APPENDIX Q – COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT EIS AND RESPONSES

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PUBLIC MEETING 1

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATION COMMISSION

Colorado Interstate Gas Company

Docket No C07-207-000

PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING REGARDING

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

FOR PROPOSED HIGH PLAINS EXPANSION PROJECT

The public meeting regarding Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Public Comment Meeting for the Proposed High Plains Expansion Project was held at the Regency Hotel, 701 8th Street, Greeley, Colorado 80631 on August 28, 2007, at 6:30 p.m., before Debbie Zoetewey, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public within Colorado.

A P P E A R A N C E S

FOR THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATION COMMISSION:

Jennifer Kerrigan

FOR MERJENT:

John Muehlhausen

Jeff Mackenthun

PUBLIC MEETING 1

P R O C E E D I N G S

* * * * * * *

MS. KERRIGAN: We're going to start the meeting now. Good evening and welcome to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Draft Environmental Impact Statement, or DEIS, comment meeting for the High Plains Expansion Project, which is a natural gas pipeline construction project proposed by Colorado Interstate Gas Company, or CIG.

My name is Jennifer Kerrigan, and I'm the FERC project manager. Also with me here at this time are John Muehlhausen on my right and Jeff Mackenthun, who is at the speaker sign-in table. They are both from our third-party contractor, Merjent, and they are assisting the FERC staff in preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

CIG filed the certificate application for this project with the Federal Energy Regulation Commission on April 27, 2007, at which time it was assigned Docket No. CP07-207-000. However, scoping the issue related to construction and operation of this project began earlier during our prefiling process after we issued a notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and

request for comments on November 17, 2006.

On August 10, 2007, we issued the notice of availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, or DEIS, which informed that the comment period for the DEIS has begun and that it would end on October 1, 2007.

Tonight we are providing you with an opportunity to comment on the DEIS that was prepared for the High Plains Expansion Project. We are here to listen to your comments.

In the DEIS we addressed the environmental issues related to the construction and operation of the proposed project and the comments that were made part of the public record for this proceeding during scoping.

If you have any comments about the information in the DEIS, we want to hear from you so that we can prepare as accurately as possible a final Environmental Impact Statement, and we appreciate your comments because they can assist us in doing this.

All of the comments that you present tonight and any written comments that you may file with the Commission will be given equal consideration and will be addressed in writing in

PUBLIC MEETING 1

the final Environmental Impact Statement.

The final Environmental Impact Statement will be part of the information that the Commission will use in examining CIG's application for the High Plains Expansion Project.

In addition to environmental issues, the Commission will consider issues related to gas transportation rates and tariffs, engineer design, and need for the project. The Commission will make its decision about the project sometime after the final Environmental Impact Statement is issued.

As a reminder, all comments on the DEIS should be filed with the secretary of the Commission by October 1, 2007, so they can be addressed in the final Environmental Impact Statement that will be issued this winter.

As you may have noticed, we have a court reporter here to report the transcript of this comment meeting. If you wish to obtain copies of the transcript, please speak with the court reporter after the meeting concludes.

Also, if you have any written material that you would like to make part of the public record, please give it to the court reporter and it will be attached as an exhibit to the transcript.

PUBLIC MEETING 1

Now, for explanation of how we'll proceed with the comment meeting here tonight, we will call speakers in the order in which they signed up on the sign-up sheets. And it is helpful for the court reporter when you begin speaking if you could say your name and spell it so that we get an accurate -- get the record accurately for the transcript.

So that being said, we can proceed now to the speakers that have signed up. And my first speaker that I have is Dennis Hoshiko. And the microphone is on this chair; just to prevent it from falling to the ground, it's sitting on the chair there.

MR. HOSHIKO: Good evening. You wanted the spelling of my name. I'm sorry. Great.

MR. MUEHLHAUSEN: We have it.

MR. HOSHIKO: I guess the overriding concern that I have about this project is that why weren't more people -- we have quite a few chairs set up; and I spoke with several of my neighbors

PM1-1 who have indicated that they got no notice of this meeting, so I'm wondering why that's the case and why the mailings to inform the affected property owners weren't sent by certified mail so that there

PM1-1 See Section 1.4 for information about public comment.

PUBLIC MEETING 1

would be some indication as to whether they had received notice or not.

I don't know whether you can answer any of the questions that I'm presenting or intend to, but that is a significant concern that I have.

This pipeline is going to bifurcate a significant amount of very important irrigated agricultural land throughout Weld County, and I

PM1-2 guess I haven't seen anything in the documentation that I have received or that indicates why this route was chosen.

There's quite a bit of undeveloped prairie land that lies a few miles to the east of the proposed route that, although prairie land is important and environmentally sensitive, I'm curious as to why Colorado Interstate Gas chose this particular route.

Nothing that we've received or heard of indicates why this route was chosen above a route that would be much less disruptive that would be further to the east, a lot less not only developed farmland, but also a lot less infrastructure relative to public roadways and utility lines and that type of thing.

So is that about it? I get to talk and

PM1-2 CIG developed the proposed route for the project. CIG evaluated its existing system as described in section 3.4.2 of the EIS. During the Pre-filing Process, CIG adopted several route variations mainly due to landowner comment and as described in section 3.6.1. Our analysis of route alternatives and variances in section 3 shows why the preferred route was recommended.

nobody responds?

MS. KERRIGAN: Yeah. We have to address all comments in writing in our environmental document, so that's just the procedure we have to use.

MR. HOSHIKO: That would have been nice to know beforehand, too.

MS. KERRIGAN: And just to address the mailings, we sent out mailings to everybody that indicated they wanted to be on the mailing list. If they did not indicate they wanted to be on the mailing list, they didn't get copies.

MR. HOSHIKO: When did we get an opportunity?

MS. KERRIGAN: That was sent out with the notice of intent to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement. There was a mailer on the back of that that you had to fill out with your name and address and send it back to the Commission.

And if you didn't -- if people didn't do that, they are not on the mailing list. So everybody that did that, if you look at Appendix A of our environmental document, that list is -- as well as agencies, et cetera, that we usually send these documents to, it lists everybody that

indicated that they had an interest in receiving environmental documents, so they got a copy of the DEIS. If they requested a hard copy, they got that. If they requested a CD, they got a CD with it.

And also, we sent out a separate mailing with the notice of availability, which we don't usually do. But in the -- just the timing, we had printers and finalizing this room, so we had sent out a notice of where the meeting was going to be, so there ended up actually being two notices.

MR. HOSHIKO: Only those that indicated they wished to receive the notice received that?

MS. KERRIGAN: That's correct.

MR. HOSHIKO: Well, for your information, those of us that own property in this part of Weld County receive notifications of utility crossings, oil and gas drilling operations practically on a weekly basis; and so it comes to a point where they almost become -- almost become oblivious to them. I would assume that might be part of the reason that you didn't get overwhelming response from all of the -- I'm going to guess hundreds, maybe -- well, at least hundreds of property owners that are going to be affected by this pipeline.

That's the procedure, and they failed to abide by it, evidently; but that's probably the reason you didn't get more of a request for mailings. That's all I have to say.

MS. KERRIGAN: Thank you. Next speaker is Elaine Altergott.

MS. ALTERGOTT: My name is Elaine Altergott. Do you need me to spell it for you? E-l-a-i-n-e A-l-t-e-r-g-o-t-t. I'm talking about reference to my property, which is in your draft survey on Map 11 of 62. It's No. 2 of Section 10. It's the -- concerning the last third of the Section 10 going north to south.

My property is grassland, and which I used to pasture my cows. And this grass is not seeded grass, but rather, it's the original native grass that was here before you and I were here. This pasture and surrounding grass pastures were homesteaded before the town of Greeley was established. They had the choice of all the country, and they picked this grass because of its subirrigation abilities and the quality of the grass.

After reading much of your draft Environmental Impact Statement, I discovered you,

PUBLIC MEETING 1

too, value native grassland. The alternative route that -- the Burroughs route alternative was proposed, which would take a route north and east of the original route suggested by CIG; you have eliminated the Burroughs route as a prospective route largely because it would cross through the Pawnee National Grasslands.

