NEXT STEPS

On August 31, 2015, National Fuel proposed a new location for the Pendleton Compressor Station on Killian Road in the Town of Pendleton, New York. Additional information about the site will be filed by National Fuel in the near future. FERC will open another scoping period for this new proposed location in fall 2015. That Notice will be mailed to the environmental mailing list for the Project.

When we have all of the information necessary to complete our analysis, we will prepare an EA and issue a *Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review* identifying the date that the EA will be issued. When the EA is completed, a *Notice of Availability* will appear in the Federal Register, and the EA will be mailed to the environmental mailing list for this proceeding. There will be a 30-day period to review and comment on the EA.

The Commission will consider the findings of the EA, and any comments on the EA we receive, along with other non-environmental information, when it makes its decision about whether to approve or disapprove the Project. The comments we've received so far have helped the environmental staff identify and evaluate the potential impacts of the Project. Please stay involved and consider filing comments on the EA when it is available.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED

Go to the FERC website at http://www.ferc.gov. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number (i.e., CP15-115-000). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1-866-208-3676. For TTY, contact 202-502-8659.

In addition, the FERC offers a free service called eSubscription that allows you to keep track of all issuances and submittals in specific dockets. Using this service can reduce the amount of time you spend monitoring our website by automatically providing you with electronic notification when new items are posted and providing direct links to the documents. To register for this service, go to: http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp

National Fuel also maintains a Project web page that can be viewed at: http://www.natfuel.com/supply/NorthernAccess2016/default.aspx

While we believe that the Internet is the best way to stay informed of the Project, we realize that not everyone has Internet access. From this point forward on this Project, issuances by the environmental staff, including the EA document, will be mailed to the environmental mailing list in either hard copy or compact disc format.

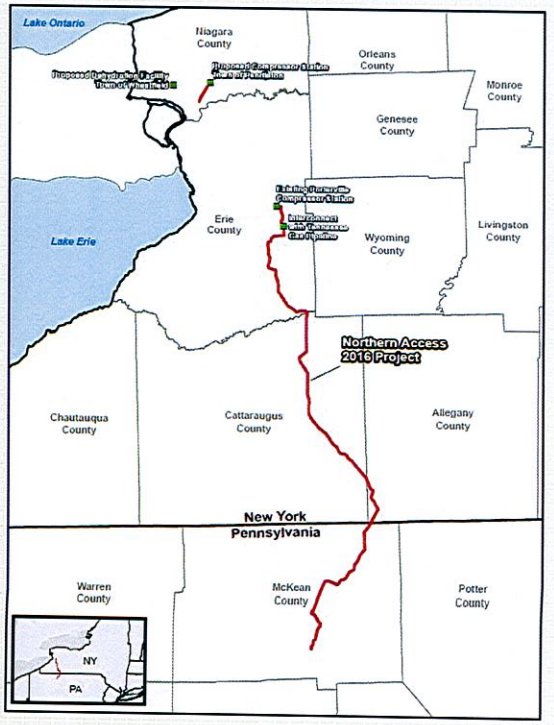
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20426

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of Energy Projects

PROJECT UPDATE FOR THE NORTHERN ACCESS 2016 PROJECT

October 2015



PURPOSE

The purpose of this mailing is to provide you with an update on the environmental review of the proposed Northern Access 2016 Project (Project), explain the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) environmental review process, identify the issues identified to date, and give you an idea of what's next in our review process. Our last Project Update was issued in January 2015.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation and Empire Pipeline, Inc. (collectively National Fuel) plan to construct and operate certain facilities to provide natural gas transportation service from a receipt point in McKean County, Pennsylvania to an existing Empire pipeline system in Niagara County, New York.

National Fuel is proposing to install approximately 97 miles of new 24-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline, one new compressor station, a new dehydration facility, modifications at an existing compressor station, and installation of approximately 2 miles of new 24-inch-diameter pipeline required for the Pendleton Compressor Station.

WHERE WE ARE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible for conducting the Project's environmental review. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the FERC is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Project. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and New York Department of Agriculture and Markets are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EA.

Presently, we are conducting our environmental analysis of the proposed Project, in concert with the cooperating agencies. The results of this analysis will be presented in the EA. The EA will describe the potential environmental effects of the Project, including cumulative impacts and alternatives. It will also describe National Fuel's proposed construction procedures and mitigation measures, and make recommendations for additional mitigation and/or conservation measures to avoid or further reduce effects on the environment. The flow chart on the right side of this brochure shows where we currently are in the process.

