

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

DeLa Express LLC

Docket No. PF24-4-000

NOTICE OF SCOPING PERIOD REQUESTING COMMENTS ON
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
FOR THE PLANNED DELA EXPRESS PROJECT,
AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING SESSIONS

(August 22, 2024)

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental document that will discuss the environmental impacts of the DeLa Express Project involving construction and operation of facilities by DeLa Express LLC (DeLa Express) in Reeves, Loving, Andrews, Ward, Winkler, Ector, Midland, Upton, Glasscock, Sterling, Coke, Runnels, Coleman, Brown, Mills, Hamilton, Coryell, McLennan, Falls, Bell, Robertson, Milam, Brazos, Grimes, Montgomery, Walker, San Jacinto, Liberty, Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange Counties, Texas and Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. The Commission will use this environmental document in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

This notice announces the opening of the scoping process the Commission will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies regarding the project. As part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process, the Commission takes into account concerns the public may have about proposals and the environmental impacts that could result from its action whenever it considers the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. This gathering of public input is referred to as “scoping.” The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the environmental document on the important environmental issues. Additional information about the Commission’s NEPA process is described below in the NEPA Process and Environmental Document section of this notice.

By this notice, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of issues to address in the environmental document. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please submit your comments so that the Commission receives them in Washington, DC on or before 5:00pm Eastern Time on **September 23, 2024**.

- 1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature, which is located on the Commission’s website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to FERC Online. Using eComment is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project;
- 2) You can file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission’s website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to FERC Online. 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 “eRegister.” You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; a comment on a particular project is considered a “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 (PF24-4-000) on your letter. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.
- 4) In lieu of sending written comments, the Commission invites you to attend one of the public scoping sessions its staff will conduct in the project area, scheduled as follows:

Date and Time	Location
Monday, September 9, 2024 4:30 – 6:30 pm	Harvest Event Center 9775 Highway 146 N. Liberty, TX 77575
Tuesday, September 10, 2024 4:30 – 6:30 pm	Ward 7 Recreation Center 1615 Horridge Street Vinton, LA 70668
Wednesday, September 11, 2024 4:30 – 6:30 pm	Cleveland Civic Center 210 Peach Avenue Cleveland, TX 77327
Thursday, September 12, 2024 4:30 – 6:30 pm	Huntsville Public Library 1219 13 th Street Huntsville, TX 77340
Tuesday, September 10, 2024 4:30 – 6:30 pm	Ballinger Community Center 200 Crosson Avenue Ballinger, TX 76821

Your scoping comments will be recorded by a court reporter (with FERC staff or representative present) and become part of the public record for this proceeding. Transcripts will be publicly available on FERC's eLibrary system (see the last page of this notice for instructions on using eLibrary). If a significant number of people are interested in providing oral comments in the one-on-one settings, a time limit of 5 minutes may be implemented for each commentor.

It is important to note that the Commission provides equal consideration to all comments received, whether filed in written form or provided orally at a scoping session. Although there will not be a formal presentation, Commission staff will be available throughout the scoping session to answer your questions about the environmental review process. Representatives from DeLa Express will also be present to answer project-specific questions.

Additionally, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription, which makes it easy to stay informed of all issuances and submittals regarding the dockets/projects to which you subscribe. These instant email notifications are the fastest way to receive notification and provide a link to the document files which can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings. Go to <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview> to register for eSubscription.

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.

Summary of the Planned Project

DeLa Express plans to construct and operate an approximately 645.5-mile-long, 42-inch-diameter natural gas transportation mainline pipeline originating in Winkler County, Texas to a termination point in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. The Project would also consist of six lateral pipelines (totaling 139 miles). The DeLa Express Project would provide about 2 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas transportation from the Permian Basin in West Texas to Gulf Coast markets between Jefferson County, Texas and

at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call toll free, (886) 208-3676 or TTY (202) 502-8659.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 2.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of the planned facilities would disturb about 12,940 acres of land for the aboveground facilities and the pipelines. Following construction, DeLa Express would maintain about 5,459 acres for permanent operation of the project's facilities; the remaining acreage would be restored. About 83 percent of the planned pipeline route parallels existing pipeline, utility, or road rights-of-way.

