

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

August 26, 2024

Subject: Seeking Public Comments on the Planned DeLa Express Project

Dear Community Leader:

We are contacting you because the planned DeLa Express Project may impact your community and we want to hear from you. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) staff recently opened a public comment period and announced the dates, locations, and times for in-person public commenting opportunities (also referred to as scoping sessions). These scoping sessions are opportunities for you and your neighbors to share your thoughts and concerns about this project. Please note that this project has not been approved or authorized. At this time, FERC staff is seeking public input to assist in its environmental review of the project. A courtesy copy of FERC's scoping notice is included with this letter.

### **The DeLa Express Project**

In filings to FERC, DeLa Express has described that the project is designed to transport natural gas from the Permian Basin in West Texas to markets in and around Lake Charles, Louisiana. DeLa Express plans to construct over 700 miles of interstate natural gas transmission pipeline and associated facilities, including six new compressor stations, across 27 Texas counties and one Louisiana parish.

### **Why You Are Receiving This Letter**

We have identified your organization as a leader and/or trusted resource in your community and it is our hope that you will help us increase awareness of this public participation opportunity. As a community leader, we believe your involvement in the review process is crucial to ensuring that your community's voices and concerns are heard. It is also important for FERC staff and decisions makers to be aware of how this project could affect your community. We encourage you to submit comments on how this project may affect you and ask that you share this information with your neighbors and invite other community members to participate in the review process.

### **Scoping**

"Scoping" is the process FERC uses to gather public input and comments about a proposed natural gas pipeline project. Federal law requires FERC to seek and consider public comments as part of its decision-making process. Scoping includes a public

Kurten, TX	September 16, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Kurten Community Center 13055 E State Hwy 21 Kurten, TX 77808
Lott, TX	September 17, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Westphalia Parish Hall 114 County Rd 3000 Lott, TX 76656
Gatesville, TX	September 18, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Windmill Hill Venue 1808 Bridge St Gatesville, TX 76528
Brownwood, TX	September 19, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Adams Street Community Ctr. 511 E Adams St Brownwood, TX 76801

### Support from FERC's Office of Public Participation

FERC's Office of Public Participation (OPP) will be on-hand at the scoping sessions to offer assistance and answer questions about the scoping process and how you can participate. OPP is committed to ensuring your voice is heard and that you are well informed about FERC review processes. To help you participate in the scoping process, we have enclosed several documents and materials addressing FERC, OPP, Scoping Sessions, and how to participate in the review process. We'll also be posting related information and project updates on X, formerly Twitter ([twitter.com/FERC\\_OPP](https://twitter.com/FERC_OPP)) and Facebook ([facebook.com/OPP.FERC](https://facebook.com/OPP.FERC)).

### How You Can Participate

- **Attend a Scoping Session:** Provide your comments in person to FERC staff about potential project effects.
- **Submit Comments:** Providing written comments on the record may improve analyses and serve to inform decision-makers.
- **Educate Yourself:** Learn more about the project by accessing [FERC's eLibrary](https://elibrary.ferc.gov) ([elibrary.ferc.gov](https://elibrary.ferc.gov)) and viewing FERC's administrative record (**FERC Docket No. PF24-4-000**).
- **Review Frequently Asked Questions:** Learn more about the [Pre-Filing Environmental Review Process](https://www.ferc.gov/about/what-ferc/frequently-asked-questions-faqs) (see: [www.ferc.gov/about/what-ferc/frequently-asked-questions-faqs](https://www.ferc.gov/about/what-ferc/frequently-asked-questions-faqs)).
- **Stay Informed:** Sign-up for FERC's eSubscription service. eSubscription notifies you via email about all future submittals and issuances.

