



Federal Energy Regulatory Commission – Office of Energy Projects

PRE-FILING REVIEW for DOMINION TRANSMISSION, INC.'S STORAGE FACTORY PROJECT Docket No. PF07-12-000

The Project: Dominion Transmission, Inc. Storage Factory Project

Dominion Transmission, Inc. (Dominion) is planning the Storage Factory Project (project) which would consist of developing new storage for natural gas in salt caverns in Tioga County, Pennsylvania. The project would involve solution mining (leaching) two caverns in a geologic salt formation and placing the first cavern in service by 2014. Project elements would include leaching and pumping facilities, a brine processing facility, water and brine pipelines, and a new compressor station for gas storage injection/withdrawal purposes.

Dominion is also planning enhancements to other existing facilities in Pennsylvania, including

pipings upgrades to the Sabinsville Storage Pool. Planned modifications to transmission-related facilities include a new compressor station in Frederick County, Maryland (near Jefferson).

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) is the federal agency charged by Congress with determining whether interstate natural gas pipeline projects, such as the Storage Factory Project, are in the public convenience and necessity. The information below explains the FERC's pre-filing environmental review process for the planned project and how you can get involved early in that process.

The Process: A "Pre-Filing" Environmental Review Has Begun

The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible for conducting the environmental reviews of interstate pipeline projects in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Storage Factory Project is in the preliminary planning phase – the precise facility design, pipeline route, compressor station location, and other details have not yet been finalized, and a formal application has not been filed with the FERC. However, the FERC has initiated a pre-filing, or pre-application, environmental review process for the project to allow early involvement by citizens, governmental entities, and other interested parties.

The purpose of the pre-filing process is to encourage involvement by interested stakeholders in a manner that allows for the early identification and resolution of environmental issues. During the pre-filing process, the FERC staff will notify affected landowners, citizen groups, governmental entities, and other interested parties of the project and will request comments from them. You can make a difference by providing the FERC with your specific comments or concerns about the project during the pre-filing process.

The FERC staff will work with all interested stakeholders to identify and attempt to address

issues prior to the time when Dominion files its application with the FERC.

In July and November 2007, representatives from the FERC attended public open houses sponsored by Dominion which were used to explain the environmental review process to interested stakeholders in Tioga County Pennsylvania and Middletown, Maryland, respectively. The FERC also held public scoping meetings in Pennsylvania in September of 2007 and Maryland in February 2008. The FERC staff intends to issue an amended *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Storage Factory Project*. The notice will provide an updated description of the planned project (to include the compressor station location near Jefferson Maryland), discuss the environmental issues identified to date, and request written comments or concerns about the project. Any future FERC-sponsored scoping meetings or site visits for the project will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at <http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx> along with other related information.

The representatives of FERC have started to meet with Dominion, other jurisdictional agencies, and interested stakeholders to discuss the project and identify issues and concerns.

Your Input Is Valued

Early involvement by you and others will help the FERC staff evaluate the project's potential impact on the environment. Please help this process work by providing the FERC with written comments and concerns about the potential environmental impact of the Storage Factory Project. You can also contact Dominion directly with your specific comments or concerns (1-888-882-5055). Also, Dominion has established an Internet website at: www.dom.com (Keyword Search: Storage Factory).

Your comments to FERC will be most useful if they focus on the potential environmental effects of the planned project, alternatives (including alternative locations and routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Comments that you submit to the FERC during the pre-filing process will be part of the public record and will not have to be resubmitted after Dominion files its application with the FERC.

The Outcome: Environmental Assessment

NEPA requires the FERC to consider the environmental impact that could result before deciding if a project is in the public convenience and necessity. After we receive the formal application from Dominion, our environmental review team will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to meet the Commission's responsibilities under NEPA. The FERC staff will take comments received on the project during the pre-filing process and address them in the EA. The EA will describe the project and alternatives, existing environmental conditions, and the potential impacts of the project. In addition, the EA

will also describe what mitigation measures, construction procedures, and routing could be included in the project to reduce or eliminate impacts.

Once the EA is issued, it will be mailed to the interested stakeholders. Everyone will have 30 days to review and comment on the document. The FERC will consider all comments on the EA prior to a Commission decision on the project. All of the steps in the environmental review process, including opportunities for public input, are illustrated in the attached flow chart.

How to Share Your Comments and Concerns with the FERC

By mail or a private mailing service

Please send an original and two copies of your letter to:

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

Reference **Docket No. PF07-12-000** on all copies, and label one copy of your comments for the attention of the **Gas Branch 1, DG2E**.