NEPA Process and the Environmental Document

Any environmental document issued by Commission staff will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the planned project under the relevant general resource areas:

- geology and soils;
- water resources and wetlands;
- vegetation and wildlife;
- threatened and endangered species;
- cultural resources;
- land use;
- socioeconomics;
- environmental justice;
- air quality and noise; and
- reliability and safety.

Commission staff have already identified several issues that deserve attention based on a preliminary review of available draft reports and monthly updates provided by DeLa Express. This preliminary list of issues may change based on your comments and our analysis of final reports provided with the application for the Project:

- cumulative impacts associated with multiple adjacent pipeline easements;
- wetland and waterbody impacts;
- specialty crops and agricultural land use;
- environmental justice concerns;
- pipeline safety;
- noise and air impacts associated with compressor stations;
- impacts on existing buried utility lines;
- post-construction vegetation restoration;

comments provided under the Public Participation section of this notice. Currently, no agencies have expressed their intention to participate as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the environmental document to satisfy their NEPA responsibilities related to this project.

Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

In accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's implementing regulations for section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Commission is using this notice to initiate consultation with the applicable State Historic Preservation Office(s), and to solicit their views and those of other government agencies, interested Indian tribes, and the public on the project's potential effects on historic properties.⁵ The environmental document for this project will document our findings on the impacts on historic properties and summarize the status of consultations under section 106.

Environmental Mailing List

The environmental mailing list includes federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental justice stakeholders and public interest groups; Native American Tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. This list also includes all affected landowners (as defined in the Commission's regulations) who are potential right-of-way grantors, whose property may be used temporarily for project purposes, or who own homes within certain distances of aboveground facilities, and anyone who submits comments on the project and includes a mailing address with their comments. Commission staff will update the environmental mailing list as the analysis proceeds to ensure that Commission notices related to this environmental review are sent to all individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the planned project.

If you need to make changes to your name/address, or if you would like to remove your name from the mailing list, please complete one of the following steps:

- 1) Send an email to GasProjectAddressChange@ferc.gov stating your request. You must include the docket number PF24-4-000 in your request. If you are requesting a change to your address, please be sure to include your name and the correct address. If you are requesting to delete your address from the mailing list, please include your name and address as it appeared on this notice. **This email address is unable to accept comments.**

⁵ The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations are at Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 800. Those regulations define historic properties as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.



