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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

J.B. Martin Recreation Center
102 Fair Avenue
St. Clairsville, Ohio 43650
Tuesday, September 17, 2013

The public scoping meeting, pursuant to notice, convened
at 7:05 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

JOE ZELEK, Mount Pleasant and Orchard View neighborhoods 14
SHERRY SAWCHUK, Historical Society of
Mount Pleasant, Ohio 17
STATE REPRESENTATIVE JACK CERA, 96th House District 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 here tonight. This
5 is a scoping meeting for the Ohio Pipeline Energy Network
6 Project proposed by Texas Eastern Transmission, also known
7 as Texas Eastern.

8 Let the record show that the public scoping
9 meeting in St. Clairsville, Ohio began at 7:05 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 the
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.

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 is also
10 on the board in the back, and there are copies available at
11 the sign-in table.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

13 Again, the docket number for this project is
14 PF13-15-000.

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

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

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 would you like to come up,
14 please?

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. I've been an employee of Texas Eastern for 37
18 years.

19 Most of you are already aware of the OPEN Project
20 through our stakeholder outreach program, informal meetings,
21 and open houses that we have held in this area. For those
22 of you who are unfamiliar with the project, the OPEN Project
23 is an interstate natural gas pipeline facility proposed to
24 be constructed by Texas Eastern.

25 Texas Eastern is a totally-owned subsidiary of
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1 Spectra Energy Corp. Texas Eastern has been in the
2 interstate natural gas pipeline business in Ohio for over 65
3 years. The Texas Eastern system is a natural gas pipeline
4 that extends over 9,000 miles, from Southern Texas and the
5 Gulf of Mexico and Louisiana to Lambertville, New Jersey,
6 northwest of Trenton, New Jersey.

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

11 In response to market needs, Texas Eastern
12 conducted an open season to gauge the interest in natural
13 gas transportation service in 2012. Given the strong
14 interest expressed by its customers in response to this
15 request, Texas Eastern is proposing to construct the
16 necessary facilities to provide up to 550,000 dekatherms per
17 day in additional natural gas transportation service on the
18 Texas Eastern system from the production areas in Ohio, to
19 diverse markets along the Texas Eastern system in the
20 Midwest and Gulf Coast areas, as well as to markets in the
21 Southeast through Texas Eastern's interconnections with
22 downstream pipelines in Louisiana and Mississippi, to meet
23 the immediate needs and load growth requirements of these
24 markets.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

14 With that, I'll turn it back over to FERC.

15 MS. BAUM: Thank you, Steve.

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

22 There is also a form on the sign-in table that
23 you can use to write comments on, and give them to me. That
24 form also gives instructions on how to mail them. Whether
25 you provide your comments verbally or mail them in, they
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1 will be considered by FERC equally.

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

13 So with that, our first speaker tonight is Joe
14 Zelek.

15 MR. ZELEK: My name is Joe Zelek [spelling]. I'm
16 speaking on behalf of several residents from Mount Pleasant,
17 and from the Orchard View neighborhood. We were in close
18 proximity to the original proposed compressor station site,
19 and we felt it was simply too close to our historical
20 community.

21 As a result, we organized some opposition, and I
22 just wanted to read a statement: We're pleased that in
23 response to the concerns of organized citizens of the Mount
24 Pleasant Historical Society -- which is represented here
25 tonight -- elected officials such as Representative Jack
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1 Sera, who is here tonight. We're pleased that Spectra
2 Energy, Texas Eastern Pipeline has decided to relocate the
3 target site to a remote area.

4 And it's our hope that this will set a precedent
5 in the future as this project goes on, as other projects go
6 on; that this will set a precedent for citizens to raise
7 their voices when there is concern, and for companies to
8 heed that concern. We feel like that's what happened in
9 this instance, and we are thankful for that.

10 In addition, I'd like to comment on the new site;
11 I visited it today, and I was pleased in the sense that it
12 is much farther from the next closest home than the original
13 site would have been. And it's also a greater distance from
14 the nearest community; those are important factors to us,
15 and we were pleased to see that.

16 We felt that if there was an option to locate an
17 industrial facility like this, farther from homes and the
18 community, why not do that? So we're pleased with the
19 relocation of the target site.

20 A couple other comments; I'm hearing news of
21 another pipeline from another company, I believe it's called
22 PVR, that may be using this same easement in the same
23 pathway. And from an environmental standpoint, I just want
24 to register that I did have some concerns with, will those
25 pipelines -- are there any ramifications to that? Is that
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1 common? I'm trying to do some research on that. I can't
2 seem to locate much info. But will it be common to have
3 that number of pipelines? I understand it could be a total
4 of three or four next to this FERC-regulated pipeline. What
5 will that do as far as that wide of an easement? What will
6 that do in areas where you're removing even more trees?

