

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

In Reply Refer To:
OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 1
Millennium Pipeline Company, LLC
Valley Lateral Project
Docket No. PF15-23-000

July 22, 2015

Lingard Knutson
Sr. Transportation and Energy Environmental Analyst
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway, 25th Floor
New York, NY

Re: Request for Participation as a Cooperating Agency

Dear Ms. Knuston:

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) requests your assistance as a cooperating agency in the development of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Valley Lateral Project (Project). This Project, planned by Millennium Pipeline Company, LLC (Millennium), would involve the construction of 7.8 miles of new natural gas pipeline that would extend from Millennium's existing mainline in Orange County, New York to the CPV Valley Energy Center located in the town of Wawayanda, New York. The planned pipeline would provide firm natural gas capacity to the 650 megawatt gas-powered CPV Valley Energy Center proposed by CPV Valley, LLC.

The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible for conducting the environmental review of the Project in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The resulting environmental document will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether to authorize the Project. The Project is currently under review pursuant to the FERC's Pre-Filing Process. The purpose of pre-filing is to seek public and agency input during the planning phase and encourage stakeholder involvement in a manner that allows for the early identification and resolution of environmental issues prior to the filing of an application.

As a cooperator, the environmental document would also support the NEPA requirements associated with any permits found necessary for issuance by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. We recognize that your agency has special expertise

with respect to environmental issues associated with the Project and request your cooperation with the environmental review process for the Project.

If you would like to participate with us in preparing the EA, please send a letter expressing that interest and expected level of involvement to the Secretary of the Commission at the address provided below and be sure to reference Docket No. PF15-23:

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First St., N.E., Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Consistent with NEPA implementing regulations and the formalized agreement between our agencies¹, we anticipate your involvement as a cooperating agency will allow us to work together with the project proponents and other stakeholders to identify and resolve environmental issues. Your cooperation will also help us to determine the environmental resources potentially impacted by this planned project, evaluate the potential impacts on these resources, and develop methods to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate these impacts.

Should you choose to participate as a cooperating agency, please note that cooperating agencies are not entitled to intervene in the Commission's proceeding that will begin when Millennium files its certificate application with FERC.

If you have any questions or wish discuss further the benefits, responsibilities, and obligations of a cooperating agency, please contact the FERC Environmental Project Manager, Mr. Anthony J. Rana at (202) 502-8224 or anthony.rana@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,

Shannon Jones, Chief
Gas Branch 1
Division of Gas – Environment
and Engineering

cc: Public File, Docket No. PF15-23-000

¹ Interagency Agreement on Early Coordination of Required Environmental and Historic Preservation Reviews Conducted in Conjunction with the Issuance of Authorizations to Construct and Operate Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines Certificated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission – May 2002.