FERC SESSION FORMAT AND CONDUCT

Session Format

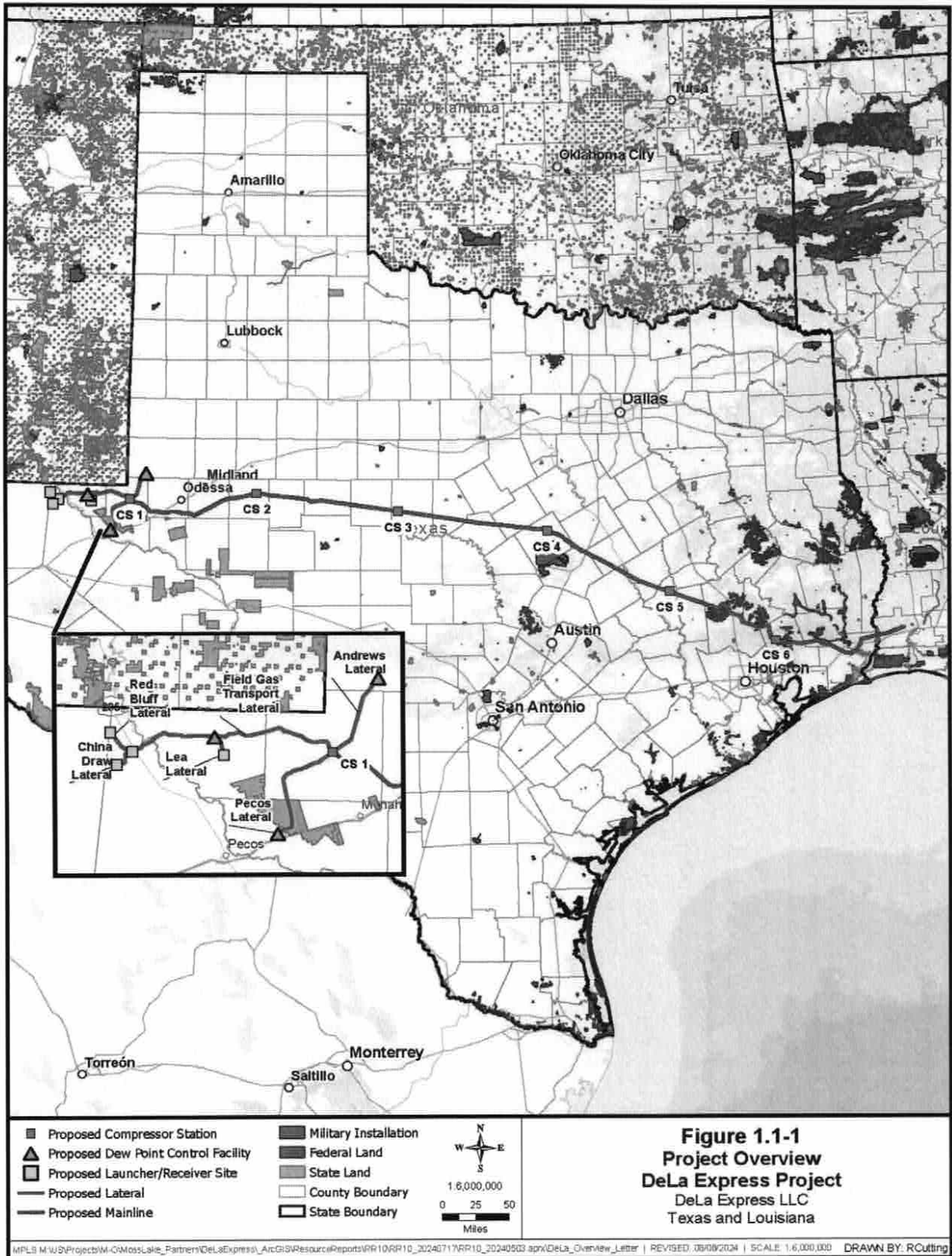
FERC is conducting the session to solicit your scoping comments. There will not be a formal presentation by Commission staff; however, FERC staff is available to answer questions about the environmental review process. The session format is as follows:

