## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Great Basin Gas Transmission Company

Docket No. CP23-466-000

## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED **2024 GREAT BASIN EXPANSION PROJECT**

(November 28, 2023)

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the 2024 Great Basin Expansion Project (Project), proposed by Great Basin Gas Transmission Company (Great Basin) in the above-referenced docket. Great Basin requests authorization to construct, operate, and abandon certain natural gas pipeline facilities. The expansion would provide 5,674 dekatherms per day of incremental firm transportation service for two existing firm transportation shippers and would require construction of approximately 3.4 miles of upsized or looped pipeline in three segments across Douglas, Lyon, and Storey Counties, Nevada.

The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FERC staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) participated as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EA. Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to resources potentially affected by the proposal and participate in the NEPA analysis. The BLM will adopt and use the EA to consider the issuance of a right-of-way grant for the portion of the project on federal lands.

The proposed Project includes the following facilities:

- construction of approximately 0.3 mile of 20-inch-diameter pipeline loop along the Carson Lateral in Storey County, Nevada, referred to as the Truckee Canal segment;
- abandonment and replacement of approximately 2.9 miles of existing 10-inch-diameter pipeline with new 20-inch-diameter pipeline along the Carson

Lateral in Lyon County, Nevada, referred to as the Silver Springs segment; and

• construction of approximately 0.3 mile of 12-inch-diameter pipeline loop paralleling its South Tahoe Lateral in Douglas County, Nevada, referred to as the Kingsbury segment.

The Commission mailed a copy of the *Notice of Availability* of the EA to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners; environmental justice stakeholders adjacent to the Project area that include legal aid providers, rural cooperatives, community social services organizations, senior citizens centers, public health agencies; newspapers and libraries in the project area; and other interested individuals and groups. The EA is only available in electronic format. It may be viewed and downloaded from the FERC's website (www.ferc.gov), on the natural gas environmental documents page (https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/naturalgas/environment/environmental-documents). In addition, the EA may be accessed by using the eLibrary link on the FERC's website. Click on the eLibrary link (https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search), select "General Search" and enter the docket number in the "Docket Number" field, excluding the last three digits (i.e. CP23-466). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

The EA is not a decision document. It presents Commission staff's independent analysis of the environmental issues for the Commission to consider when addressing the merits of all issues in this proceeding. Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. Your comments should focus on the EA's disclosure and discussion of potential environmental effects, reasonable alternatives, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impacts. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. To ensure that the Commission has the opportunity to consider your comments prior to making its decision on this project, it is important that we receive your comments in Washington, DC on or before 5:00pm Eastern Time on **December 28, 2023.** 

For your convenience, there are three methods you can use to file your comments to the Commission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has staff available to assist you at (866) 208-3676 or <a href="FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov">FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov</a>. Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded.

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the <u>eComment</u> feature on the Commission's website (<u>www.ferc.gov</u>) under the link to <u>FERC Online</u>. This is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project;

- (2) You can also file your comments electronically using the <u>eFiling</u> feature on the Commission's website (<u>www.ferc.gov</u>) under the link to <u>FERC Online</u>. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "<u>eRegister</u>." You must select the type of filing you are making. If you are filing a comment on a particular project, please select "Comment on a Filing"; or
- (3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the Commission. Be sure to reference the project docket number (CP23-466-000) on your letter. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Filing environmental comments will not give you intervenor status, but you do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered. Only intervenors have the right to seek rehearing or judicial review of the Commission's decision. At this point in this proceeding, the timeframe for filing timely intervention requests has expired. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene out-of-time pursuant to Rule 214(b)(3) and (d) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214(b)(3) and (d)) and show good cause why the time limitation should be waived. Motions to intervene are more fully described at <a href="https://www.ferc.gov/how-intervene">https://www.ferc.gov/how-intervene</a>.

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at **(866) 208-FERC**, or on the FERC website (<a href="www.ferc.gov">www.ferc.gov</a>) using the <a href="eLibrary">eLibrary</a> link. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or OPP@ferc.gov.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. Go to <a href="https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview">https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview</a> to register for eSubscription.

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary.