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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Texas Eastern Transmission, Inc.: Docket No. PF13-15-000
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OHIO PIPELINE ENERGY NETWORK PROJECT

Edison High School
9890 State Road 152
Richmond, OH 43944
Monday, September 16, 2013

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

ELAINE BAUM, Environmental Biologist
DANNY LAFFOON, Environmental Protection
Specialist

With:
STEVE MARTIN, Texas Eastern Transmission, Inc.

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LIST OF PUBLIC SPEAKERS

| | |
|---|----|
| TERRY BELL, Township Trustee, Salem Township | 14 |
| ED HASHBARGER, Jefferson County Citizens | |
| for Environmental Truth | 15 |
| JEFF NEILLY, local Field Rep, Labor | 16 |
| BEVERLY CHRISTEN, Member, Pittsburgh Geological Society | 17 |

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MS. BAUM: Good evening. On behalf of the
3 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, also known as the
4 FERC, I would like to welcome all of you tonight. This is a
5 scoping meeting for the Ohio Pipeline Energy Network Project
6 proposed by Texas Eastern Transmission, also known as Texas
7 Eastern.

8 Let the record show that the public scoping
9 meeting in Richmond, Ohio began at 7 o'clock p.m. on
10 September 16th, 2013. The primary purpose of this meeting
11 is to provide you an opportunity to comment on the project
12 or on the scope of the environmental analysis being prepared
13 for the project.

14 My name is Elaine Baum and I am an Environmental
15 Project Manager with the Commission's Office of Energy
16 Projects. With me at the table tonight is Danny Laffoon
17 with the FERC. And working at the sign-in table tonight is
18 Jennifer Ward and Wayne Kicklighter from Cardno-Entrix.
19 Cardno-Entrix is assisting FERC in the preparation of the
20 Environmental Assessment, or EA.

21 The FERC is an independent agency that regulates
22 the interstate transmission of natural gas and reviews
23 proposals and authorizes construction of interstate natural
24 gas pipelines, storage facilities, and liquefied natural gas
25 terminals. As a federal licensing agency, the FERC has the
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1 responsibility under the National Environmental Policy Act
2 to consider the potential environmental impacts associated
3 with the project which is under its consideration.

4 With regard to Texas Eastern's Ohio Pipeline
5 Energy Network Project, the FERC is the lead agency for the
6 National Environmental Policy Act review and the preparation
7 of the EA.

8 As I said earlier, the primary purpose of this
9 meeting tonight is to give you an opportunity to comment on
10 the project or on the environmental issues that you would
11 like to see covered in the EA. It will help us the most if
12 your comments are as specific as possible regarding the
13 potential environmental impacts and reasonable alternatives
14 of the proposed project. These issues generally focus on
15 the potential for environmental effects, but may also
16 address construction issues, mitigation, and the
17 environmental review process. In addition, this meeting is
18 designed to provide you with an opportunity to meet with the
19 Texas Eastern company representatives, to ask them
20 questions, and to get more detailed information about their
21 proposed facility locations and construction plans.

22 Tonight's agenda is a simple one; first, I'm
23 going to describe the environmental review process and the
24 FERC's role in this project. After that, we're going to let
25 the project sponsor, Texas Eastern, give a more complete
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1 description of the proposal. After that, we will hear from
2 those of you who have signed up to speak. If you would you
3 like to present comments tonight, please be sure to sign the
4 speakers list at the sign-in table in the back.

5 Now I am going to briefly describe our
6 environmental review process for you.

7 To illustrate how this process works, we've
8 prepared a flow chart. This was appended to the Notice of
9 Intent, as well as the scoping meeting handout, and there
10 are copies available at the sign-in table.

11 Currently, we are near the beginning of our
12 environmental review process and are in the public input
13 opportunities part. Approximately one month ago, Texas
14 Eastern held four open house meetings which gave them a
15 chance to explain more about their proposed project as well
16 as for FERC staff to introduce our agency and explain our
17 role in the process.

