

Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. 4700 Highway 56 P.O. Box 20010 Owensboro, Kentucky 42304-0010 Phone 270/852-5000

Ronnie C Hensley II Regulatory Compliance, Manager Phone: (270)852-4658 Email: <u>ronnie.c.hensley@sscgp.com</u>

Sept 16, 2016

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20426

> Re: Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. Prior Notice of Blanket Certificate Activity Docket No. CP16-___-000 Abandonment of Compressor Units 1 Through 4 at Atchison Compressor Station (680 HP)

Dear Secretary Bose:

Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (Southern Star), pursuant to the authority of its blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-479-000 and the provisions of Sections 157.205 and 157.216(b)(2) of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations herewith submits for eFiling a Prior Notice Application seeking authorization to abandon in place four compressor units each rated at 170 horsepower (Units 1 through 4) at its Atchison Compressor Station located in Atchison County, Kansas.

The electronic files include the following documents, which have been classified as "Public," "Privileged," or "Critical Energy Infrastructure Information" (CEII) as noted below.

Public Files

- This transmittal letter describing the filing and its content.
- Prior Notice Application Pursuant to Blanket Certificate with Verification Statement and applicable Exhibits: Exhibit F (General Location Map) and Exhibit Y (Proposed Accounting Treatment), Exhibit Z-1 (SHPO Concurrence of NRHP ineligibility), Exhibit Z-3 (Public Notice for publication in the Federal Register),

Privileged File

• Exhibit Z-2 contains National Register Assessments and Documentation

Southern Star submits that the attached National Register Assessments and Documentation meet the definition of Privileged as defined in Section 380.12 of the Commission's regulations, therefore requests that the Commission accord treatment to the eFiled documents concerning the privileged information in a manner consistent with Section 133.112 of the Commission's regulations. Accordingly, the page showing the National Register Assessments and Documentation is marked "Contains privileged information-Do Not Release".

"Critical Energy Infrastructure Information" File

• Exhibit V containing CEII consisting of System Flow Diagrams before and after abandonment.

Southern Star submits that the attached System Flow Diagrams meet the definition of CEII as found in Section 388.113 of the Commission's regulations and therefore requests that the Commission accord treatment to the eFiled documents concerning CEII information in a manner consistent with Section 133.112 of the Commission's regulations. Accordingly, the page showing the system flow diagrams is clearly marked "Contains Critical Energy Infrastructure Information-Do Not Release".

Please call the undersigned at (270) 852-4658 with any questions regarding the documents.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ronnie C Hensley II Regulatory Compliance, Manager

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.

) Docket No. CP16-___-000

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ABANDON FACILITIES UNDER THE PRIOR NOTICE PROCEDURES OF 18 C.F.R. SECTION 157.205

Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. ("Southern Star"), pursuant to the authority of its (or its predecessor companies') blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-479-000 and the provisions of Sections 157.205, and 157.216(b)(2), and in compliance with the requirements of Subpart F of 18 C.F.R. Part 157 of the Regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission"), hereby requests authorization to abandon in place a portion of compression at its Atchison Compressor Station located in Atchison County, Kansas, as more fully described herein below.

I APPLICANT

The exact legal name of the party tendering this request is Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. and its principal place of business is 4700 State Highway 56, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301. Southern Star is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware and is duly authorized to do business in the states of Colorado, Delaware, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma,

Texas, and Wyoming. Facilities operated by Southern Star are located in the states

of Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wyoming.

II COMMUNICATIONS

All correspondence and communications in regard to this request are to

be addressed as follows:

Ronnie C Hensley II Regulatory Compliance, Manager Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. 4700 Highway 56 Owensboro, Kentucky 42301 Telephone: (270) 852-4658 Ronnie.C.Hensley@sscgp.com

and

Douglas Field Senior Attorney Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. 4700 Highway 56 Owensboro, Kentucky 42301 Telephone: (270) 852-4657 W.Doug.Field@sscgp.com

The above listed persons are designated to receive service pursuant to Rule 2010 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 C.F.R. 385.2010 (2016). Additionally, service via eMail ("eService") is requested in lieu of paper copies.

III BACKGROUND AND CURRENT FACILITIES

The Atchison Compressor Station originated in 1952 with the installation of two Cooper Bessemer Type 80 Units and appurtenances under the authority granted in Docket No. G-1968.¹ Two additional Cooper Bessemer Type 80 Units were installed in 1959 under the authority granted in Docket No. G-17941.² A White Superior 8G-825 (Unit 5) was installed in 1969 under the authority granted in Docket No. CP69-258³. The station currently consists of five compressor units (Units 1 through 5) totaling 1,340 horsepower contained within one building.