You've stated further, and I quote, Grasslands are considered to be one of the most imperiled habitat types in North America and wild. It is eliminated that only -- it is estimated that only about 60 percent of Eastern Plain grasslands remain.

PM1-3 So I'm putting the question to you: Why are you putting more value on the Pawnee grasslands and are interested in preserving it as -- in its natural state while at the same time, you're disregarding my native grass and the value of preserving it and keeping it whole? Thank you.

MS. KERRIGAN: Thank you. Next speaker is Kevin Russell.

(No response.)

MS. KERRIGAN: Did we have any more speakers sign up?

MR. MACKENTHUN: No.

PM1-3 The proposed pipeline route would crosse about 33.7 miles of grasslands; the number of and location of grasslands on Colorado's Front Range makes them impossible to avoid. One reason for selecting the proposed route as opposed to an alignment on the Pawnee National Grassland is that this would impact an additional 14.5 miles of grasslands, an overall increase of 43 percent. Section 3.5.2 has been revised to include an analysis of total grassland impacts.

MS. KERRIGAN: That is the last speaker who signed up. If anybody else would like to speak, they can come up to the podium and comment on the report. Just say your name and spell it for the court reporter. Because if nobody else wants to speak, that's pretty much going to be it for the comment meeting. Okay. Got a volunteer.

MR. BURROUGHS: I'm Tony Burroughs, and I

PM1-4 think -- just wanted to say I agree with what Mr. Hoshiko said and I guess follow up. It was said that if we were in the Appendix A, we got a letter about this meeting. And I'm in Appendix A, but I did not get a letter notifying me of this meeting.

MS. KERRIGAN: Same mailing list. It's the exact same. We used the same mailing list for the DEIS, printed the same labels, same process. I don't know why. Sometimes that happens. Things get lost in the mail. It was also in the public records, too, if -- you're an intervenor on this project; right?

MR. BURROUGHS: Your response to him was that people would have got notification and not -- things get lost in the mail, but --

MS. KERRIGAN: Well, they were mailed

PM1-4 Anthony S. Burroughs of 39701 County Road 47, Ault Colorado was included on the mailing list for the draft EIS and public meeting notice. We cannot determine why the meeting notice was not delivered to Mr. Burroughs. The DEIS and the notice for the comment meeting are available on the FERC's eLibrary. The comment meeting information was posted on August 10, 2007, on the FERC calendar located at www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx.

out. That's the way the notifications is done. It's put into the mail.

MR. BURROUGHS: He may be correct in stating that some people did not get a letter.

MS. KERRIGAN: It's possible. That happens. That happens all the time. Sometimes things get damaged, sometimes we get return damaged documents and have to mail them out again. It's possible. Anything is possible. Thank you.

Anybody else like to comment? Well, with that, I'm going to close the comment meeting. But we still have this room; if you want to come up and talk to us privately, CIG is here, you can talk to them. They have got their alignment sheets out if you want to talk about your properties or other issues.

So off the record. We're here and we can accommodate that. With that, we're closing the comment meeting. Thank you very much for coming.

(The proceedings were adjourned at the approximate hour of 6:54 p.m.)

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF COLORADO)
) ss.
COUNTY OF ADAMS)

I, DEBBIE ZOETEWEY, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public, State of Colorado, do hereby certify that the said proceedings were taken in machine shorthand by me at the time and place set forth above, and were reduced to typewritten form; that the foregoing is a true transcript of the proceedings had.

I further certify that I am not employed by, related to, nor counsel for any of the parties herein, nor otherwise interested in the outcome of this litigation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed my signature this 4th day of September, 2007.

My commission expires August 28, 2008.

_____

Debbie Zoetewey
Registered Merit Reporter

FEDERAL AGENCY 1

United States Department of Agriculture
Research, Education and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

July 27, 2007

Jennifer Kerrigan
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington D.C. 20426

Re: Docket No. CP07-207-000

Dear Ms. Kerrigan:

We recently became aware of the Proposed Burrough's Reroute for the High Plains Expansion Project. USDA, Agricultural Research Service is strongly opposed to the reroute that was landowner proposed. The Burrough's Proposed Reroute would run diagonally from the northwest corner to the southwest corner of the USDA, ARS, Central Plains Experimental Range (CPER). This proposed reroute would have pipeline traversing across 6 miles in the center of CPER, interfering with on-going research activities that have world-wide implications.

FA1-1 CPER is an active research station, encompassing approximately 6,273 hectacres of native shortgrass steppe with more than 70 current experiments involving state, federal and international researchers. Several million dollars of research are conducted on-site annually. USDA, ARS' Rangeland Resources Research Unit has their facilities on this property and they regularly collaborate with other ARS scientists on several multi-location research projects. In addition, the property houses the National Science Foundation (NSF) funded Shortgrass Steppe Long-Term Ecological Research (SGS-LTER) project in cooperation with Colorado State University, where on-going research builds upon the foundation science established in the late 1960s and early 1970s with the International Biological Program (IBP). This research facility has just been named a core site for the Great Plains land in the NSF funded National Earth Observation Network (NEON) program. Both the LTER and NEON programs involve comparative experiments across multiple sites worldwide.

Dr. Justin Derner, Scientist-in-Charge at USDA, ARS, CPER, states that "The Burrough's Reroute for the High Plains Expansion Project would severely compromise the integrity of this research facility, the 70+ on-going and planned research projects, and significantly disrupt historical experimental treatments that have been in place since 1939."

Northern Plains Area Office
Natural Resources Research Center ◦ 2150 Centre Ave ◦ Bldg D ◦ Suite 310 ◦ Fort Collins, CO 80526-8119
Telephone: 970-492-7001 ◦ Fax: 970-492-7049 ◦ Email: Michael.Wiggett@ars.usda.gov
An Equal Opportunity Employer

FA1-1 Information from the CPER is included in the draft EIS, section 3.5.2.

Apparently Mr. Burrough proposed this route in November 2006. ARS was not made aware of this proposal until Colorado Interstate Gas Company (CIG) contacted ARS' through Justin Derner the end of May 2007. Per ARS protocol, Dr. Derner referred the matter to the Area Office Real Estate Warrant Officer, who has the delegated authority to speak on behalf of ARS concerning this Real Property matter. Unfortunately, I was in travel status for many weeks, just returning to the office this week. Linda Armand, our Realty Specialist, contacted Nicole Pedigo at CIG in June and was told that we would have until the end of July to submit comments to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission so we are submitting our comments at this time.

FA1-2 USDA, ARS is strongly opposed to the landowner-proposed Burroughs alternative route through CPER, our unique and valued research station, as this activity could destroy decades of research for which this land was originally acquired. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposal.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL R. WIGGETT
Real Estate Warrant Officer

cc: Nicole Pedigo, Colorado Interstate Gas Company
Will Blackburn, Director, Northern Plains Area
Jack Morgan, Research Leader, Rangeland Resources Research Unit
Justin Derner, Scientist-in-Charge, Central Plains Experimental Range
Linda Armand, Realty Specialist, Northern Plains Area

FEDERAL AGENCY 1

FA1-2 We have considered ARS's opinion of the project and the impacts the Burroughs Route Alternative would have at the research station (see section 3.5.2.).

FEDERAL AGENCY 2

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8
1595 WYNKOOP STREET
DENVER, CO 80202
Phone 800-227-8917
http://www.epa.gov/region08

SEP 24 2007

Ref: 8EPR-N

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E. Room 1A
Washington D.C. 20426

Re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the High Plains Expansion Project
CEQ # 20070356

Dear Ms. Bose:

In accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. Section 4321, et. seq., and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 7609, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 (EPA) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) prepared by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for construction and operation of additional natural gas pipelines and associated facilities located in Weld, Adams, and Morgan Counties, Colorado.

