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BEFORE THE

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF: :

DALTON EXPANSION PROJECT : Docket No.:

: PF14-10-000

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Cartersville-Bartow Co.

Clarence Brown Convention Center

Cartersville, Georgia 30121

Wednesday, November 5, 2014

The above-entitled matter came on for scoping
meeting, pursuant to Commission Order, at 7:00 p.m., Kelley
Munoz, moderator.

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

2 MS. MUNOZ: Good evening everyone. On behalf of the
3 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, I'd like to welcome
4 you here tonight, and thank you for coming. This is an
5 environmental scoping meeting for the Dalton Expansion
6 Project proposed by Williams Transcontinental Gas Pipeline
7 Company. The primary purpose of this meeting is to provide
8 you an opportunity to comment on the project or the scope of
9 the environmental analysis being prepared for the Dalton
10 Expansion Project.

11 My name is Kelley Munoz, and I'm the project
12 manager. And I work for FERC, and I'm representing them
13 here tonight.

14 The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible
15 for the National Environmental Policy Act, review of the
16 proposed project, and the lead agency for the preparation of
17 the environmental assessment or EA.

18 NEPA requires FERC to analyze the environmental
19 impacts, consider alternatives, and provide appropriate
20 mitigation measures on proposed projects. Additional
21 federal, state, local, and other government agencies with
22 jurisdiction by law or with special expertise are welcomed
23 to cooperate as well.

24 Sitting to my left here is Eric Tomosi. He is
25 also a FERC project manager. Out in the lobby at our front

1 table with our brochures is our third-party contractor,
2 Natural Resource Group, Steve Holden and Dave Potter.
3 They're an environmental consulting firm assisting us in
4 producing the environmental assessment that will be prepared
5 for this project.

6 It's important for everyone to understand that
7 the proposed project was not conceived by and is not
8 promoted by the FERC. The FERC staff reviews applications
9 for the authority to build and operate interstate natural
10 gas pipelines, and Transco is in the process of preparing an
11 application to submit to FERC.

12 Once the application is submitted, our obligation
13 is to review that application and prepare an analysis of the
14 environmental impacts.

15 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing. We
16 are not here to debate the proposal or to make any
17 determinations on its fate. We are here to listen to your
18 concerns so that we can consider them in our analysis of the
19 potential environmental impacts of the project and how those
20 impacts might be reduced or avoided.

21 If there are any general objections to the
22 project or other non-environmental issues concerning the
23 proposal, those issues would be considered by the Commission
24 in its determination of the project's public convenience and
25 necessity, but they are generally considered outside the

1 scope of our environmental analysis. In other words, the
2 Commission wants to hear your concerns in that regard;
3 however, those issues will not be addressed in detail within
4 the EA.

5 So, let me briefly explain the FERC's pre-filing
6 process because that's the stage at which we are in with
7 respect to this project. Transco entered into pre-filing
8 process in April of this year, which began our review of the
9 project. The FERC docket number for the project is
10 PF-14-10. The PF means pre-filing.

11 No formal application has been filed at FERC for
12 the project. We consider the pre-filing process to be,
13 amongst other things, an extension of our scoping process.
14 The scoping process is a learning process. It's where we
15 educate ourselves about the project and the potential
16 issues.

17 During pre-filing, the goal is to get information
18 from the public as well as federal, state, and local
19 agencies, our own fieldwork, and research of different
20 issues, and from the public so that we can incorporate all
21 substantive issues of concern into our review.

22 The scoping period started when we issued our
23 Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental assessment on
24 October 21, 2014. The Notice of Intent to prepare an
25 environmental assessment was mailed to all affected

1 landowners, as defined by FERC regulations, federal, state,
2 and local agencies and representatives and other
3 stakeholders.

4 In the NOI, we describe the environmental review
5 process; some already identified environmental issues, and
6 the steps the FERC and cooperating agencies will take to
7 prepare the EA. We have set an ending date of November 20,
8 2014 for the scoping period. However, the end of the
9 scoping period is not the end of public involvement or your
10 opportunity to comment.

11 We will accept comments throughout our review of
12 our project, but for us to adequately address your comments,
13 analyze them, and research the issues, we ask that you try
14 to get those in as soon as possible. There will be another
15 comment period once the EA is published. Extra copies of
16 the NOI are located at the back of the table at the sign-in
17 table. A speakers' list is also located at the back table.
18 If there's anybody here who wishes to speak tonight, please
19 do so, once I finish this part of my meeting.