18 Texas Eastern entered into the FERC pre-filing
19 process on June 21, 2013, which began our review of the
20 facilities that we refer to as the Ohio Pipeline Energy
21 Network Project. The purpose of the pre-filing process is
22 to encourage involvement by all interested stakeholders in a
23 manner that allows for early identification and resolution
24 of environmental issues. As of today, no formal application
25 has been filed with the FERC; however, the FERC along with
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1 other federal, state and local agency staffs have begun
2 review of the project.

3 On August 29, 2013, FERC issued a Notice of
4 Intent, or NOI, to prepare an EA for this project and
5 initiated a scoping period. This 'scoping' or comment
6 period will end on September 30, 2013. During our review of
7 the project, we will assemble information from a variety of
8 sources, including Texas Eastern; the public; other state,
9 local and federal agencies; and our own independent analysis
10 and field work. We will analyze this information and
11 prepare an EA that will be distributed to the public for
12 comment.

13 Once scoping is finished, our next step will be
14 to begin analyzing the company's proposals and the issues
15 that have been identified during the scoping period. This
16 will include an examination of the proposed facility
17 locations as well as alternative sites. We will assess the
18 project's effects on water bodies and wetlands, vegetation
19 and wildlife, endangered species, cultural resources,
20 socioeconomics, soils, land use, air quality, and safety.

21 When complete, our analysis of the potential
22 impacts will be published as an EA and presented to the
23 public for a 30-day comment period. This EA will be mailed
24 to all interested parties.

25 Please note that because of the size of the
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1 mailing list, the mailed version of the EA is often on a CD.
2 That means that unless you tell us otherwise, the EA that
3 you will find in your mailbox will be on a CD. If you
4 prefer to have a hard copy mailed to you, you must indicate
5 that choice on the return mailer attached to the NOI. You
6 can also indicate that on the attendance sheet tonight at
7 the sign-in table.

8 As I mentioned earlier, our issuance of the NOI
9 opened a formal comment period that will close on September
10 30, 2013. The NOI encourages you to submit your comments as
11 soon as possible in order to give us time to analyze and
12 research the issues. If you received the NOI in the mail,
13 you are on our mailing list and will remain on our mailing
14 list to receive the EA and any other supplemental notices we
15 may issue about this project unless you return the mailer
16 attached to the back of the NOI and indicate you wish to be
17 removed from the mailing list. If you did not receive the
18 NOI and you should have, I apologize. The mailing list for
19 this project is large and undergoing constant revision. You
20 can be added to our mailing list by signing up at the sign-
21 in table in the back or by submitting comments tonight.

22 I would like to add that the FERC encourages
23 electronic filing of all comments and other documents.
24 There are a few small brochures and CDs at the sign-in table
25 that explain FERC's e-filing system. Also, instructions
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1 for this can be found on our website, www.ferc.gov, under
2 the e-filing link. If you want to submit written comments,
3 please follow the directions in the NOI.

4 It is very important to us that any comments you
5 send, either electronically or by traditional mail, include
6 our internal docket number for the project. The docket
7 number is on the cover of the NOI. If you decide to send us
8 a comment letter, please put that number on it. That will
9 ensure that members of the staff evaluating the project will
10 get your comments as soon as possible. The docket number
11 for this project is PF13-15-000.

12 Now I want to explain the roles of the FERC
13 Commission and of the FERC environmental staff. The five
14 member Commission is responsible for making a determination
15 on whether to issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and
16 Necessity to the Applicant. In this case, that is Texas
17 Eastern. The EA prepared by the FERC environmental staff,
18 which I am a part of, describes the project facilities and
19 associated environmental impacts; alternatives to the
20 project; mitigation to avoid or reduce impacts; and our
21 conclusions and recommendations.