The Atchison Compressor Station routes gas from Southern Star's Tonganoxie Compressor Station northwest to Horton, Holton, Hiawatha, Falls City and Sabetha, Kansas. (See General Location Maps - Exhibit F).

IV FACILITIES TO BE ABANDONED

Southern Star proposes to abandon in place Units 1, 2, 3, and 4 ("Units 1 through 4") and associated appurtenances at the Atchison Compressor Station which will result in the elimination of 680 horsepower (four Cooper Type 80 units at 170 horsepower per unit) that is not needed operationally or to provide firm service. The Atchison Compressor Station will continue operating as a compressor station using the 660 horsepower generated from Unit 5.

The abandonment of these units will consist of retiring in place at this time and removing and scrapping in the future. The jacket water coolers and jacket water surge tank associated with these units will be removed and scrapped at an approved facility. Any remaining piping associated with the jacket water system will be capped or blinded. The suction and discharge gas will be isolated from the unit by digging up

¹ See Cities Service Gas Company, 11 F.P.C. 1188 (1952).

² See Cities Service Gas Company, 22 F.P.C. 125 (1959).

³See Cities Service Gas Company, 42 F.P.C. 2 (1969)

the suction and discharge header in the yard and cutting and capping the line north of Unit 5. There is a 1-1/4-inch starting air line for each unit and these lines will be capped to isolate the air from the units. The fuel gas line feeding Units 1 through 4 will be blinded to isolate fuel gas to the units. The existing exhaust stacks associated with the units will be retired in place until future arrangements can be made to properly dispose of them.

In accordance with Section 157.216(c)(1) of the Commission's regulations, Southern Star estimates the current cost to replicate the facilities proposed to be abandoned is \$6,555,232.

V FURTHER SUPPORT

The proposed abandonment of Compressor Units 1 through 4 at the Atchison Compressor Station will neither result in any changes to the recent operation of the pipeline system nor reduce any current firm service obligations, as shown within the Flow Diagrams. (See Exhibit V – System Flow Diagrams.) Southern Star asserts that under Section 157.216(c)(3) customer consent is excluded as a requirement for abandonment in this instance because Units 1 through 4 have neither been needed nor used to provide firm service to customers since before January, 2009 due to changing contractual service obligations (i.e., no customers have been served during the past year by the subject facilities, so customers' consent to the abandonment is neither necessary nor available).

In further support of this application, Southern Star has also attached a General Location Map as Exhibit F depicting the Atchison area in relation to Southern Star's surrounding pipeline system. Also attached as Exhibit Y is the proposed Accounting Treatment for the abandonment of facilities. Southern Star submits that benefits of this proposal outweigh any adverse impacts. Pursuant to Section 157.205(b)(4), Southern Star hereby submits its verified statement that the proposed abandonment complies with the requirements of Part 157, Subpart F, of the Commission's regulations (18 C.F.R. Part 157, Subpart F). There are no other applications related to this proposed abandonment.

VI ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Due to the fact that this application proposes the abandonment in place of Compressor Units 1 through 4 and that the Atchison Compressor Station will continue to operate, Southern Star has excluded the filing of any environmental data as there will be minimal ground disturbance within the station yard, and abandoning the units will result in an overall reduction of the station's potential operational air and noise emissions. Other than as described below Southern Star has not applied for any applicable agency clearances as no change in the current land use will result from the abandonment sought herein. Southern Star also submits that this proposed abandonment activity is exempt from landowner notification requirements pursuant to Section 157.203(d)(3)(iv), as there are no landowners adversely affected since no change (that is no increase) in operational air and noise emissions will result from this abandonment. Therefore, Southern Star submits that the proposed abandonment does not involve a significant adverse impact on a sensitive environmental area and will not constitute a major federal action affecting the quality of the human environment.

Due to the age of the units dating back more than 50 years, Southern Star

contracted with R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. ("Goodwin") to evaluate the units for National Register Historical Places ("NRHP") eligibility and submitted its findings to the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO"). It was concluded that the units do not qualify for listing in the NRHP with concurrence by SHPO.

SHPO's concurrence is attached as Exhibit Z-1. Goodwin's evaluation is attached as Exibit Z-3, "Privileged."

VII FORM OF NOTICE

A notice suitable for publication in the Federal Register is attached hereto as Exhibit Z-2. Copies of this application will be sent to the Kansas Corporation Commission and the Missouri Public Service Commission.

VIII CONCLUSION

Wherefore, based on the information provided herein, Southern Star submits that the requested abandonment is required by the public convenience and necessity and respectfully requests that the Commission grant its request under the blanket certificate pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.216(b) of the Commission's regulations authorizing the abandonment of Units 1 through 4 and the related horsepower at Atchison Compressor Station, as described herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.

