

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC

Docket No. CP15-160-000

NOTICE OF SCHEDULE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW  
OF THE E-SYSTEMS PROJECT

(July 24, 2015)

On April 7, 2015, Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC (Columbia) filed an application in Docket No. CP15-160-000 requesting a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act to construct and operate certain natural gas pipeline facilities in Bath, Bracken, Menifee, Montgomery, Nicholas, and Robertson Counties, Kentucky. The proposed project is known as the E-Systems Project (Project), and would entail modernization of Columbia's existing E-System through replacement of bare steel pipe and associated facilities.

On April 20, 2015, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) issued its Notice of Application for the Project. Among other things, that notice alerted agencies issuing federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on a request for a federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Project. This instant notice identifies the FERC staff's planned schedule for the completion of the EA for the Project.

**Schedule for Environmental Review**

Issuance of EA	(August 21, 2015)
90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline	(November 19, 2015)

If a schedule change becomes necessary, additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project's progress.

**Project Description**

The Project would replace 22 miles of bare steel pipe along Columbia's E Loop with coated steel pipe to reduce the potential for pipeline corrosion; modify the EM2, EKY, and EM7 pipelines due to their age and condition; install pig<sup>1</sup> launchers and

---

<sup>1</sup> A pipeline "pig" is an internal device to clean or inspect the pipeline. A pig launcher/receiver is an aboveground facility where pigs are inserted into or retrieved from the pipeline.

receivers; and replace several mainline valve assemblies and fittings to facilitate pipeline maintenance.

### **Background**

On August 27, 2014, the Commission issued a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed E-Systems Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues* (NOI). The NOI was issued during the pre-filing review of the Project in Docket No. PF14-15-000 and was sent to affected landowners; federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. In response to the NOI, the Commission received one comment from an affected landowner who expressed a concern about a portion of the proposed pipeline on his parcel. We also received a routine consultation letter from the Kentucky Heritage Council. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EA.

### **Additional Information**

In order to receive notification of the issuance of the EA and to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to [www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp).

Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (866) 208-FERC or on the FERC website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)). Using the "eLibrary" link, select "General Search" from the eLibrary menu, enter the selected date range and "Docket Number" excluding the last three digits (i.e., CP15-160), and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to eLibrary, the helpline can be reached at (866) 208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659, or at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). The eLibrary link on the FERC website also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rule makings.

Terry L. Turpin,  
Director, Division of Gas –  
Environment and Engineering