22 The EA is not a decision document. It is being
23 prepared to disclose to the public and to the Commission the
24 environmental impact of constructing and operating the
25 proposed project. When it is completed, the Commission will
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1 consider the environmental information from the EA along
2 with non-environmental issues such as engineering, markets
3 and rates, in making its decision to approve or deny Texas
4 Eastern's request for a certificate. There is no review of
5 the FERC decisions by the president or Congress, maintaining
6 FERC's independence as a regulatory agency, and providing
7 for fair and unbiased decisions.

8 After tonight's comments, we'll take any
9 additional questions you may have about the agency roles or
10 our process.

11 Before we start taking comments from you, I have
12 asked Texas Eastern to provide a brief overview of the
13 proposed project. So Steve Martin, if you can come up here
14 and say a few words.

15 MR. MARTIN: I'm Steve Martin with Spectra Energy
16 and Texas Eastern, and I'm the Project Manager for the OPEN
17 Project.

18 Most of you are aware of the OPEN Project through
19 our informal meetings, our stakeholder outreach program and
20 our open houses. This project is an interstate natural gas
21 pipeline project, but for those of you that are unfamiliar
22 with it, the project is proposed to be built by Texas
23 Eastern.

24 Now, Texas Eastern is a totally-owned subsidiary
25 of Spectra Energy Corporation. Texas Eastern has been in
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1 the interstate natural gas pipeline business for over 65
2 years in Ohio and in other states. It consists of a system
3 of over 9,000 miles, reaching from Southern Texas, the Gulf
4 of Mexico and Louisiana to Lambertville, New Jersey -- which
5 is northwest of Trenton, New Jersey.

6 From Texas and Louisiana, the system's pipeline
7 travels through Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri,
8 Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania, and into
9 New York and New Jersey.

10 In response to market needs, Texas Eastern
11 conducted an open season to judge the interest in shipping
12 gas. And given the strong interest expressed by the
13 customers in response, Texas Eastern is proposing to
14 construct facilities to transport 550,000 dekatherms per day
15 from -- transportation service from the production area
16 producers in Ohio, to diverse markets in the Midwest and the
17 Gulf Coast areas as well as to markets in the Southeast
18 through Texas Eastern's downstream pipelines in Louisiana
19 and Mississippi and connections with other pipelines in
20 order to meet the immediate needs and the growth
21 requirements of these markets.

22 The project will include construction of
23 approximately 73 and a half miles of 30-inch diameter
24 mainline pipeline and associated pipeline support
25 facilities, including a new compressor station in Ohio and
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1 flow reversal work at six existing compressor stations along
2 Texas Eastern's existing mainline, in Ohio, Kentucky,
3 Mississippi and Louisiana.

4 The new facilities consist of a new 30-inch
5 diameter pipeline which includes approximately 12 and a half
6 miles in Columbiana County, a quarter mile in Carroll
7 County, 34 miles in Jefferson County, and 23 and a half
8 miles in Belmont County, and finally, 3 miles in Monroe
9 County, Ohio.

10 Approximately 31 and a half miles, or 43 percent
11 of this proposed pipeline will be either within or adjacent
12 to existing transmission line or pipeline rights-of-way.
13 Also included is a new compressor station located in
14 Colerain Township in Belmont County, consisting of two
15 natural gas-fueled turbine-driven compressors.

16 We had originally identified a site near Mount
17 Pleasant in Jefferson County, but due to a number of factors
18 including feedback from local landowners and other
19 stakeholders in that community, we have identified an
20 equally suitable location a couple miles to the south, in
21 Belmont County.

22 In addition, three new metering and regulation
23 stations will be constructed; one at the Kensington
24 Processing Plant in Hanover Township, Columbiana County, one
25 in Washington Township in Columbiana County, and one in
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1 Salem Township in Jefferson County. Also, one regulator
2 station and one receiver station will be constructed in
3 Monroe County, adjacent to the existing Texas Eastern
4 pipeline.