/s/ Ronnie C Hensley II Regulatory Compliance. Manager

VERIFICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)

COUNTY OF DAVIESS

Ronnie C. Hensley II, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is Manager, Regulatory Compliance for Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.; that as such he is authorized to sign and verify the foregoing Request for Authorization to Abandon Compressor Units 1 through 4 at the Atchison Compressor Station. He has read said document and is familiar with the contents thereof; that the matters and things set forth therein are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

Jonnie

Ronnie C. Hensley II Manager, Regulatory Compliance

) ss:

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 14th day of Sept.___, 2016.

Kentucky State at Large

My Commission expires August 26, 2019



Exhibit F

General Location Map

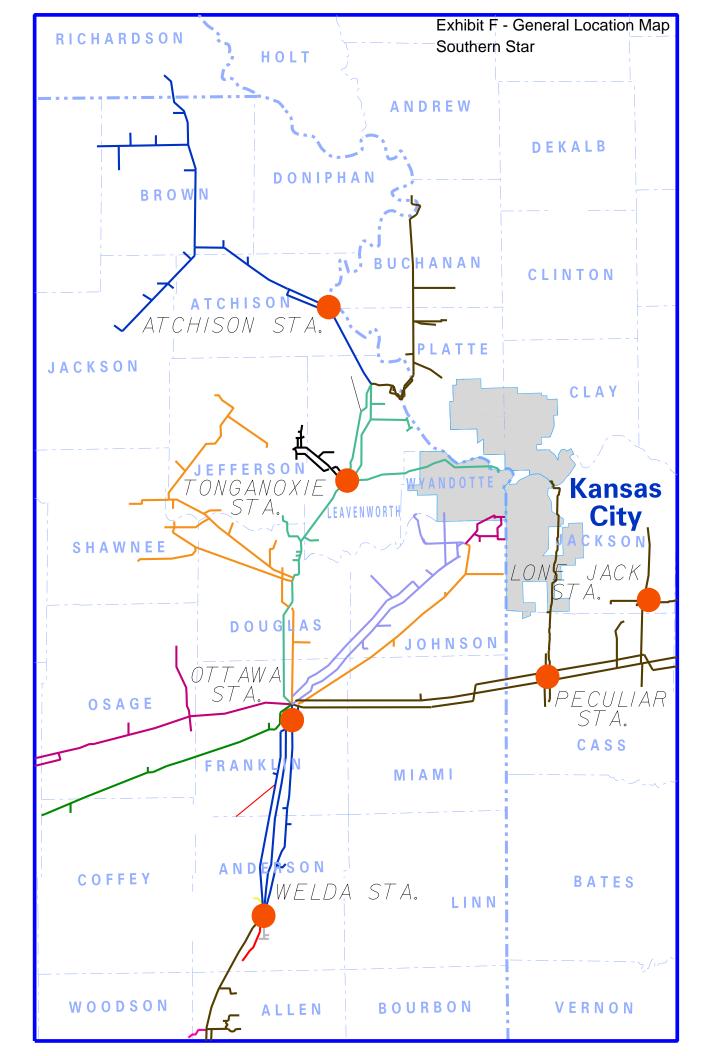


Exhibit V

System Flow Diagrams (CEII)

Procedures for obtaining access to Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (CEII) may be found at 18 CFR 388.113. Requests for access to CEII should be made to the Commission's CEII Coordinator.

Exhibit Y

Proposed Accounting Treatment

SOUTHERN STAR CENTRAL GAS PIPELINE, INC.

Proposed Accounting Treatment

RETIRE IN PLACE COOPER BESSEMER TYPE 80 COMPRESSOR UNITS 1 - 4 AT ATCHISON STATION

To Charge Appropriate Utility Plant Accounts With Original Cost of Property Retired

108 101 (36801001)	Retirement Work in Progress Compressor Station Equipment	\$	78,103	\$ 78,103	
	To Record Removal Cost and Salvage				
108	Retirement Work in Progress	\$	20,141		
131	Salvage Proceeds	\$	-	\$	
131	Removal Costs			э 20,141	
To Transfer Balance in Retirement Work in Progress to Accumulated Provision for Depreciation of Gas Plant in Service					
108	Accumulated Provision for Depreciation of Gas Plant in Service	\$	98,244	¢	
108	Retirement Work in Progress			\$ 98,244	

Exhibit Z-1

SHPO Concurrence



Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. 4700 Highway 56 P.O. Box 20010 Owensboro, Kentucky 42304-0010 Phone 270/852-5000

August 29, 2016

Ms. Jennie A. Chinn State Historic Preservation Officer Kansas State Historical Society Center for Historical Research 6425 SW 6th Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66615-1099

Subject: Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline Retirement of Four Type 80 Natural Gas Compressor Units Atchison Compressor Station Atchison County, Kansas

Ms. Chinn:

Enclosed for your review and comments is the NRHP evaluation of four Type 80 horizontal gas compressor packages we are proposing to abandon at our Atchison compressor station in Atchison County, Kansas.