The pipelines and associated facilities proposed and operated by Colorado Interstate Gas (CIG) would add 899,000 dekatherms per day of natural gas transportation capacity to meet growing demands for natural gas along the Front Range of Colorado. The proposed project would involve the construction and operation of approximately 163.7 miles of 24- and 30- inch diameter pipeline in four separate pipeline segments. Associated aboveground facilities include 10 metering stations, 12 pig launchers/receivers, and 19 main line valves. Construction of the proposed project would disturb approximately 2,683 acres of land. Ninety-five percent of the land affected by construction and operation of the proposed project is privately-owned. Of this disturbance, 1,675 acres would be restored and allowed to revert to former use. Approximately 49 percent of the pipeline would be constructed on new right-of-way with a 100 foot construction right-of-way and a 50 foot wide permanent right-of-way.

The Draft EIS considers a number of various alternatives including: no action, postponed action, alternative energy sources, energy conservation, system alternatives, route variations, and aboveground facility site alternatives. The majority of these alternatives were dismissed from further comprehensive analysis with the exception of the route alternatives. Following a broad analysis, the three major route alternatives were also eliminated from further consideration due to impacts to residential and commercial development (the 5ABC route) or to increased impacts to wetlands and to the Pawnee National Grassland (the Burroughs and County Road routes). The only action alternative to be analyzed in detail was the proposed action with two FERC recommended minor route changes to avoid residential development.

FEDERAL AGENCY 2

Generally, EPA encourages development of proposed pipelines and transmission lines in existing corridors. However as FERC notes in the Draft EIS, the Burroughs and County Road route alternatives, which would be constructed along existing rights-of-way, each have increased impacts on wetlands, waterbodies, and grasslands than CIG's proposed alternative. EPA supports FERC's effort to avoid these additional impacts.

In completing our review, EPA has identified three primary concerns which are outlined in this letter: 1) the need for greater detail, explanation and environmental impact analysis for the pipeline crossings at perennial waters; 2) impacts due to hydrostatic pipeline testing; and 3) impacts to wetlands.

Water crossings

The proposed project would cross three perennial waterbodies and 119 intermittent waterbodies, drainages, canals and washes in the South Platte sub-regional watershed. The perennial water body crossings include two crossings of the South Platte River which would be considered sensitive because of state-listed threatened and endangered species, as well as six federal-listed species downstream of the proposed project area in Nebraska. In addition, one of the South Platte River water crossings is considered major because it would cross an area greater than 100 feet. CIG proposes to cross all three perennial waterbodies using the open cut method. The greatest potential impact on surface waters would result from sedimentation and the Draft EIS includes a number of mitigation measures to address these potential impacts. However, it is unclear from the discussion in the Draft EIS if the mitigation measures suffice or if another construction method might better mitigate the potential impacts.

FA2-1

Given the numerous threatened and endangered species supported by the South Platte River system and the potential for increased sedimentation, EPA recommends the Final EIS include a more detailed and robust impact analysis of other potential river crossing methods such as horizontal directional drilling (HDD). Pipeline open cut crossings may create hardened areas in the river bottom, which result in adverse affects by changing the channel and streambank morphology and affected the aquatic population. It is EPA's experience that the open cut method has the highest potential for water quality impacts when compared to the HDD method. EPA understands that the open cut method is usually the least costly to undertake, but weighted against other factors it may not be the most desired.

Hydrostatic Pipeline Testing

CIG would require approximately 29.9 million gallons of water for construction operations and hydrostatic testing of the proposed pipelines. Nearly all of the water would be withdrawn from the South Platte River and CIG has committed to discharging all water within the same drainage basin from which it is taken. EPA supports this commitment as it reduces the potential for the transfer of disease and nuisance organisms. EPA's remaining concern is that the Final EIS analyze, disclose and ultimately, address mitigation measures for the potential adverse impacts on six federally-listed endangered and threatened species and critical habitat for one endangered species.

2

FA2-1 Section 4.3.2 has been revised to include additional information about the HDD crossing method.

The South Platte River system supports a number of threatened and endangered species both in Colorado and downstream in Nebraska. In Section 4.6, the Draft EIS acknowledges FERC's determination that the proposed project may adversely affect six federally listed endangered and threatened species and their designated critical habitat because of water withdrawals proposed at the South Platte River. The species potentially adversely affected include: the whooping crane (including its critical habitat), the interior least tern, the piping plover, pallid sturgeon, bald eagle and the western prairie fringed orchid. FERC has submitted a Biological Assessment for submittal to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. EPA recommends the Final EIS include the Biological Opinion of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and any measures that will be required of CIG to mitigate these potential adverse impacts. **FA2-2**

Wetlands

As noted in the Draft EIS, wetlands can be a source of substantial biodiversity and serve a variety of functions including wildlife habitat, naturally improving water quality and providing flood control. Construction of the proposed pipeline route would disturb 42 wetlands, the majority of which fall under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. CIG would minimize impacts on these wetlands by complying with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit conditions and implementing a series of mitigation measures.

EPA generally supports CIG's proposed mitigation measures and offers the following recommendations. First as re-establishing wetlands and their functions can be very challenging, EPA recommends the wetland restoration be monitored for a minimum of five years after construction, rather than the three years proposed by CIG (page 4-26). In addition, the wetlands monitoring should include inspection and monitoring for invasive species. **FA2-3** Finally, EPA recommends FERC and CIG provide additional discussion and explanation on the decision to locate the temporary extra workspaces up to the edge and through both wetland crossings on the South Platte River. At a minimum, EPA would like to see a 50-foot natural buffer around the wetlands. **FA2-4**

EPA's Rating

Consistent with Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, it is EPA's responsibility to provide an independent review and evaluation of the potential environmental impacts of this project. Based on the procedures EPA uses to evaluate the adequacy of the information and the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action, EPA is rating this Draft EIS as Environmental Concerns – Insufficient Information (EC-2). The "EC" rating indicates that the EPA review has identified environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment. The "2" rating indicates that EPA has identified additional information, data, analyses or discussion that should be included in the Final EIS. A full description of EPA's EIS rating system is enclosed.

3

FEDERAL AGENCY 2

FA2-2 If the USFWS provides a Biological Opinion prior to the issuance of the Final EIS for the Project, it will be included in that document. We will recommend that CIG not begin construction until consultation with the USFWS is completed.

FA2-3 Section 4.3.3 has been revised to include provisions to monitor wetland restoration for 5 years and inspect and control the spread of invasive species.

FA2-4 Section 4.3.2 has been revised to explain the location of extra workspace at both crossings of the South Platte River.

FEDERAL AGENCY 2

If you have any questions regarding our comments or this rating, please contact me at 303-312-6004 or Joyel Dhieux of my staff at 303-312-6647

Sincerely,

Larry Svoboda
Director, NEPA Program
Office of Ecosystems Protection and Remediation

Enclosure

20070928-5023 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 09/28/2007 11:53:08 AM

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Denver Federal Center, Building 56, Room 1003
Post Office Box 25007 (D-108)
Denver, Colorado 80225-0007

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

September 28, 2007

9043.1
ER 07/661

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

COMMENTS on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed High Plains Expansion Project, FERC No. CP07-207-000

Dear Ms. Bose:

The Department of the Interior (Department) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed High Plains Expansion Project (DEIS) and offers the following comments

Page 4-15, Section 4.3.1 Groundwater, first partial paragraph; and Page P-8, Section Appendix P - References

FA3-1 The reference to "USGS 2007a" is somewhat misleading, implying an extremely recent publication which includes old data. The report was actually published in 1995. A more correct citation would be: Robson, S.G., and Banta, E.R., 1995, Ground Water Atlas of the United States, Chapter C: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah; U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas HA 730-C. Available on the internet at: http://capp.water.usgs.gov/gwa/ch_c/index.html; accessed (date, 2007).

Pages 4-46 through 4-74, Section 4.6: Threatened and Endangered Species

FA3-2 The DEIS states that (page 4-46, last paragraph) "additional surveys would be conducted in 2007 and prior to proposed construction in 2008." It would benefit the public for the outcome of these (threatened and endangered species) field surveys to be included in the final EIS.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this DEIS. If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Lloyd Woosley, Chief of the USGS Environmental Affairs Program, at (703) 648-5028 or at lwoosley@usgs.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Stewart
Regional Environmental Officer

FEDERAL AGENCY 3

FA3-1 Appendix P and subsequent references in the text have been revised to include the correct reference.

