

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Office of Energy Projects, Division of Gas-Environment & Engineering**

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**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**

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**Name of Applicant:** Adelphia Gateway, LLC (Adelphia)

**Date Filed:** 12/7/20  
**Supplemental Filings:** 1/15/21

**Docket No:** CP21-14-000

**Type:** Sections 157.205, 157.208 – Prior Notice under Blanket Certificate Authority

**Cost:** \$4,600,000.

**Facilities**

Adelphia Gateway, LLC (Adelphia) requests under its blanket certificate authority granted in Docket No. CP82-487-000 et al., to install and operate an electric motor-driven 3,000-horsepower (HP) compressor unit at its Marcus Hook Compressor Station in Delaware County, Pennsylvania (Marcus Hook Electric Compression Project or Project). The Marcus Hook Electric Compression Project is designed to increase the discharge pressure and reduce the gas heat temperature level at the outlet of the Marcus Hook Compressor Station to provide firm service to a new shipper that will transport gas on Adelphia's system to the interconnection with Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC (Columbia Gas). The certificated capacity of the Adelphia pipeline system would increase by 16,500 Dekatherms per day (Dth/d), from 250,000 to 265,500 Dth/d. There would be no abandonment or reduction in service to any customer of Adelphia as a result of the Project.

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**Environmental Impact -- Conclusions:**

**Categorical Exclusion**

**Deficiency Letter Required**

**Environment Not Involved**

**EA/EIS Required**

**Environment Complete**

**No NOI Required**

**NOI Required**

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**Environmental Considerations or Comments:**

See attached environmental comments.

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**Prepared by:**  
*/s/ John J. Wisniewski*

**Date:**  
2/8/21

**Approved by Branch Chief:**

**Date:**  
2/9/21

**Adelphia Gateway, LLC (Adelphia)  
Marcus Hook Electric Compression Project  
Docket No. CP21-14-000**

**Environmental Comments**

**A. Proposed Action**

On December 7, 2020, Adelphia Gateway, LLC (Adelphia) filed a request with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) for a Prior Notice under its Blanket Certificate issued in FERC Docket No. CP18-46-000 for the Adelphia Gateway Project. Adelphia proposes to install and operate an electric-motor driven (EMD) 3,000-horsepower (hp) compressor unit and associated equipment at Adelphia's certificated Marcus Hook Compressor Station (MHCS) in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The new electric compressor would be in addition to the three 1,875-hp natural gas-fired reciprocating compressor units that are part of the Adelphia Gateway Project.

Adelphia is proposing the Marcus Hook Electric Compression Project (Project) to deliver 75,000 dekatherms per day (Dth/d) of firm natural gas capacity from the certificated MHCS to Adelphia's customer at Adelphia's interconnection with Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC (Columbia). Adelphia's certificated capacity would increase from 250,000 to 265,500 Dth/d. Adelphia states that the purpose of this Project is to enable Adelphia to install facilities necessary to meet demonstrated market need for 75,000 Dth/d of firm natural gas capacity from the MHCS to an interconnect with a Columbia-owned pipeline at the Delmarva Meter Station at the western terminus of the Parkway Lateral. No interruptions of service are planned or anticipated as a result of the proposed Project.

The Project consists of the installation of an EMD 3,000-hp fourth compressor unit and related ancillary facilities, entirely within the MHCS's certificated footprint. The new unit would be installed in the same building as the other three certificated units at the MHCS, and no modifications to the building would be required. Proposed ancillary facilities would be installed within the MHCS's limits of disturbance (LOD). Adelphia would use a state highway (i.e., Ridge Road) to access the site, and construction materials would be staged within the MHCS's LOD. No additional contractor yards or temporary workspace would be required. No facilities would be abandoned as part of this Project. Appendix A contains Project mapping.

In addition to the EMD 3,000-hp compressor unit, the Project would include the following ancillary facilities installed within the MHCS's certificated LOD:

- one horizontal process gas cooler with two 25-hp electric-driven motors;
- two variable frequency drives;
- a motor control center assembly to control the electric compressor engine from a central location;
- instrumentation and communication equipment necessary to monitor and control the operation of the Project components; and
- electrical infrastructure to handle the required motor loads.

Adelphia proposes to start Project construction during the 2nd quarter of 2021 after receipt of all required federal, state and local authorizations and permits. The Project's in-service date is expected to occur in the 4th quarter of 2021. Construction is expected to require 40 workers per day; last four to six months, ten hours per day, six days per week; and occur concurrently with the Adelphia Gateway Project construction activities in the same area.

#### Land Requirements

Construction of the proposed Project would require approximately 4.3 acres of paved and graveled, industrial use land within the existing 7.5-acre MHCS Site. Of the 4.3 acres affected during construction, Project operations would affect 0.3 acre of land for the ancillary facilities. Adelphia and its contractors would access the Project site via Ridge Road during construction and operations. No improvements to Ridge Road would be required for the Project.

