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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE CARTY) DOCKET No. PF 11-5
LATERAL PROJECT)
)
STATE OF OREGON)
_____)

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION'S
SCOPING MEETING
AND
PUBLIC COMMENTS

June 28, 2011
7:01 p.m.
Ione Community School
Ione, Oregon

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APPEARANCES :

- CHRISTINE E. ALLEN, FERC
- SHANNON K. CROSLY, FERC
- PAUL FRIEDMAN, FERC
- DAVID WHITE, GNT

EXHIBITS :

(None)

1 MS. ALLEN: All right. We're going to
2 go ahead and start now, it's 7:00 p.m.

3 Good evening. On behalf the Federal Energy
4 Regulatory Commission, or FERC, I want to welcome you
5 here tonight.

6 Let the record show that the scoping
7 meeting for the Carty Lateral Project begin at 7:00 --

8 MS. CROSLY: 7:01.

9 MS. ALLEN: 7:01 p.m. on June 28th,
10 2011, in Ione, Oregon.

11 The primary purpose of this meeting is to
12 give you an opportunity to provide comments on Gas
13 Transmission Northwest LLC's or GTN's proposed Carty
14 Lateral Project.

15 My name is Christine Allen. And I'm an
16 environmental project manager with the Commission's
17 Office of Energy Projects.

18 To my right is Shannon Crosley. And in the
19 back of the room at the sign-in table is Paul
20 Friedman, also with FERC staff.

21 As you can see, this meeting is being
22 recorded by a court reporter, so that we can have an
23 accurate record of tonight's comments.

24 A transcript of this meeting will be placed
25 into the public record so that everyone has access to

1 the information discussed here tonight.

2 Now, I'll quickly run through the agenda
3 for tonight's meeting. You probably received a copy
4 of the agenda if you stopped by our sign-in table on
5 the way in.

6 I'll start out by briefly explaining the
7 role of the FERC and our application process. Then I
8 will have a representative from GTN present an
9 overview of the project.

10 Following GTN's presentation, we will then
11 hear from those of you who have signed up to speak and
12 make formal comments on the project.

13 After that, anyone who did not sign up, but
14 would like to have their comments heard, will have an
15 opportunity to speak as well.

16 The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is
17 an independent regulatory agency that, among other
18 things, regulates the interstate transmission of
19 natural gas.

20 FERC reviews proposals and authorizes
21 construction of interstate natural gas pipelines,
22 storage facilities, and liquefied natural gas
23 terminals.

24 As a federal licensing agency, the FERC has
25 the responsibility under the National Environmental

1 Policy Act to consider the potential environmental
2 impact associated with the project which is under its
3 consideration.

4 The Commission is made up of five members
5 who are appointed by the President and approved by the
6 congress.

7 The Commission staff, which includes
8 myself, prepares technical information to assist these
9 commissioners in making their decision.

10 When a company wants to build pipeline
11 facilities to transport and sell natural gas in
12 interstate commerce, the company files an application
13 with the Commission.

14 GTN plans to file their application in
15 December 2011 and is requesting a Commission
16 certificate in September 2012.

17 With regard to GTN's planned Carty Lateral
18 Project, the FERC is the lead agency for the National
19 Environmental Policy Act review and the preparation of
20 the environmental assessment.

21 GTN entered into our pre-filing process on
22 March 31st, 2011, through which we began our review of
23 the planned project.

24 The FERC docket number for the Carty
25 Lateral Project is PF 11-5. The PF means that we are

1 in the pre-filing stage of the project.

2 After an application is filed, a new docket
3 number will be assigned. That docket number will be a
4 CP, which stands for certificate proceeding.

5 GTN's proposed Carty Lateral Project
6 includes approximately twenty-five miles of pipeline
7 and one meter station.

8 The proposed facilities would provide
9 natural gas to the proposed Carty Generating Station.
10 The proposed project would have an initial design
11 capacity of approximately 219,000 dekatherms per day
12 of natural gas.

13 Under the National Environmental Policy
14 Act, the Commission is required to perform an
15 environmental analysis of the proposed project's
16 potential effects on the environment. In the case of
17 the Carty Lateral Project, we will prepare an EA to
18 complete this analysis.

19 Scoping is a general term for soliciting
20 input from the public before the environmental
21 analysis is conducted.

22 Although GTN has not filed a formal
23 application, the Commission's staff has already
24 initiated its NEPA review under its pre-filing
25 process.

1 The purpose of the pre-filing process is to
2 encourage the early involvement of interested
3 stakeholders and to identify and resolve issues before
4 an application is filed with the FERC.

5 Your comments, along with those of
6 interested groups and agencies will help us focus our
7 analysis on potentially significant impacts.

8 The Commission will make its decision about
9 whether or not to approval the Carty Lateral Project
10 after considering the project's environmental impacts
11 and other non-environmental aspects.

12 As I said earlier, the primary purpose of
13 this meeting is to give you an opportunity to comment
14 on the issues that you would like to be covered in the
15 EA.

16 It will help us the most if your comments
17 are as specific as possible regarding the
18 environmental impacts and reasonable alternatives of
19 the Carty Lateral Project.

20 If you do not want to formally make
21 comments tonight, you can also send a letter to the
22 Commission addressing your specific concerns.

23 As indicated in the public notice for this
24 meeting, the comment period for filing written
25 comments ends on July 14th, 2011.

1 If you did not receive a copy of this
2 notice, I have some extra copies on the sign-in table
3 at the back of the room that you can pick up on your
4 way out.