FA3-2 Additional surveys for the Prebles meadow jumping mouse were conducted in July 2007. Results of these surveys are provided in section 4.6.1.

Unofficial FERC-Generated PDF of 20071003-0124 Received by FERC OSEC 10/01/2007 in Docket#: CP07-207-000

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
National Geodetic Survey
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282

September 25, 2007

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

ORIGINAL 2007 OCT -1 P 2:45

Dear Ms. Bose,

We have provided comments on the DEIS regarding the High Plains Expansion Project, (Docket #CP07-207-000) Natural Gas Pipeline Facility, Construction and Operation, COE 404, Weld, Adams, and Morgan Counties, CO (20070356).

The DEIS has been reviewed within the areas of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Geodetic Survey's (NGS) geodetic responsibility, expertise, and in terms of the impact of the proposed actions on NGS activities and projects.

FA4-1 If there are any planned activities which will disturb or destroy geodetic control monuments, NGS requires notification not less than 90 days in advance of such activities in order to plan for their relocation. NGS recommends that funding for this project includes the cost of any required relocation(s).

All available geodetic control information about horizontal and vertical geodetic control monuments in the subject area is contained on the homepage of NGS at the following Internet address: http://www.ngs.noaa.gov. After entering this website, please access the topic "Products and Services" then "Data Sheet." This menu item will allow you to directly access geodetic control monument information from the NGS database for the subject area project. This information should be reviewed for identifying the location and designation of any geodetic control monuments that may be affected by the proposed project.

We hope our comments will assist you. Thank you for giving NGS the opportunity to review your DEIS.

Sincerely,

Christopher W. Harm
Program Analyst
NOAA's National Geodetic Survey
Office of the Director
1315 East-West Highway
SSMC3 8729, NOAA, N/NGS
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

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FEDERAL AGENCY 4

FA4-1 There is no federal funding involved in the proposed project. At this time, no geodetic control monuments have been identified that would be disturbed or destroyed by project construction and operation.

Unofficial FERC-Generated PDF of 20070919-0122 Received by FERC OSEC 09/17/2007 in Docket#: CP07-207-000

STATE OF COLORADO

OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER
Division of Water Resources
Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 818
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone (303) 866-3581
FAX (303) 866-3589

http://www.water.state.co.us

ORIGINAL

August 30, 2007

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

Harris D. Sherman
Executive Director

(Vacant)
State Engineer

2007 SEP 11 P 3:02

FILED
SECRETARY

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

Re: Docket No. CP07-207-000
High Plains Expansion Project - Draft EIS
Weld, Morgan, and Adams Counties, Colorado
Water Division 1

Dear Ms. Bose:

In response to the draft environmental impact statement ("EIS") for the proposed High Plains Expansion Project, the Colorado Division of Water Resources offers the following comments regarding the above referenced action. Our comments are based upon the limited information provided in the draft EIS and are restricted to the potential impacts this development has to water resources and the protection of other vested water rights.

The draft EIS indicates that approximately 165 miles of 24-inch and 30-inch-diameter natural gas pipelines are proposed in four separate segments in Weld, Morgan, and Adams Counties. Approximately 92 acre-feet of water is proposed to be used for hydrostatic testing, dust control, trench compaction, and horizontal directional drilling. The proposed source of water is identified as surface diversions from the South Platte River and diversions from irrigation wells.

SA1-1 Any diversions from the South Platte River must be made pursuant to a water right decreed by the Division 1 Water Court only at times the water right is in priority in the water rights priority system, or at very limited times when no water right calls exist on the South Platte River. Diversion and use of water from wells are limited to the permitted use of the well. Wells that are not decreed and/or permitted for industrial uses could not be used for the above proposed purposes until a change of the decreed uses is approved by the Division 1 Water Court and/or a change of the permitted uses is approved by the Colorado Division of Water Resources. For wells located within a designated ground water basin, a change of the permitted uses of the wells must be approved by the Colorado Ground Water Commission ("Commission"). A temporary change in decreed or permitted uses may be approved pursuant to a substitute water supply plan in accordance with C.R.S. §37-92-308 for areas outside of designated ground water basins, or in accordance with C.R.S. §37-90-111(1)(g) and the Designated Basin Rules for areas located within designated ground water basins. A request for a substitute water supply plan must describe the proposed water use and provide for replacement of all out-of-priority depletions in time, location and amount to prevent injury to vested water rights. A copy of the State Engineer's Policy regarding substitute water supply plans is available on our website (http://www.water.state.co.us/pubs/policies/policy2003-2.pdf).

STATE AGENCY 1

SA1-1 Table 1.3-1 and section 4.3.1 have been revised to indicate the necessity of obtaining the proper permits prior to construction.

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To request a temporary change of use for water wells located within a designated groundwater basin, Form DBB-05 (available on our website at: http://www.water.state.co.us/pubs/forms/dbb-005.pdf) must be submitted to the Commission. One application should be submitted for each water well to be used. The temporary change of use will require that future withdrawal for the calendar year(s) be restricted to the average annual historic withdrawal/depletion over the last 10 years. A temporary change of use may be approved for a time period not to exceed ninety days without publication in a local newspaper. If the temporary change of use will last for more than ninety days, a temporary change of use may be approved for a time period not to exceed one year provided the application is published in the local newspaper and be subject to objection by local water users.

SA1-2 The proposed project should be carried out in such a manner that the operation of any ditches or streams the pipeline crosses will not be altered or impacted. Any use of water for this project will require that water is obtained from a legal source. Surface water diverted from the South Platte River may only be diverted in priority. If wells are used as a source of water for this project, the wells must be specifically permitted for industrial/construction purposes. If any dewatering wells will be constructed for temporary dewatering for construction purposes, a notice must be submitted to this office in accordance with Rule 6.3 of the State of Colorado Water Well Construction Rules. The notice must be submitted using form GWS-62 and the form is available on our website (http://www.water.state.co.us/pubs/forms/gws-62.pdf). The Water Well Construction Rules are also available from our website (http://www.water.state.co.us/boe/rulesregs/constructionrules05.pdf).

Please contact Jeff Deatherage (for areas outside of designated ground water basins) or Keith Vander Horst (for areas located within designated ground water basins) of this office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin G. Rein, P.E.
Chief of Water Supply

Cc: Jim Hall, Division Engineer, Water Division 1

KGR/JD/High Plains Expansion EIS 07.doc

STATE AGENCY 1

SA1-2 Streams and ditches would be temporarily impacted by construction activities as described in section 4.3.2. However, once construction and restoration is complete, ditches and streams would operate in a manner similar to that before construction.

STATE AGENCY 2

ORIGINAL

STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Mark B. Konishi, Acting Director
6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216
Telephone: (303) 297-1192
wildlife.state.co.us

FILED
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

2007 OCT -9 A 10: 11

FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

For Wildlife-
For People

Magalie R. Salas, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

October 2, 2007

Re: Docket No. PF06-36-000, High Plains Expansion Project

Dear Ms. Salas:

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) has reviewed the Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed High Plains Expansion Project, and offer the following recommendations to help minimize negative impacts to wildlife. Each bullet point is followed by a more detailed paragraph in the body of this letter:

- Schedule ground-breaking construction activity outside of critical nesting periods for birds. Search for and avoid bald eagle nests.
- Conduct winter bald eagle roost surveys within one half mile of the South Platte River again in December 2007.
- Survey for burrowing owls in prairie dog towns during the owl nesting season.
- Avoid reduction of habitat for native plains fishes.
- Implement a noxious weed and re-vegetation management plan areas where there will be surface disturbance.
- Place pipeline underneath irrigated agricultural land on the Mitani State Wildlife Area and avoid placement on the river bottom riparian habitat, open canopied forest, and sub irrigated pastures .
- Avoid wetlands and playas.
- Replace trees and shrub clumps removed during construction.
- Prevent the spread of New Zealand Mud Snails.