ISSUES IDENTIFIED

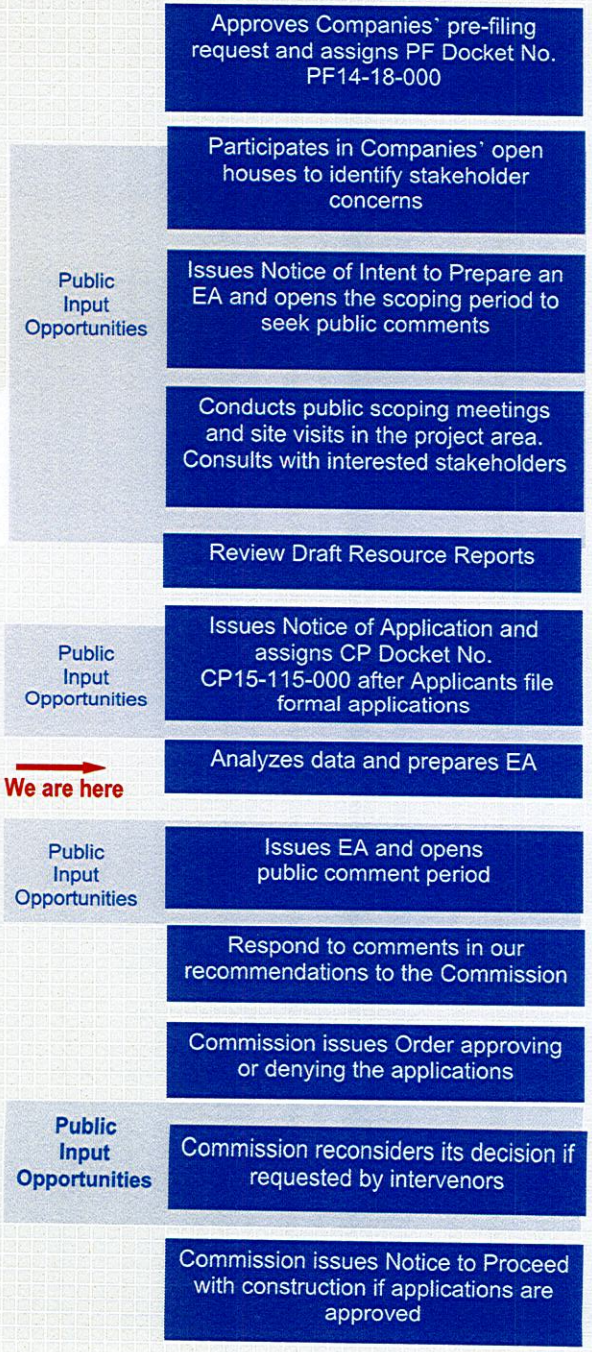
The following concerns have been raised during scoping on the Project:

Effects on:

- forested areas including fragmentation;
- State Forest lands and preserved lands;
- agricultural areas including impacts on soils;
- property values;
- surface water;
- groundwater including wells and springs;
- wildlife and vegetation;
- federal and state-listed threatened, endangered, and sensitive species;
- use of eminent domain for the Project;
- need for an Environmental Impact Statement;
- environmental justice;
- noise and visual effects;
- impacts on air quality, and associated impacts on human health and local agricultural areas;
- public safety and hazards associated with the transport of natural gas; and
- cumulative impacts.

PROJECT TIMELINE

On July 24, 2014, the FERC approved National Fuel's request to use the FERC's pre-fling review process for the Project under PF14-18-000. On October 22, 2014, the FERC issued a *Notice of Intent* to prepare an EA for the Project. The issues identified above were collected during our scoping period for the Project during pre-filing and our supplemental scoping period held in May 2015.

On March 17, 2015, National Fuel filed an application for its proposed project under Docket No. CP15-115-000. On April 29, 2015, the FERC issued a supplemental Notice of Intent for the newly identified aboveground facilities for the Project in that filing. To date, we have held three public scoping meetings in New York in November 2014 and May 20, 2015. Transcripts of these meetings were placed in the record for this proceeding and are available for public review.

FERC's Environmental Review Process