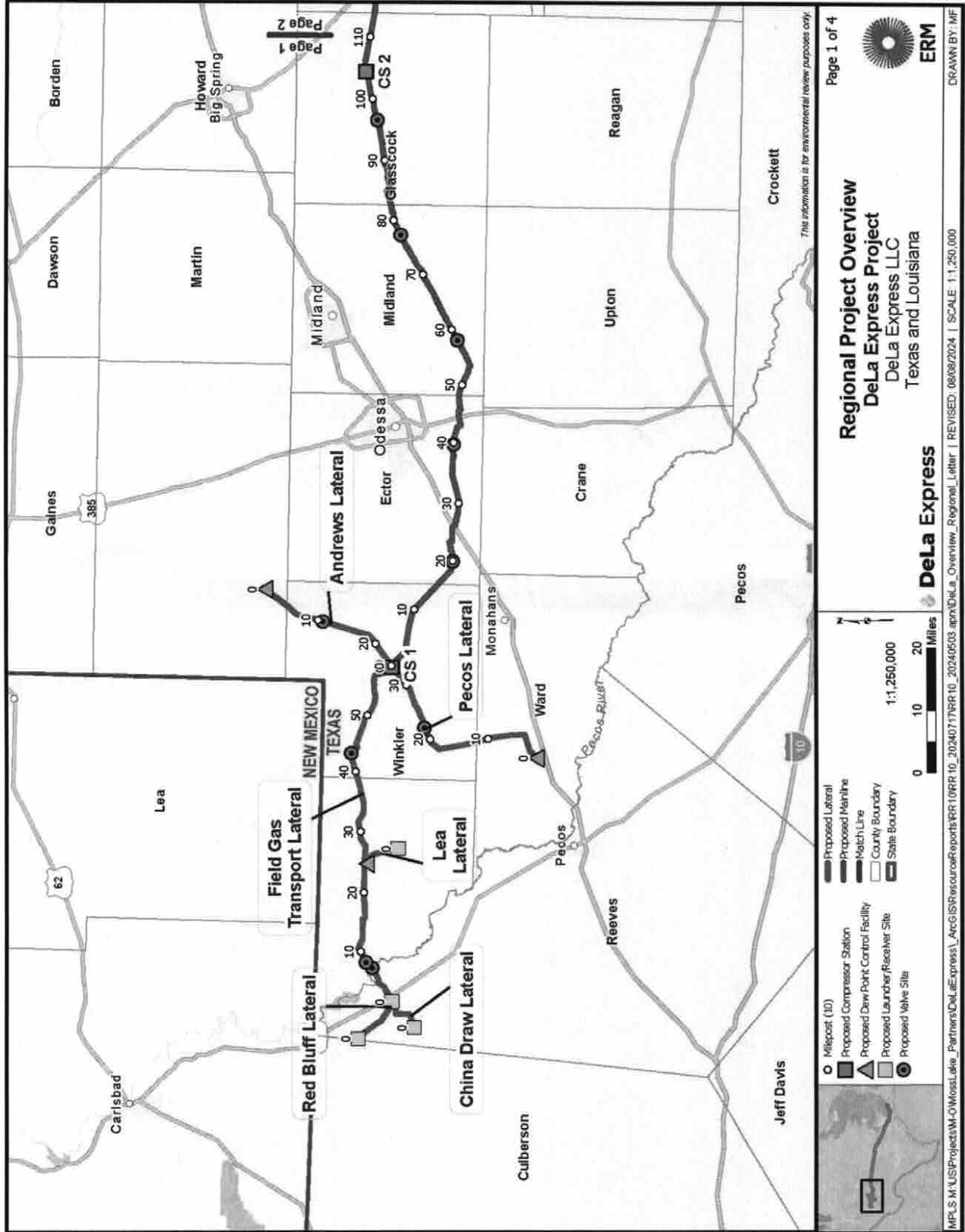
- Tickets are handed out on a “first come, first serve” basis starting at the time listed in the Notice.
- Individuals are called in ticket number order to provide oral comments to be transcribed by a court reporter for the public record.
- Time limits on oral comments may be enforced to ensure that all those wishing to comment have the opportunity to do so within the designated session time.
- Additional materials about FERC and the environmental review process are available at information stations at the session.

