

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

In Reply Refer To:
OEP/DG2E/Gas Branch 2
PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC
PennEast Pipeline Project
Docket No. PF15-1-000

June 22, 2015
Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe
Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
2025 South Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801

Re: PennEast Pipeline Project

Dear Governor Butler-Wolfe:

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) invites the participation of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma in its review of the PennEast Pipeline Project planned by PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast), a partnership of six member companies including AGL Resources, New Jersey Resources Pipeline Company, South Jersey Industries, Public Service Electric and Gas Company Power LLC, Spectra Energy Partners, and UGI Energy Services. PennEast plans to construct about 111 miles of new natural gas pipeline in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and the project consists of the following facilities:

- 108.8 miles of new 36-inch-diameter pipeline, originating near Dallas, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania and terminating near Pennington, Mercer County, New Jersey. The pipeline route would also traverse Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks Counties, Pennsylvania, and Hunterdon and Mercer Counties, New Jersey;
- the Hellertown Lateral, a 2.1-mile, 24-inch-diameter new pipeline and Launcher/Receiver Site in Northampton County, Pennsylvania;
- Gilbert Lateral, a 0.6 mile, 12-inch-diameter in Mercer County, New Jersey;
- Lambertville Lateral, 1.3 mile, 36-inch-diameter, Mercer County, New Jersey;
- one new compressor station in Carbon County, Pennsylvania;
- interconnects in Luzerne and Carbon Counties, Pennsylvania and Hunterdon and Mercer Counties, New Jersey; and
- seven mainline block valves at locations along the planned pipeline segments in Luzerne, Carbon, and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania and Hunterdon County, New Jersey.

On October 10, 2014, FERC approved PennEast's request to begin the Commission's pre-filing process, which enables review of the project to begin before an application is filed with FERC. The purpose of the pre-filing process is to seek public and agency input early in the project planning phase and encourage involvement by interested stakeholders in a manner that allows for the early identification and resolution of environmental issues.

Enclosed is the *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Planned PennEast Pipeline Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Meeting* (NOI) on January 13, 2015. The NOI included a brief description of the project and the Commission's decision-making process. It was published in the *Federal Register* and placed in the Commission's public record under docket number PF15-1-000.¹

You may have been contacted about the project by PennEast or their consultants, URS/AECOM. Although the company does not represent the FERC, they can assist us in completing the process of complying with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act by gathering information, in accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's implementing regulations at 36 CFR 800.2(a)(3).

We are interested in receiving your comments on the project to ensure that the concerns of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma are identified and properly considered in our environmental analysis. We also request your assistance in identifying the Tribe's properties of traditional, religious, or cultural importance that may be affected by the planned Project. Please be assured that we will keep any sensitive tribal information strictly confidential.

You may file a response either electronically or with a paper copy; however, with either method please reference the project docket number (PF15-1-000) with your submission. If you choose the internet, use the eFiling feature on the FERC's web page at www.ferc.gov under the "Documents & Filings" link. To file a paper copy, send a letter addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary; Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; 888 First Street NE, Washington DC 20426.

Please note, if you file sensitive tribal information it should be marked "Contains Privileged Information - Do Not Release".

We would very much appreciate receiving your response within 30 days of the date of this letter. If you would like to discuss our process, get further information, or meet with Commission staff, please feel free to contact either the Environmental Project

¹ Project information is available 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., PF14-12). 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) 502-8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

Manager, Medha Kochhar (at 202-502-8964 or medha.kochhar@ferc.gov) or the Project Archaeologist, Eric Howard (at 202-502-6263 or eric.howard@ferc.gov).

The Commission welcomes your participation in our environmental review process for the project.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure

cc: Public File, Docket No. PF15-1-000

Joseph Blanchard (Enclosure)
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
2025 South Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801