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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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Va-AmVets Center

816-Old Breman Road

Carrollton, Georgia 30117

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

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

1 MS. MUNOZ: Well, I tried to wait a little bit
2 longer because I know the polls close at 7:00. I know it's
3 a big night here in Georgia, so I'll assume that's why we
4 don't have a big turnout. But like I mentioned, we're just
5 going to go through the formal process of informing you a
6 little bit more about the FERC process, and then afterwards
7 we can pull out the maps and talk with Transco a little bit
8 more one-on-one about your property.

9 Good evening everyone. On behalf of the Federal
10 Energy Regulatory Commission, I'd like to welcome you here
11 tonight. Thank you for coming. This is an environmental
12 scoping meeting for the Dalton Expansion Project by Williams
13 Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company. The primary purpose,
14 as I said you tonight, is to provide you an opportunity to
15 comment on the project or the scope of the environmental
16 analysis being prepared for the Dalton Expansion Project.

17 My name is Kelly Munoz, and I'm the project
18 manager. I work for FERC, and I'm representing them here
19 tonight.

20 The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible
21 for the National Environmental Policy Act, review of the
22 proposed project and the lead agency for the preparation of
23 the environmental assessment or EA.

24 NEPA requires FERC to analyze the environmental
25 impacts, consider alternatives, and provide appropriate

1 mitigation measures on proposed projects. Additional
2 federal, state and local, and other government agencies with
3 jurisdiction by law or special expertise are welcomed to
4 cooperate as well.

5 Sitting to my left here is Eric Tomosi, who's
6 also a FERC project manager. Located here in the back here
7 at the table is Steve Holden and Dave Potter, with Natural
8 Resource Group. They're a third-party consulting firm that
9 will assist us in preparing the environmental assessment.

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

16 Once the application is submitted, our obligation
17 is to review that application and prepare an analysis of the
18 environmental impacts.

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

25 If there are any general objections to the

1 project or other non-environmental issues concerning the
2 proposal, those issues would be considered by the Commission
3 in its determination of the project's public convenience and
4 necessity, but they are generally considered outside the
5 scope of our environmental analysis. In other words, the
6 Commission wants to hear your concerns in that regard;
7 however, those issues will not be addressed in detail in the
8 EA.

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

15 No formal application has been filed with the
16 FERC. We consider the pre-filing process to be, amongst
17 other things, an extension of our scoping process. The
18 scoping process is a learning process. It is where we
19 educate ourselves about the project and the potential
20 issues.

21 During pre-filing, the goal is to get information
22 from the public as well as federal, state, and other local
23 agencies, our own fieldwork, and research of different
24 issues, and from the public so that we can incorporate all
25 substantiated issues of concern into our review.

1 The scoping period started when we issued our
2 Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental assessment on
3 October 21, 2014. The Notice of Intent to prepare an
4 environmental assessment was mailed to all affected
5 landowners as defined by FERC regulations, federal, state,
6 and local agencies and representatives and other
7 stakeholders.

8 In the NOI, we describe the environmental review
9 process; some already identified environmental issues, and
10 the steps the FERC and cooperating agencies will take to
11 prepare the EA. We have set an ending date of November 20,
12 2014 for the scoping period. However, the end of the
13 scoping period is not the end of public comment. You have
14 the opportunity to comment throughout the process.

15 We will accept comments throughout our review,
16 but for us to adequately review and address your comments we
17 prefer that you try to get those in as soon as possible.
18 Extra copies of the NOI are at the back of the table, if you
19 did not receive them.

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 and the comment forms are at the back table
24 and they will be reviewed equally as if you were to provide
25 them verbally. You may drop them off with us, or mail them

1 at a later date. Be sure to include the docket number
2 PF-14-10 and your personal information if you want us to be
3 able to contact you and put you on our mailing list.

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

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

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

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 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: I'm just going to speak to you.
24 I am Maria Palascios from Williams, and I represent the
25 Community Outreach of our proposed Dalton Expansion Project.

