

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission**

[Project No. 1494-119]

**Grand River Dam Authority; Notice of  
Availability of Draft Environmental  
Assessment**

May 23, 1997.

A draft environmental assessment (DEA) is available for public review. The DEA analyzes the environmental impacts of an application by Grand River Dam Authority (licensee) to grant a permit to Mr. Larry Herrelson of Patricia Island Estates. The permit would allow Mr. Herrelson to excavate about 25,880 cubic yards of sediment from 9 coves on project lands for future recreational access. Patricia Island Estates is a planned residential community being developed in the Patricia Island portion of Grand Lake, Delaware County, near the town of Grove, Oklahoma. The DEA finds that the application to grant the permit would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The Pensacola Project is on the Grand River, in Craig, Delaware, Mayes, and Ottawa Counties, Oklahoma.

The DEA was written by staff in the Office of Hydropower Licensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Copies of the DEA can be obtained by calling the Commission's Public Reference Room at (202) 208-1371.

Please submit any comments within 30 days from the date of this notice. Any comments, conclusions, or recommendations that draw upon studies, reports, or other working papers of substance should be supported by appropriate documentation.

Comments should be addressed to: Ms. Lois D. Cashell, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. Please affix Project No. 1494-119 to all comments. For further information, please contact the project manager, Steve Hocking, at (202) 219-2656.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,***Acting Secretary.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission**

[Project No. 8746-003]

**Logan Hickerson; Notice of Availability  
of Environmental Assessment**

May 23, 1997.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission's) regulations, 18 CFR part 380 (Order 486, 52 F.R. 47897), the Commission's Office of Hydropower Licensing has reviewed an exemption surrender application for the Fairfield Mill Project, No. 8746-003. The Fairfield Mill Project is located on Garrison Fork Creek in Bedford County, Tennessee. The EA finds that approving the application would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Copies of the EA are available for review in the Commission's Reference and Information Center, Room 2A, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. For further information, please contact the project manager, Ms. Hillary Berlin, at (202) 219-0038.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,***Acting Secretary.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission**[Docket No. CP96-153-000; Docket No.  
CP97-343-000]**Southern Natural Gas Company,  
Alabama-Tennessee Natural Gas  
Company; Notice of Availability of the  
Final Environmental Impact Statement  
for the Proposed North Alabama  
Pipeline Project**

May 23, 1997.

The Staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared a final environmental impact statement (FEIS) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Southern Natural Gas Company (Southern) in Docket No. CP96-153-000.

The staff prepared the FEIS to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that, approval of Southern's project, with the appropriate mitigating measures as recommended, would have limited adverse environmental impact if

constructed as planned and with the recommended mitigation. The FEIS evaluates alternatives to the proposal, including an alternative project that is proposed by Alabama-Tennessee Natural Gas Company (Alabama-Tennessee) under Docket No. CP97-343-000. This project is called the Alabama-Tennessee System Alternative and, based solely on environmental considerations, it is environmentally preferred. The FEIS also examines major route alternatives and route variations.

The FEIS addresses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the following Southern facilities:

- About 118.0 miles of new natural gas pipeline (109.5 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline and 8.5 miles of 12.75-inch-diameter pipeline);
- About 6,300 horsepower of new compression at two existing compressor stations; and
- Two new meter stations, and related facilities.

Facilities required by two local distribution companies are also examined.

The purpose of Southern's proposed facilities would be to transport about 74,850 thousand cubic feet per day of natural gas to five customers in Alabama and Georgia.

The staff has also identified and evaluated in detail one major route alternative, the Tarrant Alternative, and 101 other variations in chapter 6 of the FEIS. We have accepted/recommended the use of most of the variations.

The FEIS has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, Room 1A, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-1371.

Copies of the FEIS have been mailed to Federal, state and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding. A limited number of copies of the FEIS are available from the Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch identified above.

The date for filing timely motions to intervene in these proceedings has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by Rule 214 of the FERC's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214).

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,***Acting Secretary.*

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