SA2-1

1. **Schedule ground-breaking construction activity outside of critical nesting periods for birds.** April 1 through August 15 is the time period during which the following avian species of concern may be nesting across the project area: plains sharp-tailed grouse, bald eagle, burrowing owl, ferruginous hawk, mountain plover, grassland birds, and neo-tropical songbirds. All birds nesting within the vicinity of the project could be subject to habitat loss, displacement, and disturbance from ground-breaking construction. Timing and sequence of construction activities may greatly reduce impacts on these species.

SA2-2

Construction activity during the month of April in northern and central Weld County is of particular concern as this is the peak time when plains sharp-tailed grouse perform their courtship rituals. Because of their sensitivity to disturbances near their courtship sites (known as leks), it is important that any construction activity taking place during this month in this area begin 2 hours after sunrise and end 2 hours

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Harris D. Sherman, Executive Director
WILDLIFE COMMISSION, Tom Burke, Chair • Claire O' Neal, Vice Chair • Robert Bray, Secretary
Members, Dennis Buechler • Brad Coors • Jeffrey Crawford • Tim Glenn • Roy McAnally • Richard Ray
Ex Officio Members, Harris Sherman and John Stulp

SA2-1 Section 4.5.1 of the final EIS has been revised to include additional mitigation for breeding birds.

SA2-2 See section 4.6.2 for proposed mitigation to minimize impacts on the plains sharp-tailed grouse.

STATE AGENCY 2

before sunset to minimize disruption to these lek sites. An alternative would be to sequence construction activities during April in areas that are at least ½ mile away from lek sites.

New bald eagle nesting sites anywhere along the South Platte River may appear beginning in January each year. Attention should be given to finding signs or nesting activity and new bald eagle nests beginning January 1 though spring along the proposed crossing points of the South Platte River.

SA2-3

2. **Conduct winter bald eagle roost surveys within one half mile of the South Platte River again in December 2007**
Although no winter roosting activity was detected in December 2006, winter roost locations along the river may change from year to year as the birds' use of mature cottonwood galleries is dynamic. If winter surveys (conducted between November 15 and March 1) detect a bald eagle roost within a half mile of the proposed project area, consult with CDOW immediately.

SA2-4

3. **Survey for burrowing owls in prairie dog towns during the owl nesting season**
Burrowing owls are listed as a threatened species in Colorado. Burrowing owls live in many prairie dog towns, using unoccupied prairie dog holes for nest sites and roosting. If construction is to occur between March 1 and October 31, the area should be checked for the presence of burrowing owls prior to any earth-moving taking place as the owls are susceptible to being buried and killed in their holes by construction activity during the nesting season. If construction activity is done between November 1 and February 28, it is very unlikely that owls would be present since they migrate out of the State during the winter. If burrowing owls are detected within a half mile of the proposed route, consult with CDOW immediately.

SA2-5

4. **Avoid reduction of habitat for native plains fishes.**

Special attention should be given so that no further reduction of preferred habitat of Iowa darter and plains topminnow occurs within the project area. Iowa darters prefer riffle-run habitat with sandy substrate and clear water. Plains topminnow require backwater habitat with rooted aquatic vegetation and minimal flow fluctuations. Both types of habitat are being lost in this reach of the South Platte River and further loss should be avoided. Additional species whose historic distribution is within the project reach, include plains minnow, brassy minnow, Suckermouth minnow, and stonecat. Protection of the described habitats will also provide protection for these species.

Best management practices including the use of silt fences, timing of work to avoid winter and spring (low flow periods), and suitable bank stabilization techniques not using rip rap will minimize potential negative impacts. Increases in the types of habitat used by these fish will assist in re-colonization efforts for these and other native fishes found with in the project area. Finally, CDOW would like to sample within waterways that will be impacted by this proposed project.

SA2-6

5. **Implement a noxious weed and re-vegetation management plan areas where there will be surface disturbance.** Noxious weeds negatively impact wildlife habitat. To prevent the introduction or spread of noxious weeds, the following practices are recommended. clean equipment periodically to remove weed seeds even if no weeds are recognized. Photograph all areas to be disturbed before construction. Contour and revegetate disturbed areas promptly, using native species to prevent erosion and invasion by weeds. The US Fish and Wildlife re-vegetation standards use an 80% native vegetation coverage result as a measure of successful reclamation. Actively eradicate weeds throughout construction. Develop a weed management and disturbed area reclamation plan to be implemented during construction and for at least 5 years beyond the life of the project. The applicant may also want to contact the Weld County Weed Inspector to facilitate development of reclamation and weed management plans for the project.

SA2-7

6. **Place pipeline underneath irrigated agricultural land on the Mitani State Wildlife Area and avoid placement on the river bottom riparian habitat, open canopied forest, and sub irrigated pastures.** Additionally, where the river crossing is required (either on the Poudre or the South Platte), then we would prefer that the pipeline run perpendicular to the rivers so that the crossing length is as short as possible.

SA2-3 Section 4.6.1 has been revised to include additional mitigation for the bald eagle.

SA2-4 Section 4.6.2 has been revised to include additional mitigation for the burrowing owl.

SA2-5 We believe the Project would not result in a loss of habitat for native plains fishes.

SA2-6 CIG has proposed a Reclamation Plan (see appendix H) and Invasive Species Management Plan (see appendix I) for the Project. We believe the mitigation measures outlined in these plans are sufficient to minimize introduction and spread of noxious species.

SA2-7 The proposed pipeline would be buried and would not be placed on the river bottom, but buried beneath it with at least 5 feet of cover. The pipeline would cross the South Platte perpendicular to the river.

SA2-8

7. **Avoid wetlands and playas wherever possible.**
Avoidance of wetlands and playas is recommended. Permitting from the US Corps of Engineers may be required if disturbance is unavoidable. We recommend replacement mitigation at a ratio of at least 1:1 for any wetlands (jurisdictional or non-jurisdictional) or playas that may be impacted.

SA2-9

8. **Replace trees and shrub clumps removed during construction.**
The recommended replacement for mitigation of trees and shrub clumps which must be removed is 1:1 for trees and one square foot: one square foot ratio for shrub clumps. Alternatives species for plantings include cottonwood, plum, chokecherry, other cherry, wild grapes or other species producing fruit or mast. Special attention should be given to avoiding removal of or negative impacts to all mature cottonwood trees. Such mature trees occur near where the proposed pipeline will cross Kiowa Creek and Comanche Creek.

SA2-10

9. **Prevent the spread of New Zealand Mud Snails.** If heavy equipment is acquired that was previously working in another stream, river, lake, pond, or wetland within 10 days of working on this project, one of the following disinfection practices is necessary prior to construction to prevent the spread of New Zealand Mud Snails and other aquatic hitchhikers into this drainage. These practices are also necessary after project completion, prior to this equipment being used in another stream, river, lake, pond, or wetland, for the same purpose:
   - Remove all mud and debris from equipment (tracks, turrets, buckets, drags, teeth, etc.) and the equipment must be kept dry for 10 days **OR**
   - Remove all mud and debris from equipment (tracks, turrets, buckets, drags, teeth, etc.) and spray/soak equipment with a 1:1 solution of Formula 409 Household Cleaner and water or a 1:15 solution of Sparquat institutional cleaner and water. Keep equipment moist for at least 10 minutes **OR**
   - Remove all mud and debris from equipment (tracks, turrets, buckets, drags, teeth, etc.) and spray/soak equipment with water greater than 130 degrees F for at least 10 minutes.
   - Clean hand tools, boots, and any other equipment that will be used in the water using one of the above options as well.

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposal, and would be happy to consult with you on any of the recommended procedures. If you or the applicant have any further questions, please contact Larry Rogstad at (970) 302-7394. If your questions concerning the fisheries in the project area, please contact Ken Kehmeier at 970-472-4350 or Ryan Fitzpatrick at 970-472-4336.

Sincerely,

Katherine A. Green
Acting Northeast Regional Manager

cc: D. Clarkson, L. Rogstad, K. Kehmeier, M. Sherman, F Pusateri, R. Fitzpatrick, file

STATE AGENCY 2

SA2-8 If the USACE requires wetland compensation, CIG would comply with that requirement.

SA2-9 Section 4.4.1 has been revised to include new mitigation for tree replacement.

SA2-10 Section 4.5.2 has been revised to include mitigation to prevent the spread of New Zealand Mud Snail.

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ORIGINAL

TOWN OF HUDSON

557 ASH STREET, P.O. BOX 351, HUDSON, CO 80642-0351
Phone: (303) 536-9311 FAX: (303) 536-4753
www.hudsoncolorado.org

October 24, 2007

Kimberly D. Bose
Secretary
Federal Energy Management Agency
888 1st Street
Washington DC, 20426

Re: High Plains Expansion Project, Docket No. CP07-207-000

Dear Secretary Bose,

LOC1-1 The Town of Hudson, Colorado, became aware on October 11th that Colorado Interstate Gas Company intended to use several industrial lots within the Town to store and ship to construction sites all of the approximately 165 miles of steel pipe for the above-referenced pipeline project. No one from the company or any agency had contacted the Town prior to that date regarding the proposal. The project will impact the Town, routing thousands of truckloads of pipe through the community. However, they have no land use approvals for the storage yard and are now asking for waivers to our land use code inasmuch as the pipe is in transit. They have agreed to make appropriate land use applications after the fact. We are attempting to accommodate them.

While we were aware that a pipeline was being constructed in the area, we were not made aware that the pipe staging area was to be within Hudson. I looked at the DEIS on the FERC website. It states that there would be "appropriate consultations" with "other affected land management agencies" prior to construction. In our case this did not happen, and the Town is in a difficult position as a result. Also, CIG did not consult with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment regarding the required erosion control permits, nor did they consult with the Colorado Department of Transportation regarding access permits.

LOC1-2 I suggest that state and federal agencies involved in planning for and contracting such energy projects ensure that companies building them consult with state and local agencies and comply with local laws. It should be more than idle words in an EIS.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Racine
Town Administrator

2007 OCT 30 P 2:56

LOCAL AGENCY 1

LOC1-1 Our records indicate that the town mayor, administrator, treasurer, and clerk were each mailed a copy of the draft EIS. Although the draft EIS does not identify the exact location of the contractor/storage yard, it does indicate a contractor/storage yard will be located near the Town of Hudson.

LOC1-2 It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to ensure all necessary authorizations for the Project are obtained. The FERC is responsible for complying with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

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ORIGINAL

ROBERT C. BURROUGHS, P.C.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
115 Second Avenue
Ault, CO 80610

Fax (970) 834-0280 **Telephone (970) 834-1333**

August 28. 2007

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Routing Code-PJ1.2
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Colorado Interstate Gas Company
Docket No. CP07-207-000
Draft EIS, High Plains Expansion Project

Dear Staff:

I commend you on your serious consideration of the alternative routes that had been suggested. I also support and appreciate your recommending the adoption of the Owl Creek Route Variation under paragraph 3.6.2 as illustrated at Figure 3.6.2-1, p.3-17.

IND1-1 The only comment I would offer as to the Owl Creek Route would be that the line on the southern end be aligned closer to the south section line of section 14. The section line at present is just a two track trail without a bridge across the Eaton ditch, and a short access road from WCR 45 easterly to my family's property.

Yours truly,

INDIVIDUAL 1

IND1-1 Section 3.6.2 has been revised to include the Eaton Ditch Route Variation which was developed as a result of negotiations between Mr. Burroughs and CIG. We are recommending that it be incorporated into the Project as the preferred route.

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INDIVIDUAL 2

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

ORIGINAL

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SECRETARY

2007 SEP 27 A 11: 24

FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Reference Docket No. CP07-207-000

Re: High Plains Expansion Project; Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Colorado Interstate Gas Company (CIG)

OWL CREEK ROUTE VARIATION AND THE PROPOSED ROUTE 250A:
My Property that is being affected is:
Portion of Section 15, Township 7 North, Range 65 West

On page 3-17 of High Plains Expansion Project; Draft Environmental Impact Statement it shows a proposed route 250A and Owl Creek Route Variation. In regards how it affects my property, I urge FERC to stay to the east of line 250A and anything to west of the line would be a lot less desirable to me (and thus the Owl Creek Route Variation in order to avoid two housing developments would be unacceptable). My property has a drainage system and potential building site where the pipeline route goes.

1: This land has an extensive drainage system to help keep this land to be more productive.

Because of the expense, many, if not most, farms do not have such an extensive and deep underground drainage system to keep the water table low as not to create seep ground which is very non-productive ground. Because we are not talking a single pipeline but rather multiple pipelines spaced apart, I have great concern if CIG would be able to fix the lines as they said they would. If they do not, this would greatly imperil the land's productivity, that the drainage system affects, and not just the easement area.

IND2-1

2: Corners of Property, especially where Center Pivot Sprinklers are used, are the most logical and preferred area used for a building site.

This land not only has the drainage system, but it also has a Center Pivot Sprinkler system. With the restrictions of no structures, that may be constructed where pipeline easements are, this could take an area away that could be a prime location for a building site for residence or commercial. A building development is not filed on my property, however, in your report you gave as one of the reasons for the recommendation of the Owl Creek Route Variation was to minimize the impacts on future residential development of the two properties, of which one of the future housing developments is not filed either. Please tour this area, and you will become aware that many properties that have Center Pivot Sprinkler systems have developed their corners for constructing residential dwellings. Currently, this farm has structures on other corners of the land next to roads. Because of the impact logistically and monetarily, I strongly urge you to abandon the Owl Creek Route Variation recommendation and go further east of the proposed route where it affects my property.

IND2-2

IND2-3

On my property, I don't understand how FERC's Owl Creek variation of going west of the proposed route (250A) would lessen the water crossings, and thus would be an unnecessary route change. From the map, it looks like the closest the creek comes to my property line is 250 feet. Therefore, with the construction easement of 100 feet, there should be enough space to avoid the creek.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and my contact information is:

Robert Tateyama

Robert Tateyama
39713 Weld Co Road 43
Ault, Colorado 80610
Phone #: 970-834-2237

IND2-1 Section 4.2.2 states CIG would repair drainage systems to their original or better condition following construction.

IND2-2 Section 4.7.2 briefly describes the easement acquisition process. The specific details of CIG's easement agreements with landowners would be negotiated between CIG and the landowner. As stated in section 4.7.3, certain uses and structures would be prohibited on the permanent pipeline right-of-way after construction, including construction of aboveground structures.

IND2-3 As stated in section 3.6.2, the Owl Creek Route Variation has been abandoned. The original Line 250A route is being proposed across Robert Tateyama's property.

