

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Docket No. AD15-10-000

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE REVISED
GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING ON CULTURAL RESOURCES
INVESTIGATIONS FOR NATURAL GAS PROJECTS
AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

(January 25, 2017)

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) is revising its *Guidelines for Reporting on Cultural Resources Investigations for Pipeline Projects*, dated December 2002. Based on comments received in the above-referenced docket,¹ the staff has revised the *Guidelines* and comments are now requested on this draft document from federal and state agencies, Native American tribes, environmental consultants, inspectors, natural gas industry, construction contractors, and other interested parties with special expertise with respect to historic and cultural resources commonly associated with natural gas pipeline projects. **A 60-day public comment period is allotted to collect comments. Please note that this comment period will close on March 26, 2017.**

Interested parties can help the Commission staff determine the appropriate updates and improvements by providing meaningful comments or suggestions that focus on the specific sections requiring clarification; updates to reflect current laws and regulations; or improved measures to avoid or minimize impacts on historic or cultural resources. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. A detailed explanation of your submissions and/or any references of scientific studies associated with your comments will greatly help us with this process. We will consider all timely comments on the revised *Guidelines* before issuing the final version.

The FERC staff provided copies of the revised *Guidelines* to federal and state agencies, Native American tribes, environmental consultants, inspectors, natural gas industry, construction contractors, and other interested parties. In addition, the revised *Guidelines* is available for public viewing on the FERC's website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link.

¹ A *Notice of Intent to Update the Guidelines for Reporting on Cultural Resources Investigations for Pipeline Projects and Request for Comments* was issued on April 21, 2015 under Docket Number AD15-10.

For your convenience, there are three methods which you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances please reference the docket number (AD15-10-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert staff available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or efiling@ferc.gov.

- (1) You can file your comments electronically using the [eComment](#) feature on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to [Documents and Filings](#). This is an easy method for interested persons to submit brief, text-only comments;
- (2) You can file your comments electronically using the [eFiling](#) feature on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to [Documents and Filings](#). With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "[eRegister](#)." You must select the type of filing you are making, select "Comment on a Filing"; or
- (3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the following address:

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

All of the information related to the proposed updates to the *Guidelines* and submitted comments can be found on the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field (i.e., AD15-10). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8258. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

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 the documents. Go to www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.