7 My concern is, is that going to increase the
8 concern for soil -- the potential for soil erosion and other
9 things that could lead to pipeline ruptures. So I'm curious
10 as to what other projects will be using this same pathway or
11 easement.

12 And I want to conclude and digress just a little
13 bit; I have my reservations about these projects in terms of
14 safety and the environment. That being said, this project
15 is moving forth and I just want to go on record -- maybe
16 this isn't environmental, but -- I have a lot of friends
17 here that are union workers, local union labor, and it's
18 sincerely my hope that Spectra will choose to use local
19 union labor on this project. I feel that is an
20 environmental impact in the sense that we will have the
21 confidence that whatever does have to be built we'll have
22 some confidence knowing our guys did it and they did it
23 right. Thank you.

24 MS. BAUM: Thank you.

25 Sorry for not having a microphone right now --

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1 the next speaker is Sherry S -- sorry if I mispronounced it.

2 MS. SAWCHUK: Hello. My name is Sherry Sawchuk.
3 And I just have a simple comment to make, and I'm speaking
4 for the Historical Society of Mount Pleasant, Ohio. And I
5 am very happy to hear and learn that you have chosen a site
6 in the number one spot instead of the Village of Mount
7 Pleasant.

8 As a village with a National Historic Landmark
9 district, we were very concerned about this compressor
10 station being quite so close to the village, where most of
11 the buildings predate 1860. And we really have a
12 significant role. And not just local history; state
13 history, but the national history of the country.

14 So I am just very appreciative tonight to hear
15 this good news. Thank you.

16 MS. BAUM: Thank you.
17 And our last speaker on the list is Representative Jack
18 Cera.

19 REP. CERA: Hello, I'm State Representative Jack
20 Cera [spelling]. I represent the 96th House District, which
21 includes all of Jefferson County, part of Belmont, and all
22 of Monroe Counties.

23 This industry is new to our area, and it creates
24 a learning process for all of us, and understanding what all
25 is involved in the oil and gas industry as it moves forward.

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1 And I just want to say a little bit about my involvement
2 with Spectra, as they first contacted me several months ago,
3 indicating to me on their outreach program to local
4 government officials, which they started several months ago
5 in talking to county commissioners, township trustees and
6 other local officials. So I commend them for starting that
7 early.

8 I was contacted by residents and officials in the
9 Mount Pleasant, Ohio area about their concerns about the
10 location of the compressor station, and that area being the
11 primary site. And I expressed those concerns; I contacted
12 representatives of Spectra, and they were very open in
13 providing information to me. And I expressed to them the
14 concerns that the residents and village officials had
15 expressed to me about the closeness of the compressor
16 station to the village and the impact on the residents.

17 I appreciate the responsiveness of the company in
18 hearing the residents' concerns in changing the primary
19 site. I expect that they will continue to work with
20 residents of Colerain Township now during this process, and
21 also use the best equipment necessary for the safety of
22 residents and the reduction of noise from the facility.

23 I appreciate the opportunity to express these
24 views, and hopefully -- I also would state that we do hope
25 that local labor is involved in all the projects that these
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1 companies are bringing to our area now. We've been a long
2 distressed area and need the jobs, and we would hope that
3 they use local union labor in their construction. Thank
4 you very much.

5 MS. BAUM: Thank you.

6 That was the last person who had signed up on our
7 speakers list. Is there anybody else who is interested in
8 speaking tonight?

9 (No response.)

10 MS. BAUM: I'd also like to reiterate that any
11 comments that we receive tonight, they will be addressed in
12 the EA. So again, just one more time I'll ask if anybody
13 else has any comments they would like to put on the record.

14 Yes?

15 AUDIENCE: [Off mic] Correction on the form.

16 The scoping meeting docket form has an error in
17 the number that's listed on this form. And individuals that
18 are thinking about mailing their comments in need to pay
19 attention to the fact that the error is on your form; you do
20 need to follow the Docket No. PF13-15-000.

21 If you look in the boxed-in area on this form,
22 that's where the error is. That Docket No. is PF12-9-000;
23 that is not the correct number. So those mailing comments,
24 please make sure you send it to the correct location;
25 reference the correct docket number. Thank you.

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1 MS. BAUM: We do apologize for that error.
2 Certainly if anybody has any questions about mailing any
3 comments and would like clarification on the docket number
4 or how to send it, please let us know.

5 So without any more speakers, the formal part of
6 this meeting will conclude. If anyone has any additional
7 questions, we'll stay here for a few minutes after the
8 meeting to talk.

9 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
10 Commission, I would like to thank everyone for coming
11 tonight.

12 Let the record show that the Ohio Pipeline Energy
13 Network Project scoping meeting in St. Clairsville, Ohio
14 concluded at 7:30 p.m. Thank you.

15 (Whereupon, at 7:30 p.m., the scoping meeting
16 concluded.)

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