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](http://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](http://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:

<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
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 <sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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

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at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto: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;
- socioeconomic;
- 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.<sup>5</sup> 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](mailto: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.**

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<sup>5</sup> 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:

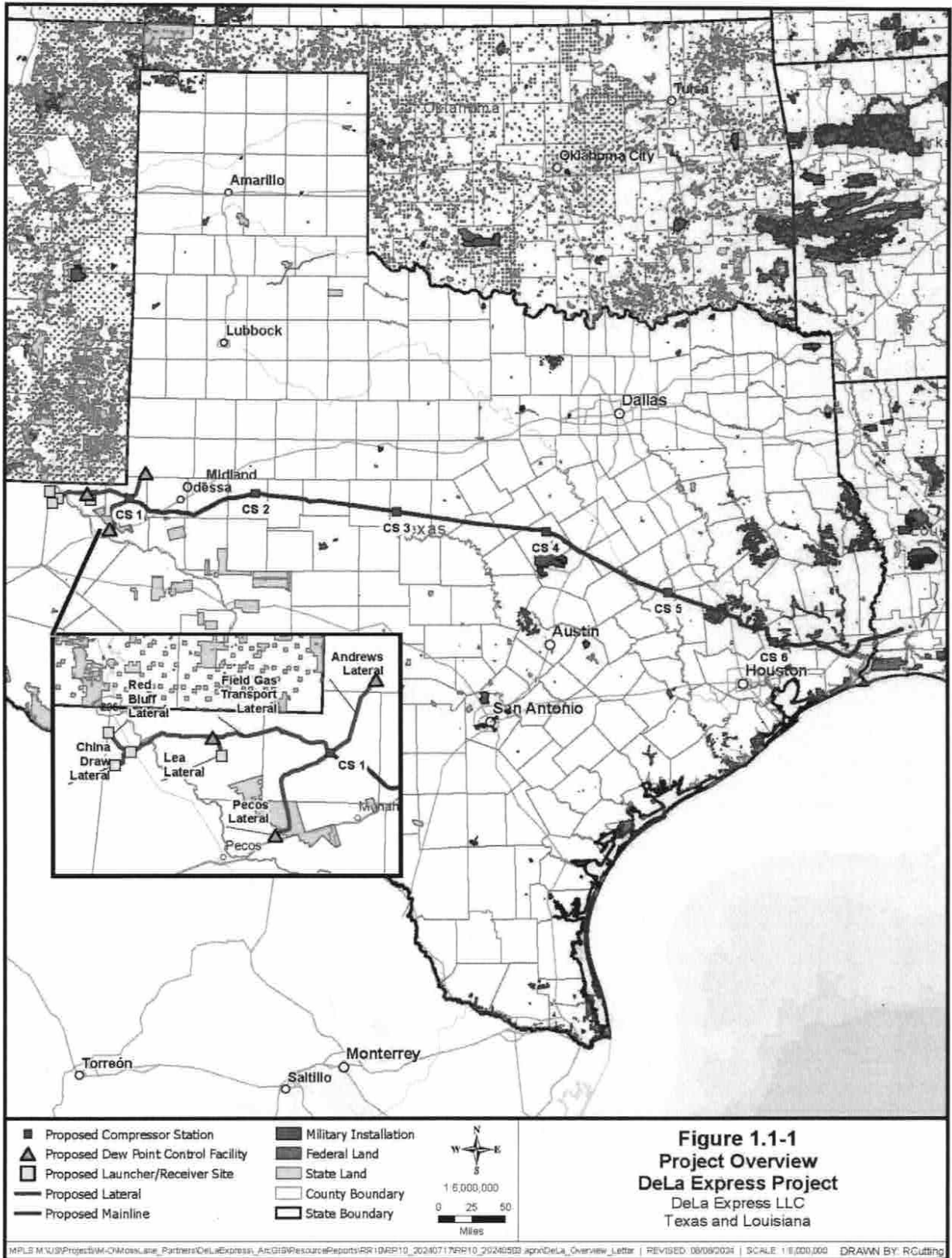
- Tickets are handed out on a “first come, first serve” basis starting at the time listed in the Notice.
- Individuals are called in ticket number order to provide oral comments to be transcribed by a court reporter for the public record.
- Time limits on oral comments may be enforced to ensure that 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.