5 Flow reversal work at six existing compressor
6 stations sites will be performed to accommodate a reverse
7 flow or bidirectional flow capability along Texas Eastern's
8 existing mainline. These facilities are located at Bern
9 compressor station in Monroe County, Ohio, Hopkinsville
10 compressor station in Monroe County, Kentucky; Kosciusko
11 compressor station in Attala County, Mississippi. The
12 Cleveland compressor station in Hinds County, Mississippi,
13 the Union Church compressor station in Jefferson County,
14 Mississippi, and the St. Francisville compressor station in
15 West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana.

16 The projected in-service date of the OPEN Project
17 is November 1, 2015. Construction of all proposed project
18 facilities, the mainline extension, the Colerain compressor
19 station, the other new above-ground facilities and the flow
20 reversal work at the existing compressor station sites is
21 scheduled to be constructed between February 2015 and
22 November 2015.

23 Texas Eastern will contract with third party
24 contractors to construct the currently contemplated three
25 construction spreads for the mainline extension and
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1 associated facilities, along with the separate spread for
2 the proposed Colerain compressor station. The flow reversal
3 work in existing compressor stations will utilize a
4 combination of Texas Eastern employees and third party
5 contractors.

6 The OPEN Project will be constructed in
7 compliance with applicable federal regulations and
8 guidelines and the specific requirements and the necessary
9 permits, including key requirements and guidelines such as
10 the FERC planned procedures and Texas Eastern's OPEN Project
11 erosion and sediment control plan.

12 And with that, I'll turn the microphone back over
13 to FERC.

14 MS. BAUM: Thank you very much, Steve.

15 After the meeting tonight, representatives from
16 Texas Eastern will be on hand to answer any other questions
17 you may have specifically for them about the project.

18 So we will now begin the part of the meeting
19 where we hear your comments. We'll first take comments from
20 those who signed up on the speaker's list which was at the
21 table in the back. If you would prefer, you may hand us
22 written comments tonight or send them in to the Commission
23 by following the procedures outlined in the Notice of
24 Intent.

25 There is also a form on the sign-in table that
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1 you can use to write comments on, and give them to us
2 tonight as well. That form also gives instructions on how
3 to mail them. Whether you provide your comments verbally or
4 mail them in, they will be considered by FERC equally.

5 I'm sure you've noted that this meeting is being
6 recorded by a transcription service. This is being done so
7 that all of your comments will be transcribed and put into
8 the public record. To help the court reporter produce an
9 accurate record of this meeting, I ask that when I call your
10 name, you stand up and come down to the front of the seats
11 where the microphone stand is, state your name and also
12 spell it for the record. Identify any agency or group
13 you're representing, and define any acronyms you may use. I
14 also ask that everybody else in the audience respect the
15 speaker and refrain from any audible show of agreement or
16 disagreement.

17 So with that, I will call the first speaker.

18 We have Terry Bell.

19 MR. BELL: My name is Terry Bell, (spelling).

20 I'm the Township Trustee in Salem Township, and
21 also an officer in the County Township Association.

22 I have some concerns with the construction phase
23 of the pipeline. We currently have a pipeline being
24 installed in our county at the moment. Even the companies
25 have signed reviews and maintenance agreements, we are

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1 finding trucks traveling roads that are not covered under
2 that agreement, and we are suffering road damage.

3 As a trustee, the law says I must maintain the
4 roads for the safety of the traveling public. I don't want
5 to spend taxpayers' money to repair damage that is incurred
6 by someone who isn't covered by the bond or the permits.
7 Thank you.

8 MS. BAUM: Thank you very much.

9 And I'll just go ahead and say I'm sorry if I
10 mispronounce anyone's name; I'll do my best.

11 The next speaker, Ed. Come on up, please.

12 MR. HASHBARGER: My name is Ed Hashbarger
13 (spelling). I'm with the Jefferson County Citizens for
14 Environmental Truth. I'm a resident of Salem Township.