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

8 Our Transco system transports about 10 percent of
9 the natural gas consumed in the United States. It consists
10 of more than 10,000 miles of pipe and it has more than 52
11 compressor stations. Transco has been part of Georgia for
12 over 60 years and we have actually delivered about 30
13 percent of the natural gas consumed in Georgia in 2013. We
14 also have over 125 Williams's employees who make Georgia
15 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. To meet
20 with this demand, the Dalton Expansion Project proposes a
21 new compressor station here in Carol County, three new meter
22 stations in Bartow and Murray counties, and a total of 110
23 miles of new pipeline throughout Coweta, Carol, Paulding,
24 Bartow, Gordon, and Murray Counties.

25 Additional equipment associated with this new

1 pipeline will include valves and other systems to help
2 maintain the pipeline. The Dalton Expansion Project would
3 also make modifications to our existing pipeline in
4 Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. The estimated in
5 service date for this project is second quarter of 2017.

6 And as she mentioned we enter the pre-filing
7 process under docket number PF-14-10. During this
8 pre-filing process we had eight community open houses in
9 June, August, and September in Coweta, Carol, Paulding,
10 Bartow, Gordon, and Murray Counties.

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

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

24 We plan to file with FERC, submit our Natural Gas
25 Act, Section 7(C) certificate application for this project

1 in February 2015, and we will request a schedule that would
2 allow construction to begin in April 2016.

3 And thank you for the opportunity and to share
4 about our project.

5 MS. MUNOZ: Since we do not have any speakers
6 tonight, the formal part of our meeting is adjourned. We
7 can go to the back tables and look at maps, if you'd like,
8 and talk a little bit more about the project.

9 MR. MARION: I do have a couple of specific
10 questions.

11 MS. MUNOZ: Okay. Great. Can I get you to state
12 your name?

13 MR. MARION: Bruce Marion. In my particular
14 case, your pipeline as proposed splits my property. It goes
15 right through the middle of a hardwood forest that's with
16 trees over a hundred years old. So, I understand that, you
17 know, this may be where it has to go, and I probably cannot
18 stop it. So, my specific questions are about compensation.
19 One is compensation for diminished value.

20 My second question is if we cannot agree on the
21 compensation, do I have a right to sue you in civil court
22 about the amount? I understand I can't stop the pipeline.
23 Understood. So, those are my questions.

24 MS. MUNOZ: Okay. Sir, just so you have an
25 understanding for this particular meeting, for a scoping

1 meeting we take comments from the public. It is being
2 transcribed by a court report. They will be placed onto the
3 docket and the company, Transco, proposing the project will
4 respond to all comments during this scoping period. So,
5 they will answer those questions with you. I encourage you
6 to negotiate with them.

7 For your understanding, FERC does not get
8 involved with the monetary negotiations. There's a whole
9 lot -- I understand you just learned about the project as of
10 Thursday, so I will definitely be talking to you about your
11 property, the impacts, and ensure that you have an
12 understanding of what those impacts would be and our process
13 from FERC's perspective.

14 But tonight we would have a Question & Answer
15 between you and the company in terms of those addressing the
16 monetary part of your questions.

17 MR. MARION: So, will Williams address those
18 questions?

19 MS. MUNOZ: Williams will address your comments,
20 and those will be formally addressed on the
21 record.

22 MR. MARION: What timeframe should I expect to
23 have those questions answered?

24 MS. MUNOZ: Well, they will answer formally for
25 FERC for all the comments that they receive during scoping

1 at the end of our scoping period, which closes November 21
2 -- November 20. Sorry. That does not mean that you cannot
3 have conversations with your land agent and Williams
4 ongoing, starting today.

5 Those are encouraged for you to always talk to
6 the company, but to formally respond to you -- your
7 comments, again, are a part of the formal record now and
8 they will respond to that on the record. And I'll ensure
9 you know how to get on and subscribe to E-library and you
10 can follow the project as it moves forward. And anything I
11 receive from the company it will be available as part of
12 E-library under that PF-14-10 docket number. Okay?

13 Okay, well, if you don't have any more comments,
14 the formal part of our meeting is adjourned. Thank you for
15 coming.

16 (Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.)

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