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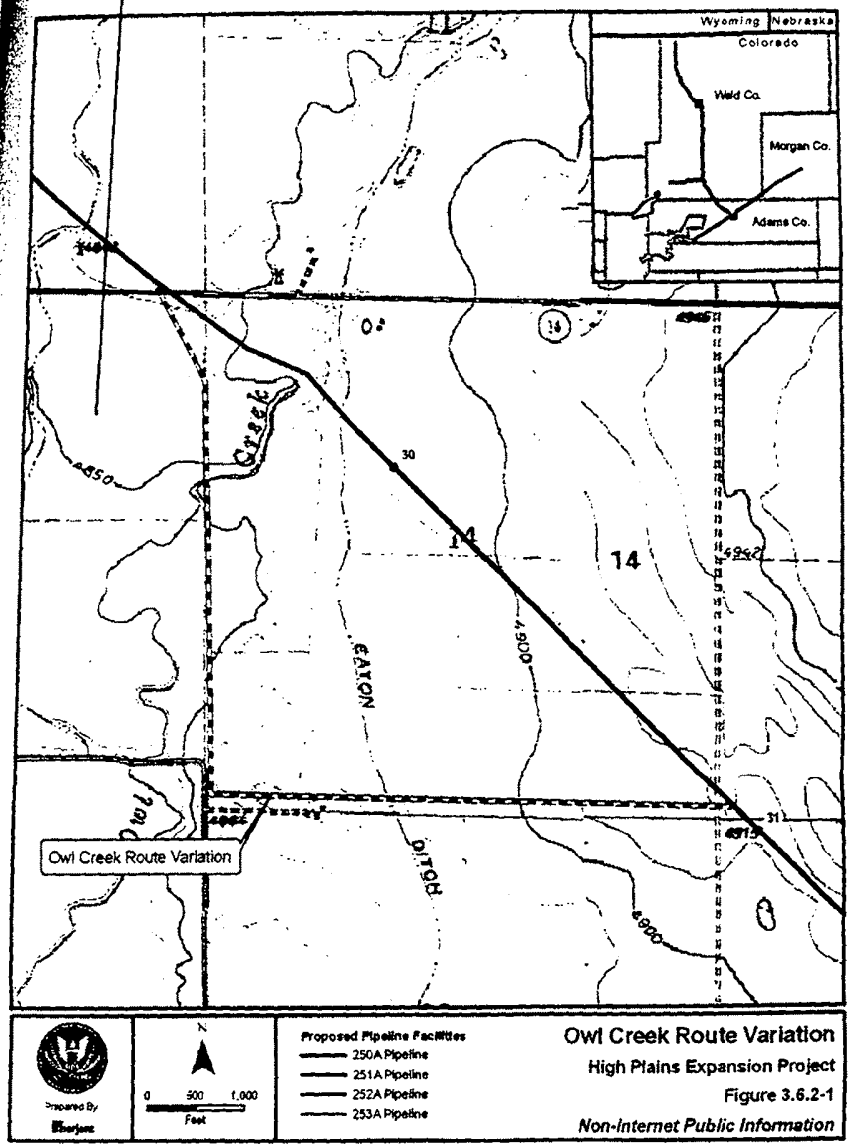
: My Property (yellow shaded area)
Drainage System + Center Pivot Sprinkler



3-17

INDIVIDUAL 2

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INDIVIDUAL 3

ORIGINAL Revised

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

FILED
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY
2007 SEP 27 A 11: 22
FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Reference Docket No. CP07-207-000

Re: High Plains Expansion Project; Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Colorado Interstate Gas Company (CIG)

OWL CREEK ROUTE VARIATION AND THE PROPOSED ROUTE 250A:
My Property that is being affected is:
Portion of Section 15, Township 7 North, Range 65 West

On page 3-17 of High Plains Expansion Project; Draft Environmental Impact Statement it shows a proposed route 250A and Owl Creek Route Variation. In regards how it affects my property, I urge FERC to stay to the east of line 250A and anything to west of the line would be a lot less desirable to me (and thus the Owl Creek Route Variation in order to avoid two housing developments would be unacceptable). My property has a drainage system and potential building site where the pipeline route goes.

1: This land has an extensive drainage system to help keep this land to be more productive.

Because of the expense, many, if not most, farms do not have such an extensive and deep underground drainage system to keep the water table low as not to create seep ground which is very non-productive ground. Because we are not talking a single pipeline but rather multiple pipelines spaced apart, I have great concern if CIG would be able to fix the lines as they said they would. If they do not, this would greatly imperil the land's productivity, that the drainage system affects, and not just the easement area.

IND3-1

2: Corners of Property, especially where Center Pivot Sprinklers are used, are the most logical and preferred area used for a building site.

This land not only has the drainage system, but it also has a Center Pivot Sprinkler system. With the restrictions of no structures, that may be constructed where pipeline easements are, this could take an area away that could be a prime location for a building site for residence or commercial. A building development is not filed on my property, however, in your report you gave as one of the reasons for the recommendation of the Owl Creek Route Variation was to minimize the impacts on future residential development of the two properties, of which one of the future housing developments is not filed either. Please tour this area, and you will become aware that many properties that have Center Pivot Sprinkler systems have developed their corners for constructing residential dwellings. Currently, this farm has structures on other corners of the land next to roads. Because of the impact logistically and monetarily, I strongly urge you to abandon the Owl Creek Route Variation recommendation and go further east of the proposed route where it affects my property.

IND3-2

IND3-3

On my property, I don't understand how FERC's Owl Creek variation of going west of the proposed route (250A) would lessen the water crossings, and thus would be an unnecessary route change. *From the map, it looks like the closest the creek comes to my property line is 250 feet. Therefore, with the construction easement of 100 feet, there should be enough space to avoid the creek.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and my contact information is:

Robert Tateyama 9/21/07
Robert Tateyama
39713 Weld Co Road 43
Ault, Colorado 80610
Phone #: 970-834-2237

*(For the purpose of clarification, I would like to amend the highlighted sentence from the previous letter and map to the following): 'From the map, at Point A, the creek is approximately 250 feet from my property line.'

IND3-1 See comment IND2-1.

IND3-2 See comment IND2-2.

IND3-3 See comment IND2-3.

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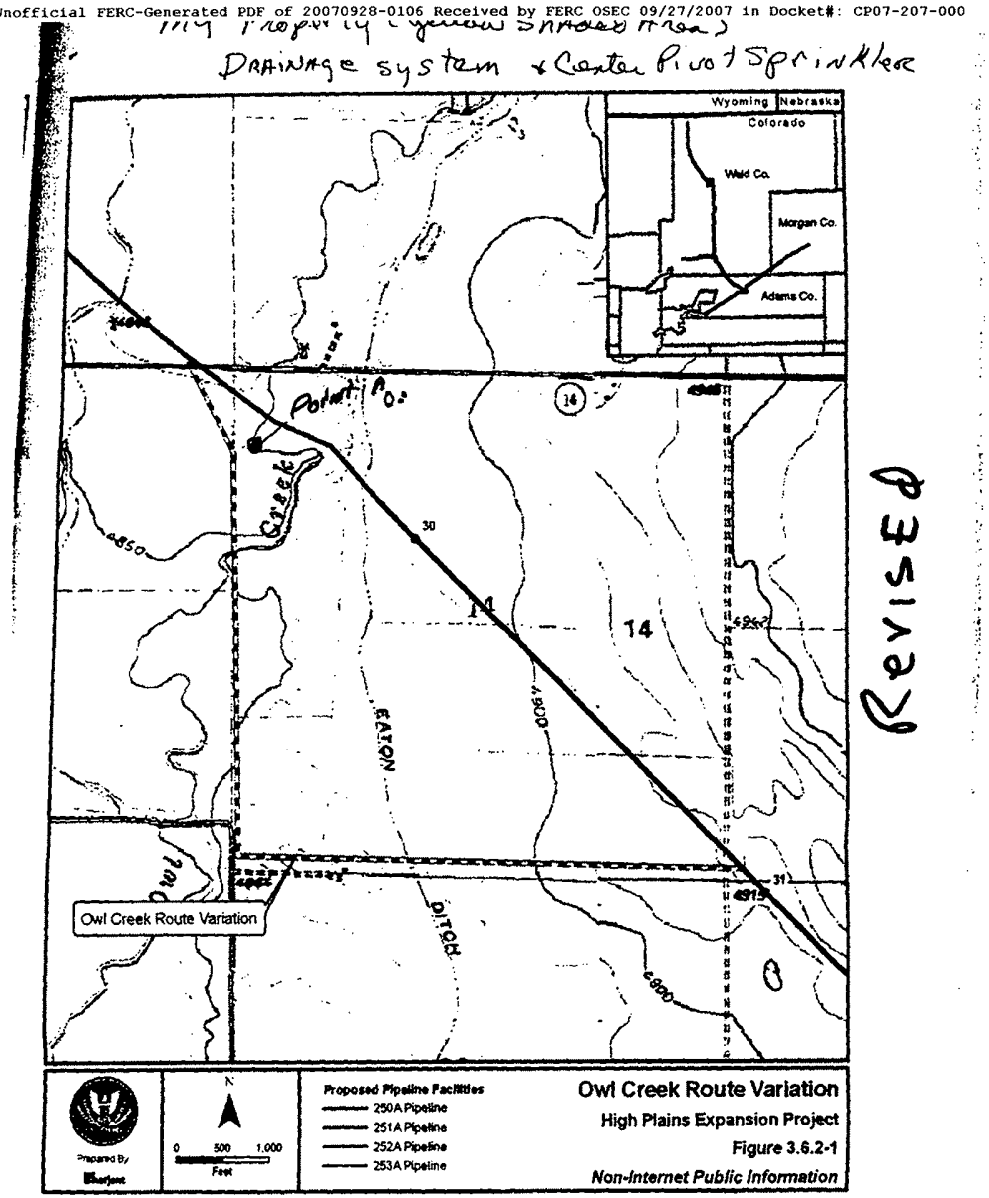

3-17

INDIVIDUAL 3

Unofficial FERC-Generated PDF of 20071002-0141 Received by FERC OSEC 09/26/2007 in Docket#: CP07-207-000

FERC ID #F026016

INDIVIDUAL 4

George M Tateyama
Mtatey@netzero.net
41518 WCR 43
Ault, CO 80610

Dec 12, 2006

Magalie R Salas, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 204426

Reference: Docket No. PF06-36-000

To Whom It May Concern:

IND4-1 As I view the proposed route of CIG gas line proposal, it is beyond my comprehension that the north end diagonal portion of the pipeline was not bent sooner and moved a few miles to the northeast. To me it would be less destructive and disruptive to prime highly productive irrigated land. The little move would make a lot more sense because it would be less disruptive crossing mostly dry land and open range. Another alternative would be to follow section lines as many boundaries end at section lines.

IND4-2 It has taken a hundred years to accomplish the irrigating techniques that we now enjoy. I furrow irrigate my land that is involved. Would you believe in about three (3) to four (4) hours I can run water from a two (2) inch pipe for almost a half (1/2) mile in a tiny ditch.. If I did not run this tiny bit of water I would not have been able to raise a crop on the total seventy (70) acre plot with the water I have. If I cut this farm in half (1/2) it would take twice as much water, more labor and be less efficient to farm. To achieve this unbelievable fete it has taken many years of grading and landplaning along with good cultivation practices.

The proposed route of the pipeline would diagonally cut across my tiny furrows. The disruption by a construction swath of one hundred (100) feet coupled with a wide trench to bury a thirty (30) inch diameter pipe will take many years to get it back to achieve the original water fete and the original soil profile. I am not the only one caught in this dilemma!

The contractors who argue that this disruption would have little if any affect on the water flow and little disruption to the soil profile are very naïve. I know from experience that what they are proposing will take years, if ever, to correct.

I have worked with land my whole 65 years of life. I have a sincere love of the land! It has provided for our family and given my two sons a fine college education.

IND4-1 Our analysis of alternative routes is provided in section 3.5.

IND4-2 Section 4.2.2 states irrigation systems would be repaired to their original condition or better following construction. Irrigation can continue acress the pipeline right-of-way following construction. Additionally, CIG stated it would compensate landowners for crop damages as described in section 4.7.1.

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INDIVIDUAL 4

I am not an engineer or contractor. I am just using what farmers call "horse sense". I think this little adjustment proposed makes a lot of sense!

Thank you for your time!

GEORGE M. TATEYAMA

E½ of NE ¼ of Sec 9 Township 7N Rge 65 W of the 6th Principle Meridian

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ORIGINAL

GEORGE M. TATEYAMA
Mtatey@netzero.net
41518 WCR 43
Ault, CO 80610

2007 SEP 26 P 2:25

Sep 20, 2007

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

Reference: Docket No. CP07-207-000

To Whom It May Concern:

IND5-1 From all indications the natural gas pipeline route proposed by Colorado Interstate Gas Company under the above referenced docket will probably become a reality.

Hopefully FERC will protect my interests on E1/2 of NE1/4 of Sec 9 Twnshp 7N Rge 65 W of the 6th Principle Meridian. It is my understanding that it is FERC's responsibility to protect my concerns of maintaining my soil profile and protect my water saving irrigation techniques that I developed over 40 years of farming and irrigating this piece of land. Please see attached letter!

I am putting my trust into FERC to protect this highly productive land!

Thank you for your time!

GEORGE M TATEYAMA

INDIVIDUAL 5

IND5-1 Thank you for your comment.

ORIGINAL original

James D. Sprague and Saraphine L. Giordano
7272 W. Stanford Ave.
Littleton, CO 80123

FILED
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

2007 OCT -3 A 9:25

FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

September 24, 2007

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

RE: High Plains Expansion Project Reference Docket No. CP07-207-000
250A Cheyenne To Totem Line
CIG Right-of–Way Agreement
Section 08; Portion of the NW1/4, TIN-R64W, 6th P.M.
Weld County, Colorado

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission:

Please consider our concerns and requests regarding the taking of our property for the routing of the High Plains Expansion Project.

Our property at this location is an 80 acre parcel bordering Hwy 52 on the south. Encumbering the approximate 2.63 acres of our property with your easement by taking a 50 foot swath through the middle of the site creates an unnecessary hardship that could be lessened.

IND6-1

- We can appreciate the argument that existing developed properties with similar pipeline easements are not necessarily valued less than those not subject to an easement. However the cost of developing a site with the existing pipeline easement is significantly more expensive and an unrecoverable future cost the pipeline easement forces upon the property owners. The need to cross this pipeline easement with utilities during development in the future requires property owners to lower those utility services as much as 7 feet deeper. CIG is aware the cost of construction goes up exponentially with every additional foot of depth below 5 feet. We will have to excavate as deep as 11 feet to go under this pipeline. In addition to the costs associated with the depth is the extra costs incurred when excavating around a 24 inch gas line. Again, CIG company as much as anybody is aware of the care that must be taken and the risk that *contractors will force property owners to pay for, when crossing the CIG pipeline.*

IND6-2

- By locating the pipe in the middle of our site, CIG increases the likelihood of having to cross with other services more frequently when future development occurs. CIG should make a greater effort to locate the pipeline parallel to existing county roads and adjacent to the half section lines which would reduce the number of potential conflicts with future development and is a reasonable consideration. County and city traffic planning routinely establishes section lines as desired routes for streets but does not routinely use **half section** lines to route streets.

INDIVIDUAL 6

IND6-1 Thank you for your comment.

IND6-2 Thank you for your comment.

INDIVIDUAL 6

origina

- A 30 foot width is adequate to allow all the equipment and work space needed to excavate and maintain this line if necessary after it is installed. Taking a greater amount than necessary shows a complete disregard for the hardship this easement places upon property owners.

- Effectively dividing our property into two smaller parcels by bisecting it with this pipeline easement exposes us to a greater degree of unnecessary hardship due to the relatively small size of our site. It is much more difficult to configure the design of future development and absorb associated costs when you don't have as much area to work with.

or the reasons explained we are requesting that Colorado Interstate Gas Company:

1. Upon bringing the pipe south underneath Hwy52, turn 90 degrees and travel east, parallel to Hwy52, stop prior to the half section line, bend 90 degrees and head south parallel to the half section line until you exit our property. It is also possible that either of our neighbors to the south and to the east may agree to a configuration that would allow the pipe to run due south along the half section line until it reaches county road 10.

IND6-3 2. Reduce the width of the easement from 50 feet to 30 feet. Bury said pipeline 10 feet deep.

3. Add language to the ROW agreement that precludes any additional fees or costs assessed by CIG to the property owner for crossing the pipeline easement with utilities, roads or new easements at any time in the future.

IND6-4 when crossing the pipeline easement with another utility beneath the CIG pipe and groundwater is scovered, will CIG require a permanent dewatering system?

opy:

James D. Sprague
Sincerely Yours

2

IND6-3 Specific pipeline alignments across properties, pipe depth, easement locations, and compensation are issues negotiated between the landowner and CIG. These specific issues would not be individually addressed in an EIS unless the applicant (*e.g.*, CIG) submits a route variation that differs from that which was filed with their Certificate application.

IND6-4 A permanent dewatering system would not be required. Buried underground pipelines can operate in saturated conditions.