Electronically

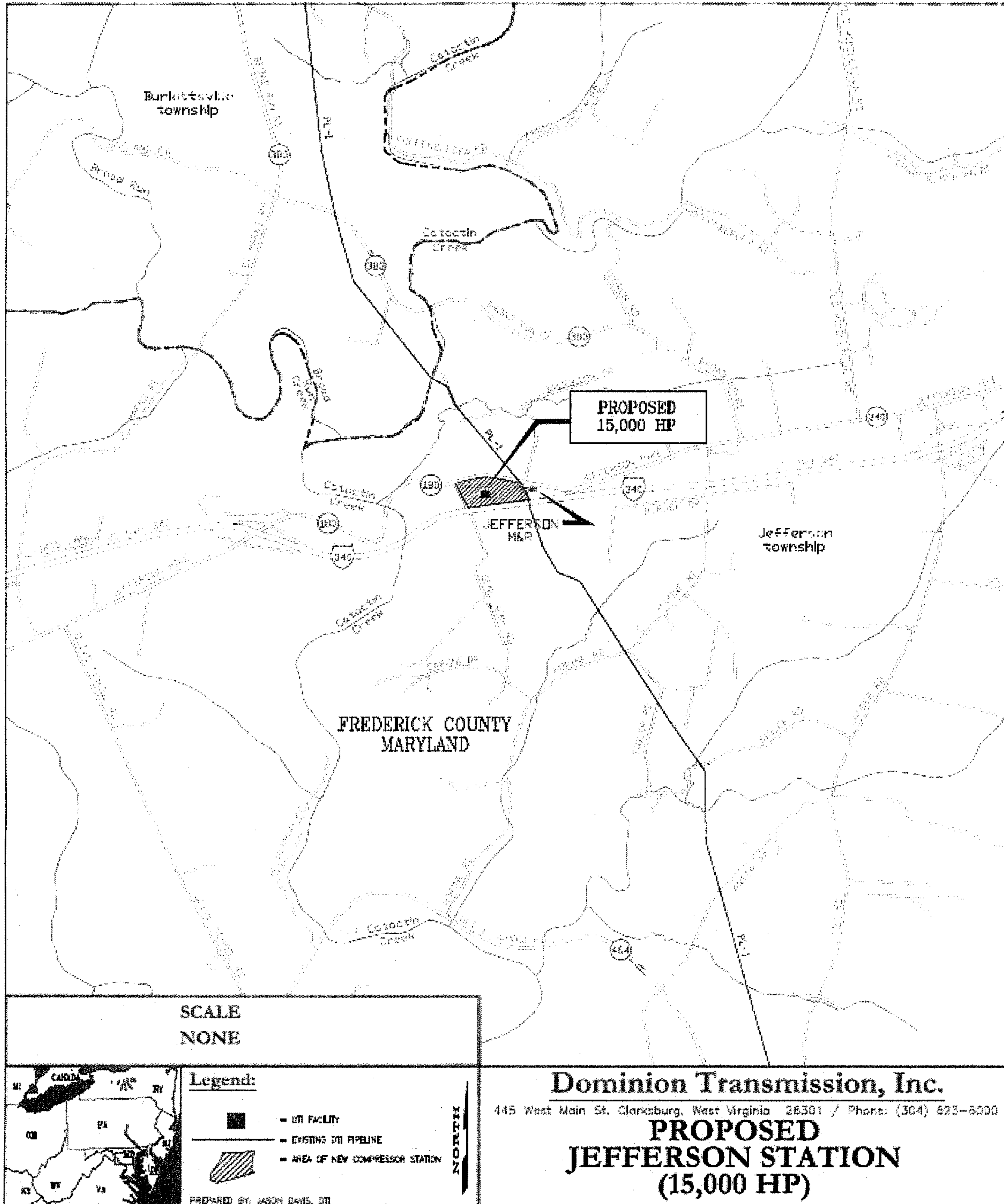
Comments may also be filed electronically via the Internet on the FERC's website. See the instructions at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and the link to the User's Guide.

Prepare your comments in the same manner as you would if you were providing a letter and save it to a file on your computer's hard drive. Before you can submit comments you will need to create an account by clicking on "Sign-up" under "New User?" You will be asked to select the type of submission you are making. This submission is considered a "Comment on Filing." **Electronic filing is strongly encouraged.**

In addition, there is a "Quick Comment" option available, which is an easy method for interested persons to submit text only comments on a project. The [Quick-Comment User Guide](http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/quick-comment-guide.pdf) can be viewed at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/quick-comment-guide.pdf>. Quick Comment does not require a FERC eRegistration account; however, you will be asked to provide a valid email address. All comments submitted under either eFiling or the Quick Comment option are placed in the public record for the specified docket.

How to See What Else Is Filed with the FERC

To see what information has been filed with the FERC regarding the project, go to the FERC website at <http://www.ferc.gov> and use the "eLibrary" link. Select "General Search" from the eLibrary menu and enter the docket number (i.e., PF07-12-000) in the Docket Number field (note that the "000" at the end of the number is omitted). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range and follow the instructions. Searches may also be done using the phrase "Storage Factory Project" in the "Text Search" field. For assistance with access to eLibrary, use FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or the FERC telephone helpline at 1-866-208-3676 (TTY contact 202-502-8659).





FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Dominion's Storage Factory Project Environmental Review Process