15 Myself and my organization has some concerns over
16 the impact on wildlife in the local area. One pipeline that
17 came through the area here just recently, they came through
18 a lot of cricks and streams within our township and within
19 our county, devastating some areas. I'm assuming they were
20 following the guidelines that they were supposed to follow,
21 but I do have those concerns here.

22 I also have concerns about the hellbenders and
23 the Indiana bat. According to your website, FERC's website
24 I guess, part of the study had been done, on the Indiana bat
25 they said they didn't see any bats here, as far as the

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1 Indiana bat. I do know we've hellbenders in our cricks and
2 streams; I have them on my property. I do have some
3 concerns there.

4 I also have concerns in reference to the
5 evacuation plans. They're coming through a lot of farm land
6 here, and if you look at some of the explosions that have
7 taken place on these pipelines just in this past year and
8 further on back, especially down in West Virginia, when
9 those pipelines go they're evacuating homes and people for a
10 one mile radius around these pipelines. I want to know who
11 is going to take care of our farm animals, who is going to
12 take care of the wildlife in the area, and who is going to
13 pay to put people up in hotels, and to come in and take care
14 of our animals when we have to leave; and nobody can seem to
15 answer that question.

16 So hopefully FERC can answer those questions for
17 us. Thank you.

18 MS. BAUM: Thank you, Ed.

19 Next we have Paul Abbott.

20 (No response.)

21 MS. BAUM: No Paul Abbott? Okay.

22 Jeff Neilly.

23 MR. NEILLY: My name is Jeff Neilly (spelling).

24 I'm a field representative for a labor local here in
25 Steubenville.

26

1 I'm anticipating the project that's going to be
2 starting with Spectra; we've talked, and they seem to be
3 very ready to listen to everybody, their needs. And I'm
4 just anticipating, anxiously.

5 MS. BAUM: Thank you, Jeff.

6 Next is Beverly Christen.

7 MS. CHRISTEN: (Spelling) I own Standing Rock
8 Farm. I'm also a member of the Pittsburgh Geological
9 Society.

10 Our area is noted for two problems: One, flash
11 flooding; two, landslides. We have the honor and privilege
12 to have hills that are already resting on their maximum
13 angle of repose. Give us a little bit of water, and they
14 quietly go slip-sliding away. Within a quarter of a mile
15 from my house, there are three slips that are in the process
16 of going.

17 We are in the Pennsylvanian, we are in the
18 Conemaugh we are in the Glenshaw. Right in the middle of
19 the Conemaugh, God bless us all, is the Ames limestone.
20 Above the Ames and below the Ames, Pittsburgh red beds.
21 Pittsburgh red beds are notorious. Look over in Pittsburgh.
22 Look anywhere in this area, wherever you see that red soil,
23 that red soil picks up, packs out and goes. Give it a
24 little bit of water, it liquefies.

25 Now that last big explosion that we saw nested so
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1 nicely in the Wheeling Intelligencer was due to a pipeline
2 failure caused by, guess what? A landslide. We have
3 landslides, we have landslides, we have landslides that
4 won't quit. Especially when a pipeline goes from the top of
5 the hill, which is covered by the Morgantown sandstone, down
6 across the Conemaugh across the Ames limestone, and right
7 through -- guess what, two sets of Pittsburgh red beds.

8 Now you get down to the Glenshaw, that's no help.
9 You've got those soft shales -- they're a little bit better
10 than the red beds, but I wouldn't exactly call them
11 wonderful -- those soft shales are wiping out the Yellow
12 Creek Road on a regular basis. Give us some rain, either
13 the road falls off the hill or the hill falls onto the road!
14 That's those shales.

