

IN RE: APPLICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF NEED FOR
INTRASTATE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE BY SUNSHINE PIPELINE PARTNERS

ISSUED: March 18, 1993

NOTICE is hereby given that the Florida Public Service Commission will hold a public hearing in the above docket at the time and place listed below. All persons who wish to be heard are urged to be present at the beginning of the hearing on May 10, 1993.

9:30 a.m., Monday, May 10, 1993*
101 East Gaines Street • Room 106 - Fletcher Building • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850
*Tuesday, May 11, 1993, has been reserved for continuation of the hearing, if necessary.

PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE

The purpose of this hearing will be to take evidence to determine the need, pursuant to Section 403.9422, Florida Statutes, for the construction and operation of a proposed intrastate natural gas pipeline in Florida. The pipeline would originate at a point in Okaloosa County and extend east and south through the following counties: Dixie, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lake, Leon, Levy, Madison, Merion, Okaloosa, Okechobee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sumter, Taylor, Walton, and Washington.

Initially the pipeline will consist of approximately five hundred two (502) miles of mainline and laterals, having a capacity of 250,000 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) per day which will be operated without compression during the first three years of service, scheduled to commence in February, 1995. Sunshine's thirty inch (30") mainline system will originate at the interconnection with the proposed interstate natural gas pipeline system known as SunShine Interstate Transmission Company (SITCO) at a point in Okaloosa County, and will extend east and south to a termination point in Polk County. It is also proposed that lateral lines and branch lines off the lateral lines, which will vary in size from four inches (4") to twenty four inches (24"), will extend from the SunShine mainline system in the following manner: a four inch (4") lateral originating in Marion County to the City of Ocala; an eight inch (8") lateral originating in Sumter County and extending into Lake County to the City of Leesburg; a twenty inch (20") lateral originating in Sumter County and extending through Hernando and Pasco counties into Pinellas County, which will include a six inch (6") branch line into Hernando County and a six inch (6") and twelve inch (12") branch line into Pasco County; and a twenty-four inch (24") lateral from Sumter County extending through Lake County into Polk County.

In order to meet increased delivery obligations commencing in 1998, SunShine will construct and place in-service in 1998, additional facilities consisting of approximately one hundred thirteen (113) miles of new lateral and two compressor stations having approximately ten thousand horsepower (10,000 H.P.) each. As part of this additional construction, the twenty-four inch (24") lateral in Polk County will be extended, and two new branch lines will be built, one sixteen inch (16") in Polk County and one twenty inch (20") lateral will extend from Polk County through Hardee and Highlands counties into Okechobee County. These additional facilities will increase the system capacity to approximately 425,000 Mcf per day and the overall miles of the pipeline to approximately six hundred fifteen (615).

A further expansion of the capacity of the SunShine Pipeline will be placed in-service in 1999. This expansion will add three new compressor stations, two having approximately ten thousand horsepower (10,000 H.P.) each and the other having approximately five thousand horsepower (5,000 H.P.). This expansion will bring the total compression on the SunShine Pipeline to approximately forty-five thousand horsepower (45,000 H.P.), and the total system capacity to approximately 550,000 Mcf per day.

The need determination proceedings will be governed by the provisions of Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, Section 403.9422, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 25-22, Florida Administrative Code. Under Section 403.9422, the Commission is the sole forum for the determination of need for the proposed intrastate natural gas pipeline and associated facilities. In making its determination, the Commission must take into account the need for natural gas delivery reliability, safety, and integrity, the need for abundant, clean-burning natural gas at a reasonable cost, and other matters within its jurisdiction that it deems relevant.

Only issues relating to the need for the proposed intrastate natural gas pipeline and its associated facilities will be heard at the May 10, 1993, hearing. Separate public hearings will be held before the Division of Administrative Hearings and the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline Siting Board to consider other matters required to be determined under the Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline Siting Act, Sections 403.9041-403.9425, Florida Statutes.

Members of the public who are not parties to the need determination proceeding will have an opportunity to present testimony regarding the need for the proposed pipeline. All witnesses will be sworn and will be subject to cross-examination at the conclusion of their testimony.

Written comments regarding the need for the pipeline may be sent to the Commission at the following address:

Steve Tribble
Director, Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
101 East Gaines Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850
Re: Docket No. 920807-GP

Anyone wishing to become a party to the need determination proceeding should file an appropriate petition pursuant to Rule 25-22.039, Florida Administrative Code with the Director of the Commission's Division of Records and Reporting at the address listed above. Copies of the petition should be sent by mail to all parties. Those wishing to intervene in these proceedings, unless appearing on their own behalf, must be represented by an attorney or other person who can be determined to be a qualified representative pursuant to Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-22.008, Florida Administrative Code. Petitions for leave to intervene must be filed at least five (5) days before the final hearing, must conform with Commission Rule 25-22.036(7) (a), Florida Administrative Code, and must include allegations sufficient to demonstrate that the intervenor is entitled to participate in the proceeding as a matter of constitutional or statutory right or pursuant to Commission rule, or that the substantial interests of the intervenor are subject to determination or will be affected through the hearing.

Any person requiring some accommodation at this hearing because of a physical impairment should call the Division of Records and Reporting at (904) 488-8371 at least five (5) calendar days prior to the hearing. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Public Service Commission using the Florida Relay Service, which can be reached at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

PREHEARING CONFERENCE

A prehearing conference will be held at the following time and place:

1:00 p.m., Monday, May 3, 1993
101 East Gaines Street • Room 122 - Fletcher Building • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

The purpose of this prehearing conference will be to consider: (1) the simplification of the issues; (2) the identification of the positions of the parties on the issues; (3) the possibility of obtaining admissions of fact and of documents which will avoid unnecessary proof; (4) the identification of exhibits; (5) the establishment of an order of witnesses; and (6) such other matters as may aid in the disposition of the action.

JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction over this determination of need is vested in the Commission by Chapter 366 and Section 403.9422, Florida Statutes. This proceeding will be governed by the provisions of Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, as well as Chapters 25-6 and 25-22, Florida Administrative Code.

APPLICATION

A copy of the Petition For A Determination of Need and supporting exhibits are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the following location:

Florida Public Service Commission • Division of Records and Reporting • Fletcher Building - Room 111
101 East Gaines Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

BY DIRECTION of the Florida Public Service Commission, this 18th day of March, 1993.

STEVE TRIBBLE, Director
Division of Records and Reporting

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