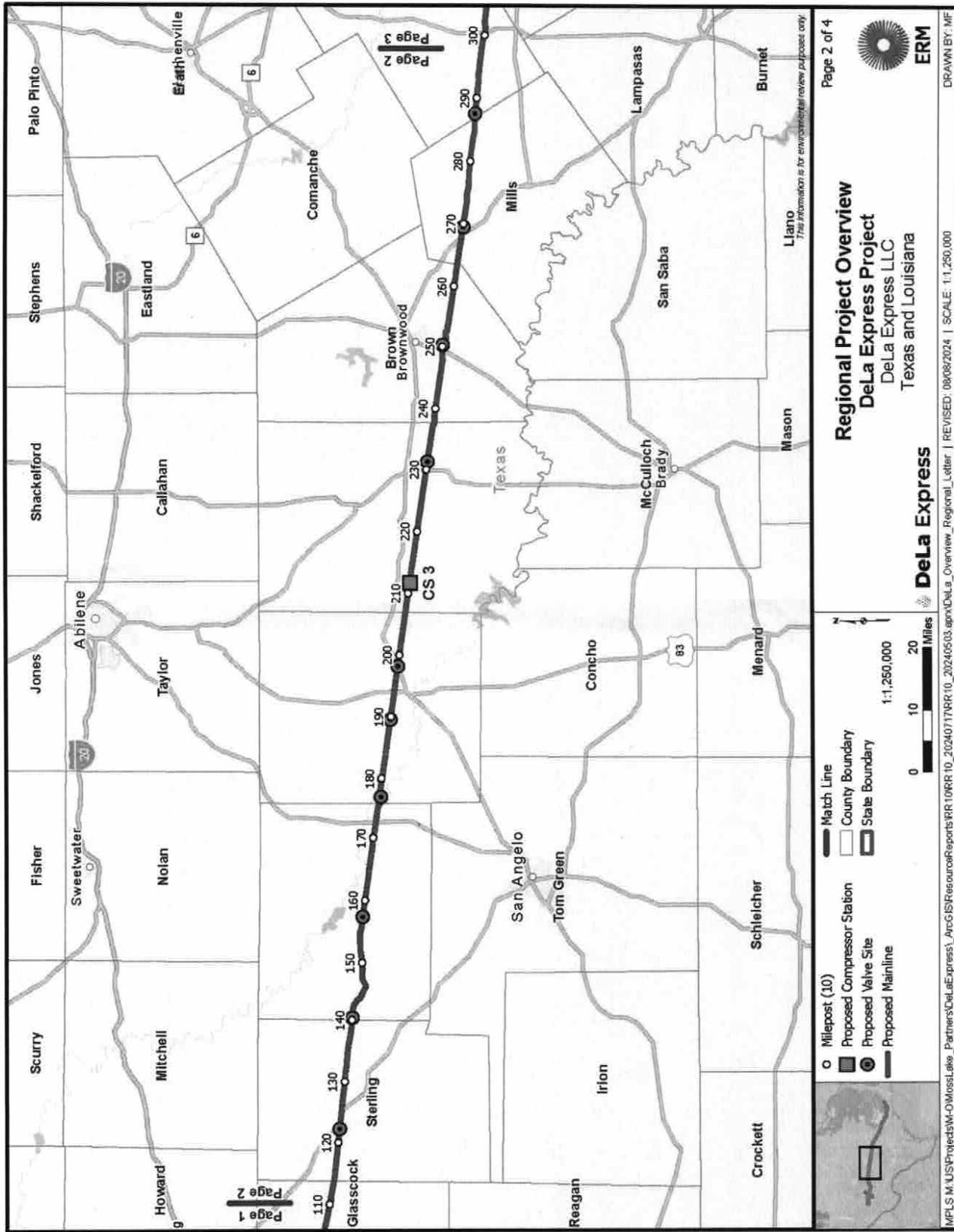
Session Conduct

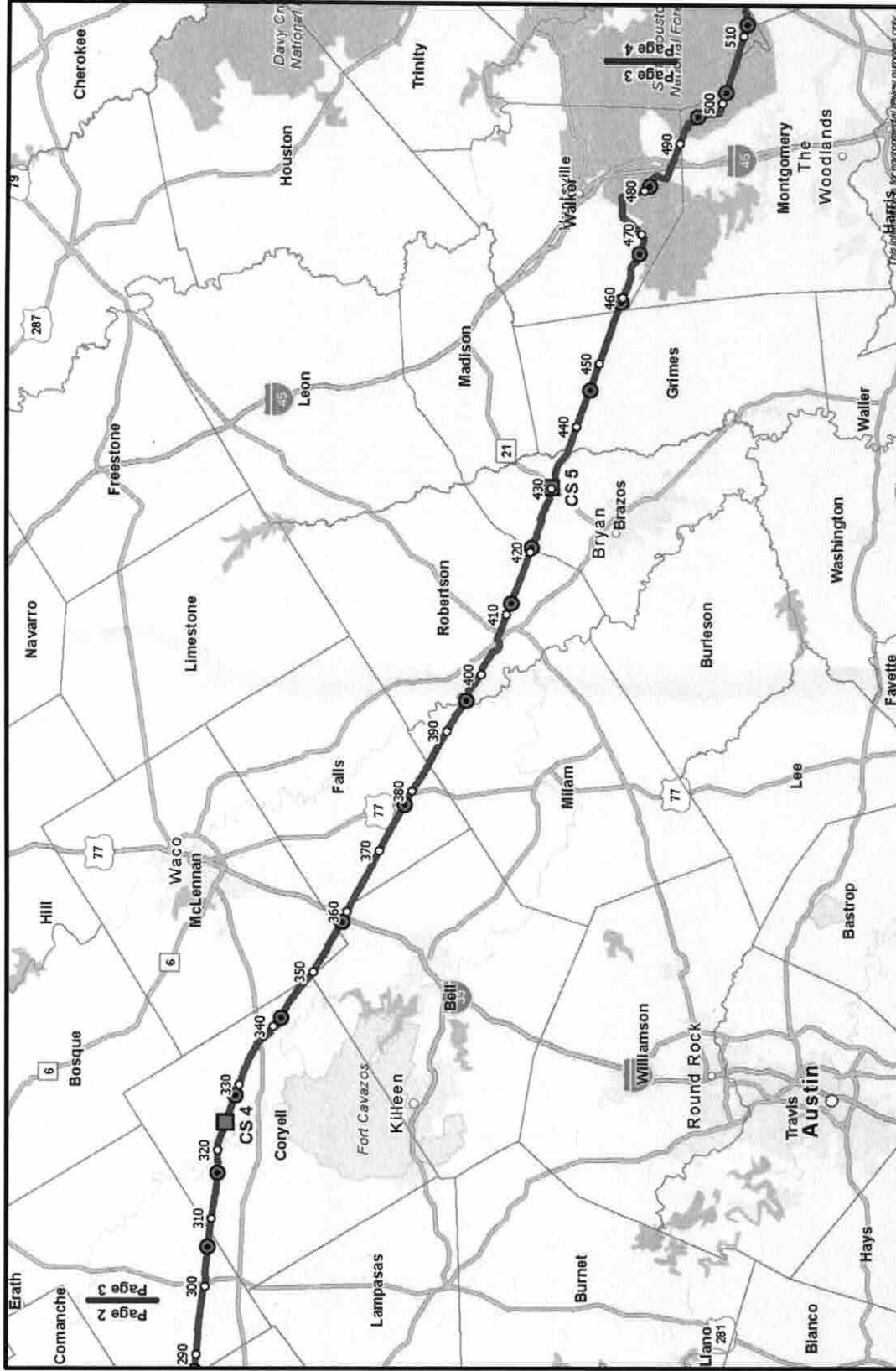
Proper conduct will help the sessions maintain a respectful atmosphere for attendees to learn about the FERC Environmental Review Process and to be able to provide comments effectively.

- Loudspeakers, lighting, oversized visual aids, or other visual or audible disturbances are not permitted.
- Disruptive video and photographic equipment may not be used.
- Conversations should be kept to a reasonable volume. Attendees should be respectful of those providing oral comments to the court reporters.
- Recorded interviews are not permitted within the session space.
- FERC reserves the right to end the session if disruptions interfere with the opportunity for individuals to provide oral comments or if there is a safety or security risk.