#### Construction Procedures

The Project facilities would be constructed, tested, operated, and maintained in accordance with applicable federal, state and local regulations. This includes but is not limited to, the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968, as amended; the U.S. Department of Transportation of Natural Gas or Other Gas by Pipeline; Minimum Federal Safety Standards (49 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 192); and the FERC's Siting and Maintenance Requirements (18 CFR § 380.15). Construction activities associated with the Project would primarily consist of conventional construction techniques. No vegetation clearing beyond that required for the concurrently constructed Adelphia Gateway Project would be required for the Project.

The work would be performed by the same contractors for the Adelphia Gateway Project and would not require incremental construction equipment. Erosion control devices would already be in place at the Project site, and Project work would begin and end prior to completion of the Adelphia Gateway Project. Work sequencing would

include the installation of foundations for ancillary equipment followed by the trenching for electrical infrastructure and would conclude with the placement and connection of Project components. Adelphia would minimize or avoid impacts on soil during construction by adhering with the FERC's Upland Erosion, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan (FERC's Plan), and FERC's Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures (FERC's Procedures), as applicable. Following facility installation and completion of other on-site construction activities associated with the Adelphia Gateway Project, all areas used as construction workspace would be cleaned up and returned to pre-construction conditions.

Adelphia would hire one full-time environmental inspector (EI) for the Project. The EI position would be in effect throughout the duration of construction; would report directly to Adelphia's Environmental, Health, and Safety Manager; and would have stop-work authority. The EIs' duties would be consistent with the FERC's Plan and would include ensuring compliance with Adelphia's environmental designs and specifications, and other permits and authorizations.

Adelphia does not currently have any future plans for expansion or abandonment for the Project facilities.

#### Non-Jurisdictional Facilities

Non-jurisdictional facilities are limited to connecting existing electrical supply to the Project components at the MHCS. Such facilities are minimal and would not require upgrades to the existing electrical supply to accommodate the Project. Any environmental review of the non-jurisdictional facilities would be conducted by the applicable state and local agencies.

#### **B. Environmental Analysis**

Based on our<sup>1</sup> review of the Project, the following resources and hazards are either not present or would not be affected by the Project's activities and would not be discussed further:

- surface waterbodies and wetlands (none present);
- vegetation and wildlife (Project area is located in a highly developed industrial/commercial area and consists of a maintained gravel lot and existing facilities with no vegetation);
- threatened and endangered species (Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory review dated October 12, 2020 indicated no known impacts on threatened and endangered species from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Pennsylvania

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<sup>1</sup> "We," "us," and "our" refer to the environmental staff of the FERC Office of Energy Projects (OEP).

(PA) Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Fish and Boat Commission, and PA Game Commission);

- the project is not within a flood hazard zone;
- no hydrostatic testing would occur as part of this Project;
- mineral resources: there are no mineral producers, including oil and gas wells; coal mines; or non-fuel mineral resources near the MHCS. Similarly, an online search did not identify any potentially exploitable mineral resources within 0.25 mile of the MHCS;
- subsidence from previous mining or karst terrain: the Project is not in an area of known active or previous mining and the Project is not with any known karst areas;
- landslides and steep slopes: the Project is confined to an area identified as low susceptibility and low incidence of landslide and slumping occurrence, and the Project site does not have any steep slopes;
- active faults: the closest active fault/seismic zone is the Central Virginia Seismic Zone located southeast of Charlottesville, Virginia. There are no active faults in proximity to the Project.
- blasting: the Project would not require blasting;
- cultural resources (in a letter dated December 18, 2020 the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission State Historic Preservation Office provided comments that there are no historic or archaeological properties in the area of this Project);
- there are no National Park System Lands, Indian Reservations, National Wildlife Refuges, or National Wilderness Areas within 0.25 mile of the Project. Additionally, there are no All-American Roads, Natural Areas, historic areas, hiking trails or scenic areas identified within 0.25 mile of the Project; and
- the Project is not located on any state, federal, or conservation lands.

### Groundwater

Adelphia would require additional water during construction of the Project for dust suppression and concrete work (i.e. foundations and supports). Adelphia would obtain water for these activities from municipal sources.

The Project overlies crystalline rock-type Piedmont and Blue Ridge bedrock aquifer. The Project is also within the Delaware River Streamflow Zone / New Jersey Coastal Plains Aquifer sole source aquifer zone. Four groundwater supply wells are within 150 feet of the Project Area; all four are abandoned. Adelphia did not identify any springs during its field survey of the Project Area. No excavation would occur along the access road, and the Project would not require blasting. Furthermore, Adelphia is not aware of any contaminated soil or groundwater at the MHCS Site.

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