Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room. This filing may be viewed on the web at http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm (call 202–208–2222 for assistance).

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99–30485 Filed 11–22–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP00–67–000]

Wyoming Interstate Company, Ltd.; Notice of GRI Filing

November 17, 1999.

Take notice on November 15, 1999, Wyoming Interstate Company, Ltd. (WIC), tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 2, First Revised Sheet No. 4C, with an effective date of January 1, 2000.

WIC states the purpose of this filing is permit WIC to collect Gas Research Institute (GRI) charges associated with its transportation pursuant to the Commission's order issued September 29, 1999 in Docket No. RP99–323–000.

WIC states that copies of the filing were served upon the company's jurisdictional firm customers and interested state commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room. This filing may be viewed on the web http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm (call 202–208–2222 for assistance).

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99–30493 Filed 11–22–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP–99–392–000, CP00–17–000 and CP00–19–000]

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation, South Carolina Public Service Authority; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Southcoast Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

November 17, 1999.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the SouthCoast Expansion Project involving construction and operation of facilities by Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation (Transco) in Choctaw, Marengo, Coosa, Coweta, and Chilton Counties, Alabama and Walton, Gwinnett, and Henry Counties, Georgia.[1] These facilities would consist of about 44.3 miles of various diameter pipeline and 31,500 horsepower (hp) of compression. In addition, Santee Cooper, a power generating company, would construct about 5 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline to its planned power generating plant in Anderson County, South Carolina. This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The pipeline company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. There, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law. A fact sheet addressing a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain, is attached to this notice as appendix 1.[2]

[1] Tranco's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

[2] The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the Federal Register. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, or call (202) 208–1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

Summary of the Proposed Project

Transco wants to expand the capacity of its facilities in Alabama and Georgia to transport an additional 204,099 million British thermal units per day of natural gas to twelve shippers including one electric generating plant. Transco seeks authority to construct and operate:

- 11.31 miles of 42-inch-diameter loop and a pig launcher and receiver in Choctaw County, Alabama;
- 13.94 miles of 48-inch-diameter loop and to relocate an existing pig receiver in Marengo County, Alabama;
- 19.01 miles of 24-inch-diameter loop (North Georgia Loop) and a pig launcher and receiver in Walton and Gwinnett Counties, Georgia;
- A new 15,000 horsepower (hp) gas turbine-powered compressor unit at Compressor Station 105 in Coosa County, Alabama;
- A new 16,500 hp electric motor driven compressor unit and gas coolers at Compressor Station 115 in Coweta County, Alabama;
- A rewheeled Compressor Unit 16 at Compressor Station 120 in Henry County, Georgia; and
- New suction piping at Compressor Station 100 in Chilton County, Alabama, to allow sufficient gas flow to Compressor Unit 10.

In addition, South Carolina Public Service Authority (Santee Cooper), a power generating company plans to construct about 2.1 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline to its planned power generating plant called the John S. Rainey Generating Station in Anderson County, South Carolina including associated water pipelines and intake/discharge facilities near the plant. It would also construct about two approximately 30 mile-long 230 kilowatt electric transmission lines from the power plant to an existing Greenwood County, South Carolina switching station near Hodges, South Carolina.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 2. If you are interested in obtaining maps of a specific portion of the project, write to the Office of External Affairs and include the form in appendix 4.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the proposed facilities would require about 577.7 acres of land. Following construction, about 107.5 acres would be maintained as new permanent right-of-way and aboveground facility sites. The remaining 470.2 acres of land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

The EA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this ''scooping''. The main goal of the scooping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands
- Vegetation and wildlife
- Endangered and threatened species
- Public safety
- Land use
- Cultural resources
- Air quality and noise
- Hazardous waste

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scooping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we make our recommendations to the Commission.

To ensure your comments are considered, please carefully follow the instructions in the public participation section beginning on page 5.

Currently Identified Environmental Issues

We have already identified several issues that we think deserve attention based on a preliminary review of the proposed facilities and the environmental information provided by Transco. This preliminary list of issues may be changed based on your comments and our analysis.

- 69 perennial streams would be crossed in Alabama and Georgia.
- Two waterbodies over 100 feet wide would be crossed in Alabama, the Tombigbee River and Tuckabum Creek. The Tombigbee River would be directionally drilled and Tuckabum Creek would be crossed by the open-cut method.
- Three federally listed endangered or threatened species may occur in the project area. Several state listed endangered or threatened species may be affected.
- About 33.2 acres of wetlands would be disturbed during construction and about 9.8 acres of wetlands would be maintained as permanent right-of-way.
- About 252.9 acres of forest land would be cleared.
- Cultural resources sites may potentially be impacted by the project.
- Fourteen residences would be located within 50 feet of the construction work area on the 24-inch-diameter North Georgia Loop.

Also, we have made a preliminary decision to not address the impacts of nonjurisdictional Santee Cooper electric power plant, the related water pipeline facilities, and the electric transmission lines. Environmental review of these nonjurisdictional facilities is being conducted by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. We will briefly describe their location and status in the EA.

Public Participation

You can make a difference by providing us with your specific comments or concerns about the project. By becoming a commentor, your concerns will be addressed in the EA and considered by the Commission. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations/routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your letter to: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one copy of the comments for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch, PR–11.2;
- Reference Docket No. CP99–392–000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before December 17, 1999.

If you do not want to send comments at this time but still want to remain on our mailing list, please return the Information Request (appendix 4). If you do not return the Information Request, you will be taken off the mailing list.

