

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  
Matthew Brower  
NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets  
10B Airline Drive  
Albany, NY 12235

**Re: Request for Participation as a Cooperating Agency**

Dear Mr. Brower:

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, proposed 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 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.

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. We recognize that the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets 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 please be sure to reference Docket No. PF15-23-000:

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

Consistent with NEPA implementing regulations, 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 affected by this planned Project, evaluate potential impacts on 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](mailto: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