Pursuant to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulations 18 CFR 157.205 and .216(b), Southern Star plans to file a Prior Notice application with FERC to abandon four Type 80 horizontal compressor packages, compressor building and supporting auxiliary facilities (i.e. jacket water cooling towers and jacket water surge tanks) at the Atchison compressor station in Atchison County, Kansas.

Since the facilities proposed for abandonment are greater than 50 years old, R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, on behalf of Southern Star, conducted an evaluation and documentation of the four Type 80 compressor units, building and associated auxiliary facilities in accordance with NRHP criteria. They concluded that the compressor units do not meet eligibility criteria as an NRHP resource. Enclosed for your review is the report, <u>National Register Assessments and Documentation of Four Type 80 Twin</u> <u>Cylinder Cooper Gas Engine Compressor Units and Compressor Building at Southern Star's Atchison Compressor Station, Atchison County, Kansas.</u>

If you have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact me at (270) 852-4425 or by email at B.Steve.Taylor@sscgp.com. Your assistance is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Steve Taylor

Steve Taylor Sr. Environmental Specialist



6425 SW 6th Avenue Topeka KS 66615 phone: 785-272-8681 fax: 785-272-8682 cultural_resources@kshs.org

Sam Brownback, Governor Jennie Chinn, Executive Director

KSR&C # 16-09-022 September 2, 2016

Steve Taylor Southern Star via email

Re: Atchison Compressor Station - Determination of Eligibility

Staff of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the report received August 29, 2016 regarding the above-referenced location in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800. This report was authored by R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. for Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. Based on the provided information, the SHPO concurs that the Atchison Compressor Station and Compressor Units do not possess the qualities of significance and integrity for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on this report. Please refer to the Kansas State Review & Compliance number (KSR&C#) listed above on any future correspondence. Please submit any comments or questions regarding this review to Lauren Jones at 785-272-8681 ext. 225 or ljones@kshs.org.

Sincerely,

Jennie Chinn State Historic Preservation Officer

trick Jollman

Patrick Zollner Director, Cultural Resources Division Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Exhibit Z-2

National Register Assessments and Documentation (Privileged)

"CONTAINS PRIVILEGED INFORMATION-DO NOT RELEASE"

Exhibit Z-3

Public Notice

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.

Docket No. CP16-___-

PRIOR NOTICE OF ACTIVITY UNDER BLANKET CERTIFICATE

Take notice that on______, 2016, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (Southern Star), 4700 Highway 56, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301, filed in Docket No. CP16-_____-000 a prior notice request pursuant to its blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-479-000 and Sections 157.205 and 157.216(b)(2) of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations under the Natural Gas Act for authorization to abandon a portion of compression within its existing Atchison Compressor Station located in Atchison County, Kansas, all as more fully set forth in the application.

Specifically, Southern Star proposes to abandon in place four compressor units each rated at 170 horsepower (Units 1 through 4) at its Atchison Compressor Station located in Atchison County, Kansas. Units 1 and 2 were installed in 1952 and Units 3 and 4 were installed in 1959 and used in routing natural gas from Southern Star's Tonganoxie Compressor Station to system deliveries in the Horton, Holton, Hiawatha, Sabetha and Falls City areas in Kansas. The Atchison Compressor station will continue operating using the existing 660 horsepower generated from Unit 5 that was installed in 1969. The abandonment of Units 1 through 4 will avoid maintenance costs and the need for future capital cost. All work activity will be confined within the station yard with minimal ground disturbance and result in an overall reduction of the station's potential operational air and noise emissions. Southern Star submits that the proposed abandonment does not involve a significant adverse impact on sensitive environmental areas and will not constitute a major federal action affecting the quality of the human environment.

The filing may be viewed on the web at <u>http://www..ferc.gov</u> by using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact the Commission at <u>FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov</u> or call toll free (886)208-3676 or TYY (202)502-8659.

Any questions concerning the prior notice request should be directed to Ronnie C Hensley II, Regulatory Compliance, Manager, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc., 4700 Highway 56, Owensboro, KY 42301, or call (270) 852-4658.

Any person or the Commission's staff may, within 60 days after issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Procedural Rules (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention and pursuant to Section 157.205 of the regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.205), a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the allowed time for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to Section 7 of the NGA.

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 proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such motions or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant on or before the comment date. It is not necessary to serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of comments, protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <u>http://www.ferc.gov</u>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 3 copies of the protest or intervention by overnight services to Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr., Deputy Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

Comment Date: 5:00 pm Eastern Time on (insert date).