Becoming an Intervenor

In addition to involvement in the EA scooping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding known as an ''intervenor''. Intervenors play a more formal role in the process. Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related Commission documents and filings by other intervenors. Likewise, each intervenor must provide 14 copies of its filings to the Secretary of the Commission and must send a copy of its filings to all other parties on the Commission's service list for this proceeding. If you want to become an intervenor you must file a motion to intervene according to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) (see appendix 3). Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing of the Commission's decision.

The date for filing timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention. You do not need intervenor status to have your environmental comments considered.

Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208–1088 or on the FERC website (www.ferc.fed.us) using the ''RIMS'' link to information in this docket number. Click on the ''RIMS'' link, select ''Docket #'' from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208–2222.

Similarly, the ''CIPS'' link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemaking. From the FERC Internet website, click on the ''CIPS'' link, select ''Docket #'' from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS

helpline can be reached at (202) 208–2474.

David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99–30483 Filed 11–22–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–6479–6]

Notice of Proposed Administrative Order on Consent Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as Amended, 42 U.S.C. 6973, Gates Corporation, Boone, IA; Docket No. RCRA–7–99–0019

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of proposed administrative order on consent, Gates Corporation, Boone, Iowa; and opportunity for public meeting and public comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a proposed administrative order on consent regarding Gates Corporation was signed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on September 30, 1999. The facility that is the subject of this consent order is the Gates Rubber Company, located in Boone, Iowa. EPA will receive public comments and requests for a public meeting in the affected area on the proposed settlement. If a public meeting is to be held, additional notice will be provided; otherwise, no public meeting is currently scheduled.

DATES: EPA will receive, on or before December 23, 1999, written comments relating to the proposed administrative order on consent and requests for a public meeting in the affected area.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Robert Richards, Assistant Regional Counsel, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 901 N. 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101 and should refer to *Gates Corporation, Boone, Iowa Docket No. RCRA–7–99–0019.*

The proposed consent order may be examined or obtained in person or by mail at the office of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 901 N. 5th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101, (913) 551–7502.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Respondent (Gates Corporation) owns and operates a facility under the name of Gates Rubber Company (Facility), located at 2121 Industrial Park Blvd., Boone, Iowa. Respondent assembles hydraulic hoses at the Facility. As a result of business operations, Respondent generates solid and hazardous waste. Solvent contamination was initially identified during a geotechnical exploration on the Facility property in May 1997. Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) has been identified in the soil and groundwater at the Facility and is believed to have originated from an above ground storage tank that was previously used at the Facility. Several other volatile hydrocarbons have also been identified in the soil and/or groundwater media. The release of PCE into the environment at the facility is enough to contaminate the groundwater to a level that exceeds the EPA established maximum contaminant level for PCE in drinking water. The continued migration of the contaminants off the Facility property may threaten human health and the environment.

Respondent has agreed to undertake all actions required by the terms and conditions of the consent order, including submission of work plans and reports pursuant to EPA guidance, implementation of additional work deemed to be necessary by EPA and documentation of financial assurance.

This is a proposed order subject to public comment. The EPA may withdraw its consent to this order if comments received during the comment period or at any requested public meeting disclose facts or considerations which indicate this order is inappropriate, improper or inadequate.

Dated: October 28, 1999.

Dennis Grams,

Regional Administrator, Region VII.

[FR Doc. 99–30404 Filed 11–22–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[AZ–016–COLMP; FRL–6480–2]

Adequacy Status of the Pima County Submitted CO Limited Maintenance Plan for Transportation Conformity Purposes

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of Adequacy.

SUMMARY: In this notice, EPA is notifying the public that we have found that Pima County submitted CO Limited Maintenance Plan is adequate for conformity purposes. On March 2, 1999, the D.C. Circuit Court ruled that submitted SIPs cannot be used for conformity determinations until EPA has affirmatively found them adequate. As a result of our finding, Pima County is not required to use a motor vehicle emissions budget from the submitted CO Limited Maintenance Plan for future conformity determinations. This determination is effective December 8, 1999.

DATES: These budgets are effective December 8, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The finding and, if any comments are received, the response to comments are available at EPA's conformity website: *http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq,* (once there, click on the ''Conformity'' button, then look for ''Adequacy Review of SIP Submissions for Conformity'').

Karina O'Connor, U.S. EPA, Region IX, Air Division AIR–2, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; (415) 744–1247 or *oconnor.karina@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Today's notice is simply an announcement of a finding that we have already made. EPA Region IX sent a letter to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality on September 30, 1999 stating that the Pima County submitted CO Limited Maintenance Plan is adequate for conformity purposes. This finding has also been announced on EPA's conformity website: *http://www.epa.gov/oms/traq,* (once there, click on the ''Conformity'' button, then look for ''Adequacy Review of SIP Submissions for Conformity'').

Transportation conformity is required by section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act. EPA's conformity rule requires that transportation plans, programs, and projects conform to state air quality implementation plans (SIPs) and establishes the criteria and procedures for determining whether or not they do. Conformity to a SIP means that transportation activities will not produce new air quality violations, worsen existing violations, or delay timely attainment of the national ambient air quality standards.

The criteria by which we determine whether a SIP's motor vehicle emission budgets are adequate for conformity purposes are outlined in 40 CFR 93.118(e)(4). Please note that an adequacy review is separate from EPA's completeness review, and it also should not be used to prejudge EPA's ultimate approval of the SIP. Even if we find a budget adequate, the SIP could later be disapproved.

We've described our process for determining the adequacy of submitted SIP budgets in guidance (May 14, 1999 memo titled ''Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999