15 When you look at the profiles of the hills, they
16 go like this (gesturing). A series of dips. Those are old
17 landslides, old slips. We don't just have little slips, we
18 have whole hillsides picking up and leaving. And when you
19 take the trees off, you're just asking for it. The tree
20 roots do a great deal to hold that in place; but when you
21 take the trees off, you no longer have the limbs, the
22 branches, the leaves protecting the soil from hard rains.
23 And that stuff just goes.

24 Our other problem of course is flash flooding.
25 The trees help prevent flash flooding. Take the trees off,
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1 Whoops, there it goes. Now we all know what happens when
2 the creek goes; I've seen it again and again. And we know
3 what happened down by Wheeling: 12 dead. 12 dead.

4 And when anyone tells me that we're not going to
5 get big rains, the record for this general area is 24 inches
6 in 24 hours. Anytime you've got land without trees on it,
7 especially land that's maybe been a little big compacted,
8 that water is going to run off just as fast as that water
9 can go; and we've got slopes that don't quit.

10 So what you're doing is playing Russian Roulette
11 with the population that lives in the creek bottoms. And
12 it's not even you that's going to get shot with the Russian
13 Roulette; it's the person that lives there and has lived
14 there forever.

15 Like I said, down at Shadyside, 12 people dead.
16 Do we really want this?

17 Now as far as the effect of course fragmentation,
18 you're going to have a big area that is cut with effectively
19 a bare valley between patches of trees. This contributes
20 edge effect, miles and miles and miles of edge effect, and
21 it literally wipes out birds that usually nest in deeper
22 woods. You have an incidence of brood parasitism that just
23 zooms out of sight. In other words, you're picking up Brown
24 Head Cowbirds -- Brown-Headed Cowbirds, Brown-Headed
25 Cowbirds, Brown-Headed Cowbirds, and you're losing your
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1 warblers.

2 And of course you increase the number of deer. I
3 don't know whether you've ever tried to raise corn around
4 deer; I can tell you that Herman Howell's corn has no ears
5 on it, at least four rows into the patch; the deer have been
6 working it. They've made a hell of a mess.

7 As far as explosions go, we saw the light in the
8 sky from the one up at Lisbon, and we live at least 30 miles
9 from that explosion. I thought it was the Northern Lights;
10 a big red glow in the North. No, no, no, it was that
11 pipeline that went.

12 And the one that went recently wiped out every
13 bit of fish, everything in a really good section of stream,
14 and the fumes were so intense that they couldn't even get in
15 to evaluate the stuff for a long time.

16 Now this doesn't exactly sound like something we
17 really, desperately want and need. We live here. Now if
18 you guys want to live next to the pipeline, you have my
19 permission to set up housekeeping right next to us. But it
20 just doesn't exactly thrill me down to the ground. Thank
21 you.

22 MS. BAUM: Thank you.

23 Next we have Don Bishop.

24 MR. BISHOP: I'm sorry, I have no comment.

25 MS. BAUM: Oh, okay.

26

1 Is there anyone else who maybe didn't sign up to
2 speak that has additional comments or anything else they
3 would like to say?

4 (No response.)

5 MS. BAUM: Okay. Well, without any more
6 speakers, the formal part of this meeting will conclude. If
7 anyone has any additional questions, we will stay here for a
8 little while to talk, both FERC and Texas Eastern has said
9 that they will stay for a little while after the meeting as
10 well.

11 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
12 Commission, I would like to thank you all for coming
13 tonight, and again I would like to also say that all of your
14 comments that were given to us tonight will be addressed in
15 the EA. And if you have any other additional questions or
16 comments in the meantime, you can certainly mail those in to
17 us or send them electronically and those will also be
18 addressed in the EA.

19 So with that said, let the record show that the
20 Ohio Pipeline Energy Network Project scoping meeting in
21 Richmond, Ohio concluded at 7:35 p.m. Thank you very much
22 for coming tonight.

23 (Whereupon, at 7:35 p.m., the scoping meeting
24 concluded.)

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