#### **NEXT STEPS**

The Commission staff is currently reviewing the applicants' responses to our comments for adequacy. Once we receive the necessary information, we will issue a Notice of Schedule for Issuance of the final EIS and continue preparation of the draft EIS.

The draft EIS will include the issues raised during scoping and present our independent analysis. The draft EIS will be sent out to our environmental mailing list, and we will hold additional public meetings in the Project area. Comments on the draft EIS will be addressed in the final EIS. The Commission will consider the findings in our final EIS, along with all information in the record, prior to making a decision whether or not to authorize these Projects.

## **STAYING INFORMED**

The Commission's administrative record is accessible online at <a href="www.ferc.gov">www.ferc.gov</a>. Click "Documents & Filings," then click on the eLibrary link, go to "General Search" and enter the docket number (i.e., CP15-93, CP15-94, or CP15-96). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance with eLibrary, please contact FERC Online Support via email at <a href="mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov">FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov</a>, or by phone, toll free at 1-866-208-3676.

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.

While we believe that the internet is the best way to stay informed, we realize that not everyone has access to the internet. Therefore, notices issued by the FERC related to this Project will be sent in hard copy to our environmental mailing list.

Additional information about the Rover Project is also available from Rover on its webpage at: <a href="https://www.roverpipelinefacts.com">www.roverpipelinefacts.com</a>.

FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION
888 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20426
http://www.ferc.gov



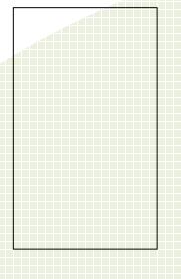
# Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

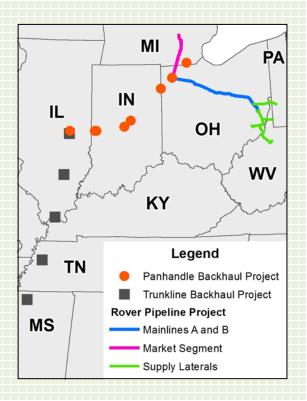
Office of Energy Projects

PROJECT UPDATE FOR THE ROVER PIPELINE PROJECT, PANHANDLE BACKHAUL PROJECT, & TRUNKLINE BACKHAUL PROJECT

Docket Nos. CP15-93, CP15-94, & CP15-96

**June 2015** 





## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this mailing is to provide an update of the status of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC or Commission) environmental review of the proposed Rover Pipeline Project (Docket No. CP15-93-000); the Panhandle Backhaul Project (Docket No. CP15-94-000); and the Trunkline Backhaul Project (Docket No. CP15-96-000), collectively referred to as the "Projects."

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Projects are proposed by Rover Pipeline LLC (Rover), Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company, LP (Panhandle), and Trunkline Gas Company, LLC (Trunkline). Rover seeks Commission authorization to construct and operate about 711 miles of new 24-inch to 42-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline in one county in Pennsylvania (Washington); 5 counties in West Virginia (Doddridge, Tyler, Wetzel, Marshall, and Hancock); 18 counties in Ohio (Monroe, Noble, Belmont, Harrison, Jefferson, Carroll, Tuscarawas, Stark, Wayne, Ashland, Richland, Crawford, Seneca, Hancock, Wood, Henry, Defiance, and Futon); and 3 counties in Michigan (Lenawee, Washtenaw, and Livingston).

Panhandle and Trunkline are proposing upgrades and modifications to allow for bi-directional flow of natural gas on their existing pipeline systems. Modifications and upgrades along the Panhandle system would occur at existing facilities in Lenawee County, Michigan; Allen and Defiance Counties, Ohio; Hamilton, Marion, Parke, and Vermillion Counties, Indiana; and Douglas County, Illinois. The Trunkline system would include modifications and upgrades at existing facilities in Douglas and Wayne Counties, Illinois; Dyer County Tennessee; and Tate County, Mississippi.

Rover states that the Project is designed to transport about 3.25 billion cubic feet per day of stranded natural gas in Marcellus and Utica production areas in the West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Ohio to markets in the U.S. and Canada.

## THE FERC ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible for conducting the environmental review of the Projects. The FERC staff will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Projects in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and with the cooperation of other federal and state regulatory agencies. To date, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency have agreed to be cooperating agencies in the production of the EIS. This EIS will identify and describe potentially affected lands and resources; disclose the potential impacts on these resources; describe, as appropriate, any avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures necessary to reduce potential impacts; and evaluate alternatives. We note that the FERC has no direct jurisdiction over natural gas production, either conventional or unconventional. In addition, the FERC EIS will only address environmental comments; non-environmental comments will be addressed in the Commission's Order issuing or denying a certificate.

## WHERE WE ARE NOW IN THE PROCESS

On February 2, 2015, Rover announced that it had entered into agreement with Vector Pipeline and its affiliates to transport gas to markets in Michigan and the Union Gas Dawn Hub in Ontario, Canada. This agreement eliminated the need for Rover to build about 100 miles of pipe across Genesee, Lapeer, Macomb, Oakland, Shiawassee, and St. Clair Counties in Michigan.

On February 23, 2015, the applicants filed applications for their respective projects with the FERC. On April 2, 2015, the FERC issued environmental comments on the applications. Upon review of these filings we determined that the analysis of environmental impacts of the Panhandle and Trunkline Backhaul Projects should be incorporated into the Commission's EIS currently under preparation for the Rover Pipeline Project. Responses to these comments were filed by the applicants on April 22, April 23, and May 1, 2015. The FERC issued a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS for the Panhandle and Trunkline Projects and requested comments by June 1, 2015.

## **FERC's Environmental Review Process**

Approves Applicants' pre-filing request and assigns PF Docket No.

Public Input Opportunities Participates in Applicants' open houses to identify stakeholder concerns

Issues Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS opening the scoping period (including scoping meetings and site reviews) to seek public comments

Reviews Applicants' draft environmental resource reports filed by the Applicants; issues comments on draft RRs

Issues Notice of Application and assigns CP Docket No. after Applicants file applications



Analyzes data in applications and comments received and prepares Draft EIS

Public Input Opportunity Issues Draft EIS and opens public comment period

Hosts public comment meetings to seek comments on Draft EIS

Analyzes Draft EIS comments and prepares Final EIS

Respond to comments on Final EIS in our recommendations to the Commission

Commission issues Order approving or denying the applications

Public Input Opportunities

Intervenors may request rehearing of the Commission's decision

Commission issues Notice to Proceed with construction if applications are approved