20 In addition to verbal comments provided tonight,
21 we will also accept your written comments. If you have
22 comments, but do not wish to speak tonight, you may provide
23 written comments on the comment forms provided at the back
24 table. You may drop them off with us, or mail them at a
25 later date. Be sure to include the project docket number

1 PF-14-10 and your personal information if you want us to be
2 able to contact you and put you on our mailing list.

3 Your comments tonight, together with any written
4 comments you've already filed or intent to file, will be
5 added to the official record of the proceeding. We then
6 take all the comments that address environmental issues and
7 utilizing all available information and expertise factor
8 them into our independent analysis of the project's
9 potential impacts.

10 We will publish those findings in the EA, which
11 will then be distributed for a 30-day public comment period.
12 This EA will be mailed to all interested parties. If you
13 received a copy of the NOI in the mail you are already on
14 our mailing list to receive the EA. There is a return
15 mailer attached to the back of the NOI by which you can
16 indicate if you wanted to correct your mailing address or
17 remove your name from the mailing list.

18 Also, please note because of the size of the
19 mailing list the mail version of the EA will be on a CD ROM.
20 That means unless you tell us otherwise the EA you will
21 receive will be on a computer readable CD Rom. If you
22 prefer to have a hard copy mailed to you, please indicate
23 that choice on the return mailer and let us know tonight by
24 indicating so.

25 One final point I want to clarify is the role of

1 the Commission versus the Commission's environmental staff.
2 The five-member Commission, which is appointed by the
3 President and confirmed by the Senate, is responsible for
4 making a determination on whether to issue a certificate of
5 public convenience and necessity to Transco.

6 The EA that is prepared by FERC environmental
7 staff does not make that decision. The EA is used to advise
8 the Commission and disclose to the public the environmental
9 impact of constructing and operating the proposed project.
10 The Commission will consider the findings, conclusions, and
11 recommendations in the EA as well as public comments on
12 non-environmental issues, including engineering, market
13 needs, rates, finances, tariffs, and costs and make an
14 informed decision on whether or not to approve the project.

15 Only after taking the environmental and
16 non-environmental factors into consideration will the
17 Commission make its final decision on whether or not to
18 approve the project.

19 So, now that I've finished the FERC process, I'd
20 like to allow Maria Palacios, a representative with
21 Williams, to give a brief presentation of the proposed
22 project.

23 MS. PALASCIOS: Good evening. My name is Maria
24 Palascios from Williams, and I represent the Community
25 Outreach aspect of our expansion project, Dalton Expansion

1 Project.

2 Williams owns and operates the Transcontinental
3 Pipeline System, or Transco that originates in South Texas
4 and it goes all the way to New York City. This pipeline
5 system delivers gas from supply areas in the Gulf Coast,
6 Mid-continent Appalachia, and delivers the market areas in
7 the Southeast, Mid-continent, and Northeast.

8 Our Transco system transports about 10 percent of
9 the natural gas delivered in the United States, and it
10 consists of more than 10,000 miles of pipe and has more than
11 52 compressor stations.

12 Transco has been part of Georgia for over 60
13 years, and delivered approximately 30 percent of the natural
14 gas consumed in Georgia in 2013. We have over 125 employees
15 who make Georgia their home.

16 Our company received requests from customers to
17 increase natural gas deliveries needed to serve the Atlantic
18 Gas Light in Bartow and Murray Counties, and the
19 Oglethorpe/Smith Energy Facility in Murray County.

20 To meet with this demand, the Dalton Expansion
21 Project proposes a new compressor station here in Carol
22 County, three meter stations in Bartow and Murray counties,
23 and a total of 110 miles, starting in Coweta, going through
24 Douglas, Carol, Paulding, Bartow, Gordon, and Murray
25 Counties. The Dalton Expansion Project would also make

1 modification to our Transco existing main line in Maryland,
2 Virginia, and North Carolina. The estimated in service date
3 for this project is second quarter of 2017.

4 Transco entered the pre-filing process under
5 docket number PF-14-10. During this pre-filing process, we
6 held eight community open houses in June, August, and
7 September in Coweta, Carol, Paulding, Bartow, Gordon, and
8 Murray Counties.

9 Williams's employees met with the public, which
10 included landowners, public officials, and other
11 stakeholders to share information about the project. During
12 these open houses, we were able to learn from the public,
13 listen to their concerns, and address any issues and
14 questions that emerged. Based on the public's comments, we
15 gathered valuable information that, as a result, we were
16 able to make significant changes the preliminary pipeline
17 route.

18 This week we plan to submit drafts of
19 environmental documents or Resource Reports 1 through 12.
20 These drafts will be available for review on the FERC
21 website under the docket number PF-14-10.