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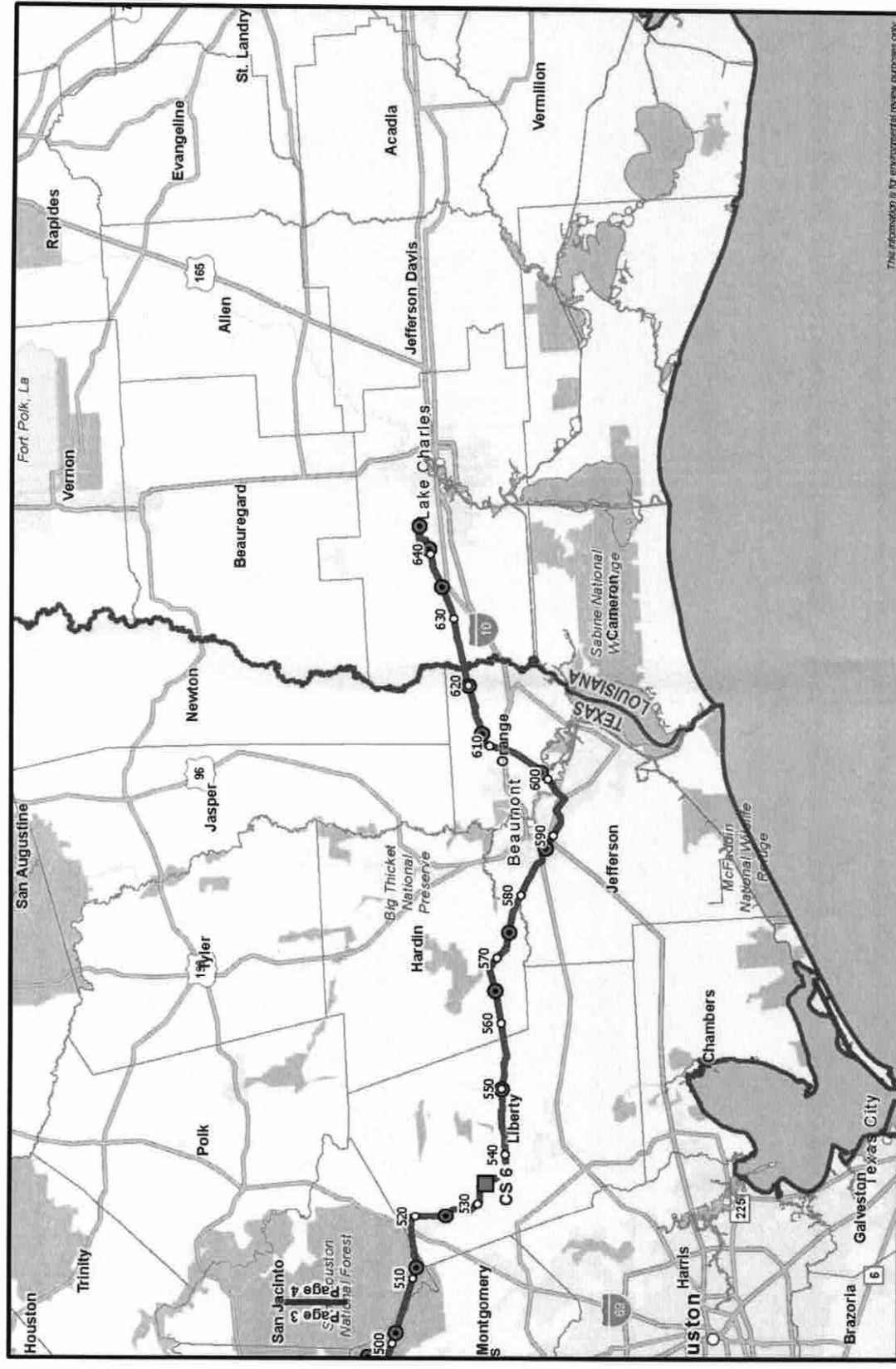
ERM
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Regional Project Overview
DeLa Express Project
DeLa Express LLC
Texas and Louisiana

DeLa Express

1:1,250,000
0 10 20 Miles

MPLS: M:\US\Projects\W-0\W0002\Lake_Partner\DeLa_Express\ArcGIS\ResourceReports\RR10\RR10_20240717\FR10_20240717\FR10_20240503.aprx\DeLa_Overview_Regional_Letter | REVISED: 08/08/2024 | SCALE: 1:1,250,000



The information is for environmental review purposes only.

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Regional Project Overview
DeLa Express Project
 DeLa Express LLC
 Texas and Louisiana

ERM
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DeLa Express

○ Milepost (10)
■ Proposed Compressor Station
● Proposed Valve Site
— Proposed Mainline

— Match Line
□ County Boundary
▭ State Boundary

1:1,250,000

0 10 20 Miles

MPLS M:\USProjects\IM-OM\MissLake_Partners\DeLaExpress_ArcGIS\Resources\Reports\FR10\FR10_20240717\FR10_20240503.aprx\DeLa_Overview_Regional_Letter | REVISED: 08/08/2024 | SCALE: 1:1,250,000

MAILING LIST UPDATE FORM
DeLa Express Project

Name _____

Agency _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

Please update the mailing list

Please remove my name from the mailing list