities have been satisfied. However, the COE would present its own conclusions and recommendations in its respective and applicable records of decision or determinations. Otherwise, it may elect to conduct its own supplemental environmental analyses.

The proposed Amendment Project includes the following:

- 120 trenchless crossings (117 conventional bores, 2 guided conventional bores, and 1 Direct Pipe[®]) of 47 wetlands and 136 streams in Wetzel, Lewis, Webster, Nicholas, Greenbrier, Summers, and Monroe counties, West Virginia and Giles, Montgomery, Roanoke, Franklin, and Pittsylvania, counties, Virginia;
- avoidance of one wetland via a shift in the permanent operational right-of-way at MP 0.70;
- avoidance of one waterbody due to a route adjustment at MP 230.8; and
- 24-hour construction activities at the previously authorized Gauley River and Roanoke River, two guided conventional bore crossings, the Direct Pipe[®] crossing, and three conventional bore locations.

The Commission mailed a copy of the *Notice of Availability* to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; and newspapers and libraries in the project area. The EA is only available in electronic format. It may be viewed and downloaded from the FERC's website (www.ferc.gov), on the natural gas environmental documents page (<https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/natural-gas/environment/environmental-documents>). In addition, the EA may be accessed by using the eLibrary link on the FERC's website. Click on the eLibrary link (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search>), select "General Search" and enter the docket number in the "Docket Number" field, (i.e., CP21-57). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

The EA is not a decision document. It presents Commission staff's independent analysis of the environmental issues for the Commission to consider when addressing the merits of all issues in this proceeding. Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. Your comments should focus on the EA's disclosure and discussion of potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impacts. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. To ensure that the Commission has the opportunity to consider your comments prior to making its decision on this project, it is important that we receive your comments in Washington, DC on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 13, 2021.

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to file your comments to the Commission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has staff available to assist you at (866) 208-3676 or FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov. Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded.

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to FERC Online. This is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project;

(2) You can also file your comments electronically using the eFiling feature on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to FERC Online. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You must select the type of filing you are making. If you are filing a comment on a particular project, please select "Comment on a Filing"; or

(3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the Commission. Be sure to reference the project docket number (CP21-57-000) on your letter. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Filing environmental comments will not give you intervenor status, but you

do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered. Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing or judicial review of the Commission's decision. At this point in this proceeding, the timeframe for filing timely intervention requests has expired. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene out-of-time pursuant to Rule 214(b)(3) and (d) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214(b)(3) and (d)) and show good cause why the time limitation should be waived. Motions to intervene are more fully described at <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/ferc-online/how-guides>.

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) using the eLibrary link. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission 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 <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview> to register for eSubscription.

Dated: August 13, 2021.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-17782 Filed 8-18-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2433-125]

Wisconsin Public Service Corporation; Notice of Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

August 13, 2021.

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

- a. *Type of Application:* Reservoir Drawdown Plan.
- b. *Project No.:* 2433-125.
- c. *Date Filed:* July 28, 2021.
- d. *Applicant:* Wisconsin Public Service Corporation.

e. *Name of Project:* Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* The project is located on the Menominee River in Marinette County, Wisconsin, and Menominee County, Michigan.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791a-825r.

h. *Applicant Contact:* Mr. James Nuthals, Principal Environmental Consultant, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, 700 North Adams Street, P.O. Box 19001, Green Bay, WI 54307-9001; (920) 433-1460; james.nuthals@wecenergygroup.com.

i. *FERC Contact:* Linda Stewart, (202) 502-8184, linda.stewart@ferc.gov.

j. *Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests:* August 30, 2021.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, and protests using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include the docket number P-2433-125. Comments emailed to Commission staff are not considered part of the Commission record.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, it must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

k. *Description of Request:* Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (licensee) requests approval of its filed Reservoir

Drawdown Plan, which would allow the licensee to lower the reservoir in order to repair damaged flashboards on the overflow spillway. The licensee proposes to draw down the reservoir to a target elevation of 661.45 feet, which is 3 feet below the required minimum reservoir water surface elevation. The licensee would begin the drawdown on or before September 7, 2021, and return the reservoir to its normal operating elevation the week of October 4, 2021. The minimum flow requirement under Article 402 of the license would be maintained during the drawdown period; however, the run-of-river operation and reservoir water surface elevation requirements under Article 401 would be temporarily modified during the drawdown period.

l. *Locations of the Application:* This filing may be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, call 1-866-208-3676 or email FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, for TTY, call (202) 502-8659. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant.

m. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

n. *Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene:* Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214, respectively. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

o. *Filing and Service of Documents:* Any filing must (1) bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "PROTEST", or "MOTION TO INTERVENE" as applicable; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting, protesting, or intervening;