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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Florida Gas Transmission : Docket No.

Company, LLC : CP09-17-000

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Phase VIII Expansion Project

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Crestview Community Center

1446 Commerce Drive

Crestview, Florida

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

The public hearing, pursuant to notice, convened at 7:07
p.m. before a Staff Panel:

DANNY LAFFOON, Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission

MITCHELL SHIELDS, HDR Engineering

SPEAKERS

Ellen Lykins

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MR. LAFFOON: Good evening, my name is Daniel
3 Laffoon. I am an Environmental Project Manager with the
4 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or FERC. At the table
5 with me tonight I have Mitch Shields. He's with HDR. He
6 helped in the preparation of our environmental impact
7 statement.

8 HDR is an environmental contractor that helps
9 with the environmental impact statement for the Phase VIII
10 Expansion Project. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the
11 U.S. Forest Service cooperated in the preparation of this
12 document. Barry Linds, who I have lost, is over in the
13 corner. He's also with HDR.

14 Let the record show that the Crestview Scoping
15 Meeting began at 7:07 p.m. on May 12, 2009.

16 On April 16, 2009, we mailed about 3100 copies of
17 the environmental impact statement or EIS to those
18 individuals who requested to be on our mailing list.
19 Government agencies, local libraries and newspapers. Most
20 of you received a copy of the CD in the mail. Additionally,
21 about 150 hard copies were sent out to individuals that
22 requested the paper form of the EIS.

23 The purpose of this meeting is for me, at FERC,
24 to get your comments on this Draft EIS. We are in the midst
25 of a 45-day comment period on the Draft EIS. The comment

1 period ends on June 8, 2009. All comments received within
2 the comment period will be addressed in the final EIS. We
3 have a sign-up sheet in the back of the room, and I will
4 call individuals up to speak one at a time that signed in on
5 the speaker list. After those people have had their
6 opportunity to comment, I will open the floor for anyone
7 else who would like to comment on the EIS.

8 We take your environmental comments very
9 seriously. We give equal weight to your comments, whether
10 you decide to speak them, mail your comments in, or submit
11 them electronically through our FERC website as we revise
12 the Draft EIS. Specific instructions on how to file written
13 or electronic comments are contained in the first couple
14 pages of the Draft EIS on the hard copy or in the CD. If
15 you have any questions about that, you can ask me after the
16 meeting tonight. I'll be glad to help you as best I can.

17 The more specific the comments we receive from
18 you, the better we can address your concerns. General
19 comments such as, "I don't like the project" are not as
20 helpful as specific comments. Our job over the next couple
21 of months is to revise our environmental analysis based on
22 the types of comments that we receive. If you received a
23 copy of the Draft EIS you will automatically receive a copy
24 of the final; you do not need to sign up again on another
25 mailing list. Once we finish the final EIS and mail it out,

1 we will forward that onto our commissioners at the FERC.

2 The commissioners will consider our environmental
3 analysis along with non-environmental issues in order to
4 determine whether to authorize the project. Thus, the EIS
5 itself is a tool in the process; it is not a decision-making
6 document.

7 The preliminary statements are over, and now it's
8 time for me to turn the meeting over to you. Like I said,
9 this is your chance to make your comments on the Draft EIS.

10 If you have questions about the environmental review
11 process, I will answer those. If you have very specific
12 questions regarding a negotiation or an easement situation
13 on your property, there are representatives from FGT here
14 tonight and they can discuss those issues with you after the
15 meeting.

16 With that, how many people do we have signed in
17 to speak? No one signed in to speak.

18 Is there anyone who wishes to speak about the
19 Draft EIS or about FGT's project?

20 MS. LYKINS: Ellen Lykins. I just wanted to ask
21 about the process. Do you know anything about the process
22 when they were saying there would have to be a
23 certification; when that happens, how that happens?

24 MR. LAFFOON: The question is when and how does
25 the certification process happen?

1 MS. LYKINS: You're probably not involved with
2 that, or are you?

3 MR. LAFFOON: I have a little bit to do with
4 that.

5 What was your name again?

6 MS. LYKINS: Ellen Lykins.

7 MR. LAFFOON: The decision making process goes
8 through the commissioners themselves, which is the FERC
9 regulatory body. We prepare the Draft Environmental Impact
10 Statement to help in their decision making ability. This is
11 just one piece in it.

12 As we have put on our website, we anticipate that
13 the final EIS will be issued August 7th. So it would be
14 sometime after the issuance of that document that the
15 commissioners would make their final decision.

16 AUDIENCE: And the final decision is a
17 certificate?

18 MR. LAFFOON: The final decision is the
19 certificate, yes, or the order.

20 MS. LYKINS: After when?

21 MR. LAFFOON: August 7th.

22 Any other questions?

23 (No response.)

24 Okay, well, that concludes the formal part of the
25 meeting, so I guess I'll go ahead and close the meeting.

1 AUDIENCE: Well, I know you have a book there.
2 Can you just, in a nutshell, maybe give us some of your
3 concerns? Environmentally or in any other regard as to what
4 things you might be concerned about, how this area might be
5 impacted?

6 MR. LAFFOON: Probably the best way to describe
7 our concerns is to look through the environmental
8 recommendations that we have, which are all in Section 5 of
9 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

10 AUDIENCE: Is that on line, or in this book that
11 you have?

12 MR. LAFFOON: It's both, yes. This document is
13 on line, and it's in the CD. The CD and the hard copy are
14 exactly the same.

15 AUDIENCE: Okay.

16 MR. LAFFOON: So I will close the meeting.

17 Anyone wishing to keep up with the official
18 activity with the Phase VIII Expansion Project can use the
19 FERC website, at: www.FERC.gov. Within our website there's
20 an eLibrary link where you can type in the docket number for
21 the project -- in this case it's CP09-17. You can use
22 eLibrary to gain access to everything on the public record
23 concerning the project, including all of the public filings
24 and information submitted by FGT.

25 As I stated earlier, the representatives from FGT

1 will stay in the room after the meeting to help address
2 individual concerns that you may have about the project.

3 If you would like immediate copies of the
4 transcript, please see the court reporter after the meeting.

5 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
6 Commission, I want to thank you all for coming here tonight.
7 Let the record show that the comment meeting concluded at
8 7:14 p.m. Thank you very much for coming.

9 (Whereupon, at 7:14 p.m., the scoping meeting
10 concluded.)

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