5 The notice explains how to mail in
6 comments, and there are some forms available at the
7 sign-in table as well, that makes sending written
8 comments in easier.

9 The notice was mailed to affected
10 landowners; federal, state, and local agencies; and
11 other public interest groups.

12 If you did not receive a notice for this
13 project, and would like to be added to our mailing
14 list, you will need to do one of two things: sign the
15 mailing list sheet at the back of the room, or provide
16 written comments to the FERC by July 14th, 2011.

17 The EA will not be a decision document.
18 When the EA is complete, we will provide the
19 assessment and staff material on non-environmental
20 issues such as rates, cost of service, market,
21 accounting, and economic issues, to the Commission so
22 that they can make an informed decision about the
23 project.

24 If the Commission does vote to issue a
25 certificate to GTN, the Commission staff will monitor

1 the project through construction and restoration,
2 performing on-sight inspections for environmental
3 compliance.

4 If you have additional questions about the
5 FERC, I'd encourage you to visit the Commission's
6 homepage on the internet at www.ferc.gov.

7 Now I'd like to introduce David White from
8 GTN, who will present an overview of their project.

9 MR. WHITE: Hi, folks. David White.
10 First of all I'd like to say thank you for coming out
11 here. And I urge your participation and your
12 comments. This is serious business for us, and we do
13 invite them.

14 TransCanada and the pipeline specifically I
15 work for, Gas Transmission Northwest, has been a
16 neighbor since 1961.

17 We serve not only Eastern Oregon, but the
18 power plants near Hermiston and Coyote Springs near
19 Boardman. We've been operating them since the mid
20 '90's.

21 About 2009, Portland General contacted us
22 to permit and potentially build a pipeline to serve
23 the Carty Generating Facility, as was indicated about
24 20, 25 miles off of GTN's mainline. So that's the
25 nature of the facility. 20 inch pipe.

1 The routing as you all know, having been to
2 previous meetings, and next door, is an exercise
3 that's underway.

4 It's not been formalized, it's a work in
5 progress. And we look for your input to help us come
6 up with the right routing.

7 With that, the timeline, I would say if you
8 haven't gotten some of these brochures, not only about
9 my company but about the project itself, I'll have
10 some in the back of the room. Pick them up please
11 before you leave, if you haven't done so already.

12 MS. ALLEN: Thank you, David.

13 Following this formal segment of tonight's
14 meeting, I'd encourage you to look at the maps and
15 other material that GTN has brought with them tonight.

16 They will be available after the meeting to
17 respond to any questions you may have about the
18 project. Also FERC staff will be available, if you
19 have any questions about our process.

20 To ensure that the court reporter produces
21 an accurate record of this meeting, please follow the
22 following ground rules if you have any questions or
23 comments during the formal segment of tonight's
24 meeting.

25 I'll ask you to please come up to the

1 microphone and speak, introduce yourself. And if
2 appropriate, the agency or group you are representing.

3 Please help the court reporter with the
4 spelling of your name and define any acronyms or
5 industry-related jargon you may use. And finally,
6 please speak one at a time.

7 Following the formal segment of the
8 meeting, there will be an informal opportunity for you
9 to ask questions of GTN or to the FERC staff.

10 Is there anyone who wanted to sign up that
11 hasn't? I can give you an opportunity now, if you'd
12 like to sign up. If not, we'll go ahead and start
13 with the list.

14 (Short pause in the proceedings).

15 MS. ALLEN: We only have one speaker
16 signed up right now. Leann Rea.

17 MS. REA: Can I stand back here and
18 look out, as opposed to --

19 MS. ALLEN: We would prefer if you
20 addressed your comments to FERC staff.

21 MS. REA: Okay. Leann Rea, L-e-a-n-n.
22 Rea is R-e-a. I'm Morrow County Commissioner. And
23 I'm here tonight primarily to learn what our local
24 residents want to know about this and make sure that
25 they have their questions answered.

1 And to thank you for holding this hearing
2 in our local community. We really appreciate it when
3 people come to our area. So thank you.

4 MS. ALLEN: Thank you. Well, that's
5 the only speaker who signed up. Last chance. Anyone
6 else want to come up and speak?

7 (Short pause in the proceedings).

8 MS. ALLEN: Okay. Well, then that
9 concludes the formal part of this meeting. I would
10 encourage you to stay and look around at the maps that
11 GTN has brought.

12 And if you have any questions for FERC
13 staff, feel free to ask one of us. We also have some
14 extra materials in the back of room.

15 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory
16 Commission, I want to thank you all for coming out
17 here tonight and expressing your concerns.

18 Let the record show that the scoping
19 meeting for the Carty Lateral Project concluded at
20 7:12 p.m.

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1 STATE OF OREGON)
2)
3 County of Umatilla)

4 I, Susanne Starkweather, do hereby certify
5 that at the time and place heretofore mentioned in the
6 caption of the foregoing matter, I was a Professional
7 Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public for Oregon; that
8 at said time and place I reported in stenotype all
9 testimony adduced and proceedings had in the foregoing
10 matter; that thereafter my notes were reduced to
11 typewriting and that the foregoing transcript
12 consisting of 13 pages is a true and correct
13 transcript of all such testimony adduced and
14 proceedings had and of the whole thereof.

15 Witness my hand at Pendleton, Oregon, on
16 this 5th day of July, 2011.

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21 Susanne Starkweather
22 Professional Court Reporter
23 Notary Public for Oregon
24 My commission expires: 12-21-2012

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