

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Colorado Interstate Gas Company

Docket No. CP07-207-000

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT AND PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING FOR THE PROPOSED  
HIGH PLAINS EXPANSION PROJECT

(August 10, 2007)

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared this Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Colorado Interstate Gas Company's (CIG) under the above-referenced docket. CIG's High Plains Expansion Project (Project) would be located in Weld, Morgan, and Adams Counties, Colorado.

The Draft EIS was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The FERC staff concludes that the proposed Project, with the appropriate mitigation measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact.

The purpose of the Project is to expand CIG's existing pipeline system along Colorado's Front Range in order to provide additional transportation services to this rapidly growing market. CIG is proposing to construct about 163.7 miles of 24-inch and 30-inch-diameter pipeline in four separate pipeline segments and associated ancillary facilities.

The Draft EIS addresses the potential environmental impacts resulting from the construction and operation of the following facilities:

- Line 250A: 64.5 miles of 30-inch-diameter pipeline and 20.3 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline that would extend from CIG's existing Cheyenne Compressor Station to an interconnect point on the proposed Line 251A in northeast Adams County;
- Line 251A: 57.9 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline between CIG's existing Watkins and Fort Morgan Compressor Stations;
- Line 252A: 14.9 miles of 30-inch-diameter pipeline extending westward from a point on the proposed Line 250A about one mile north of the existing Hudson Power Plant in the Town of Hudson, Colorado, to a new interconnect with Public Service Company of Colorado's existing Tri-Town facilities in Weld County, Colorado;

- Line 253A: 6.1 miles of 24-inch-diameter pipeline extending westward from the Watkins Compressor Station to CIG's existing East Denver measurement facility in Adams County, Colorado;
- ten new meter stations and 19 new block valves; and
- twelve pig launcher/receivers.

The entire project would be capable of transporting about 899,000 decatherms of gas per day. CIG proposes to begin construction in January 2008. It would put each pipeline segment into service as it is completed, and the entire Project would be in service by October 2008.

Any person wishing to comment on the Draft EIS may do so. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded so that they may be considered in the Final EIS, **please carefully follow these instructions:**

- Send **an original and two copies** of your letter to:

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

- Label one copy of your comments to the attention of Gas Branch 2, DG2E;
- Reference Docket No. CP07-207-000 on the original and both copies; and
- **Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC, on or before October 1, 2007.**

Please note that the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of any comments to this proceeding. Instructions on "eFiling" comments can be found on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "Documents and Filings" link and the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments, you will need to open a free account which can be created on-line.

In lieu of or in addition to sending written comments, we invite you to attend a public comment meetings the FERC will conduct in the Project area to receive comments on the Draft EIS. FERC staff will be in attendance. **The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 pm (MST) on August 28, 2007, at the following location:**

Best Western Hotel  
701 8th Street  
Greeley, CO 80631  
(970) 353-8444

The public comment meetings will be posted on the FERC's calendar located at [www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx](http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx). Interested groups and individuals are encouraged to attend and present oral comments on the Draft EIS. Transcripts of the meetings will be prepared. This notice is being mailed to parties who are on the mail list for the Draft EIS.

After the comments received are reviewed, any significant new issues are investigated, and modifications are made to the Draft EIS, a Final EIS will be published and distributed by the FERC staff. The Final EIS will contain the staff's responses to timely comments received on the Draft EIS.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make the commentor a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214). Anyone may intervene in this proceeding based on this Draft EIS. You must file your request to intervene as specified above.<sup>1</sup> **You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered.**

The Draft EIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at:

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Public Reference Room  
888 First Street N.E., Room 2A  
Washington, DC 20426  
(202) 502-8371

A limited number of copies of the Draft EIS are available from the Public Reference Room identified above. In addition, CD copies of the Draft EIS have been mailed to affected landowners; various federal, state, and local government agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; local libraries and newspapers; intervenors; and other individuals that expressed an interest in the proposed Project. Hard-copies of the Draft EIS have also been mailed to those who requested that format during the scoping and comment periods for the proposed Project.

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<sup>1</sup> Interventions may also be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See the previous discussion on filing comments electronically.

Additional information about the proposed Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at **1-866-208-FERC** or on the FERC Internet website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)).

To access information via the FERC website click on the “eLibrary” link then click on “General Search” and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. The “eLibrary” link provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. For assistance with “eLibrary”, please contact FERC Online Support at [FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202)502-8659.

In addition, the Commission now offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. 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 these documents. To learn more about eSubscription and to sign-up for this service please go to [www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm](http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm).

Kimberly D. Bose  
Secretary