22 We plan to file with FERC, submit our Natural Gas
23 Act, Section 7(C) certificate application for the project at
24 the end of February 2015, and will request a schedule that
25 allow construction to begin in April 2016.

1 Thank you for the opportunity to provide an
2 overview of the company and the Dalton project. Thanks.

3 MS. MUNOZ: Thank you, Maria. This meeting is
4 being recorded by a transcription service, so all of your
5 comments, if there's anybody here who would like to speak
6 tonight, will be transcribed, and placed into the public
7 record.

8 For the benefit of those in attendance and for
9 accuracy of the transcript, if you are willing to come up,
10 if you would spell out your name and to ensure accuracy
11 please speak directly into the microphone. Do we have any
12 speakers?

13 MR. NELSON: Davis Nelson, D-A-V-I-S
14 N-E-L-S-O-N. You need my address? And I really, after
15 listening to you talk, I don't know if it's appropriate that
16 my comments will fit with what you're talking about.

17 I talked with Williams' folk, and they were very,
18 very nice and upfront and listened to my concerns, and
19 shared their comments with me. My farm is going to be
20 impacted by this gas line expansion. It borders Georgia
21 Power Plant Boeing property on the backside. The original
22 plan, when it was first shared with me, did not have it
23 coming across my farm as it does now. So, I guess the
24 feedback from the original meeting created that change.

25 There were surveyors that came out to resurvey my

1 property. My concerns, or a number of them, across the
2 section of my farm I already have Georgia Power huge power
3 lines. I have two main lines from Colonial gas line. I
4 have two AT&T fiber cables that come across, and then I have
5 Comcast fiber cables, so I'm very familiar with utilities in
6 my farm. And I'm also very familiar with is involved in
7 putting those gas lines in, and then what happens to them
8 after they've completed.

9 As I said, Williams' folks were very gracious.
10 They assured me that whatever they did they would take care
11 of my property. My concerns are what happens to my farm
12 while the construction's going on. It's essentially slicing
13 through my complete farm, and it will cause me to try to
14 have to get cattle, mommies and baby calves, across this
15 construction while it's going on and keep them out of the
16 construction.

17 They shared with me that they would fence both
18 sides, and I'm sure they will; but again, it devastates my
19 ability to operate my farm while all of this is going on.
20 From my home, I can, as I've shared with them, and it's not
21 appropriate language, but I could spit from my porch onto
22 the gas line.

23 Now, my farm is hundreds of acres. Georgia Power
24 has thousands of acres of complete, open land that joins me.
25 And my concern why cross where they're crossing when they

1 could go a little further back and cross and not impact
2 anybody's homes and farms?

3 It also is going to cross -- I have three rails
4 on the place. Again, you could use the same analogy from my
5 wells -- two of my wells to this gas main, and I'm concerned
6 what will be the long-term affect on my water. I know gas
7 lines, water line leak. That's just unheard of, but it does
8 happen, and it's happened with all the companies, just not
9 Williams' company.

10 So, there next to my home, in the middle of my
11 farm, stands a major danger of a gas leak, and I do not know
12 would you want it to interfere with your total operation of
13 your farm where you make your livelihood now. And it will
14 cross eight water lines that runs from these wells to feed
15 water troughs that water my cattle.

16 And again, I know they will make every effort
17 they can to safeguard these and keep them in operation, but
18 I just ask that you look at the impact that it will have on
19 my farm and my operation and my livelihood and see if
20 there's not some very viable options that would not impact
21 my farm nor my neighbors' farms, but would only impact open
22 land of Georgia Power, or go along highways where lots of
23 utilities go along highways and not impact people's homes
24 and livelihood.

25 I appreciate so much you giving me this

1 opportunity to speak, and I hope it makes sense. It makes
2 sense to me and my family, and I certainly hope that you
3 will look at it and that Williams will step back and look at
4 what they're doing and truly look at some other options that
5 are in our area that will not -- I'm not interested in
6 throwing my problem onto another farm, but I do believe that
7 having living there all my life that there are some other
8 options that will not impact people's farms and livelihood.
9 Thank you.

10 MS. MUNOZ: Thank you, sir, for your comments.
11 We appreciate that you came up and shared your concerns with
12 us.

13 Just to clarify again that you have saved them on
14 the record, you will get a formal response, and I'm
15 confident that Williams will consider those discussions with
16 you, moving forward.

17 This will end the formal part of our meeting. If
18 you have any questions, if you want to look at the maps out
19 back, we can do that again. If you have any questions, feel
20 free to talk with myself or Williams. We'll stick around if
21 any of you would like to talk a little bit more. Thanks
22 again for coming.

23 (Whereupon the hearing adjourned at 7:51 p.m.)

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