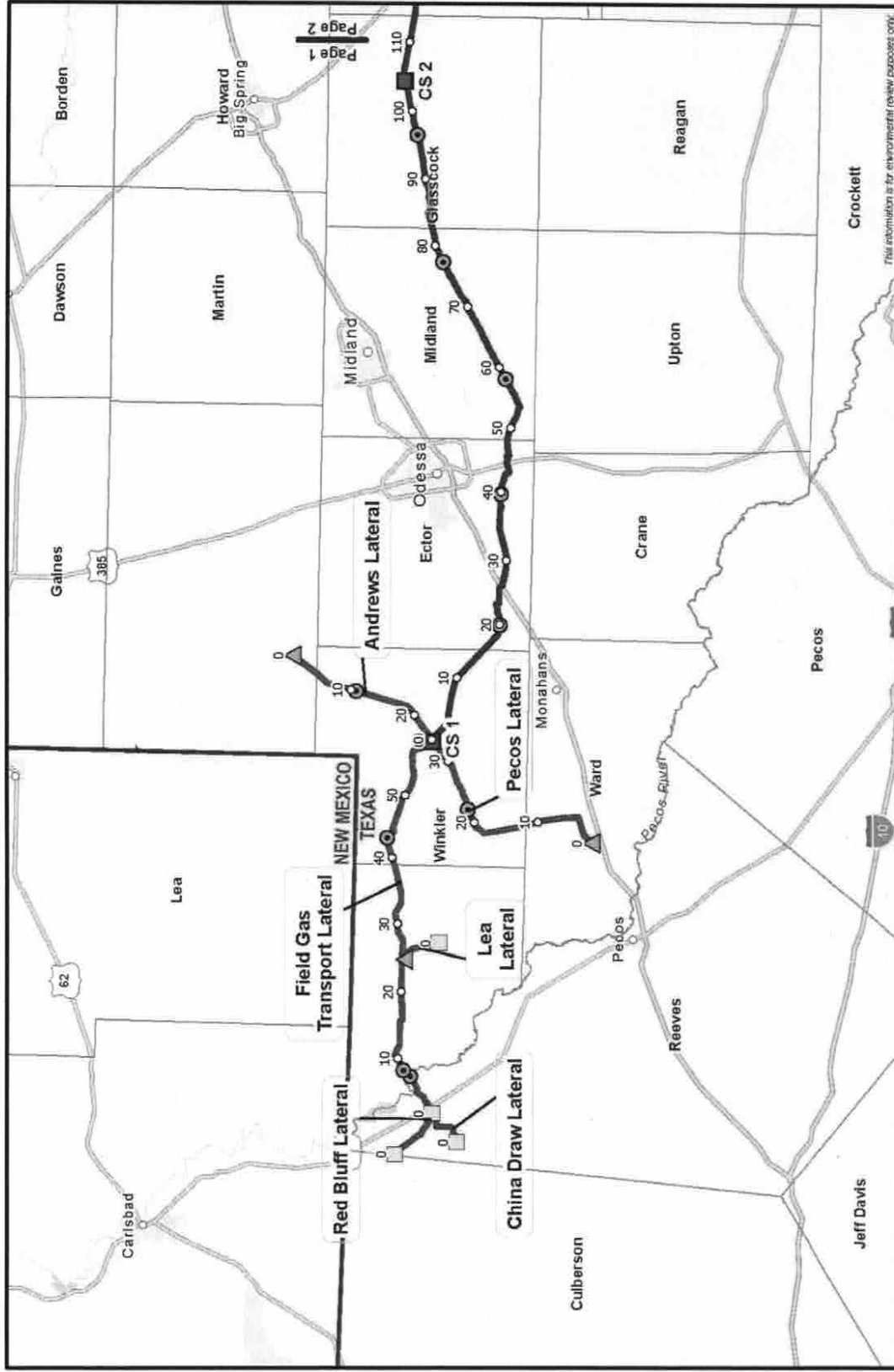
### **Session Conduct**

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.







This information is for environmental review purposes only.

Page 1 of 4

**Legend**

- Milepost (00)
- Proposed Compressor Station
- Proposed Dew Point Control Facility
- Proposed Lander/Receiver Site
- Proposed Valve Site
- Proposed Lateral
- Proposed Mainline
- Match Line
- County Boundary
- State Boundary

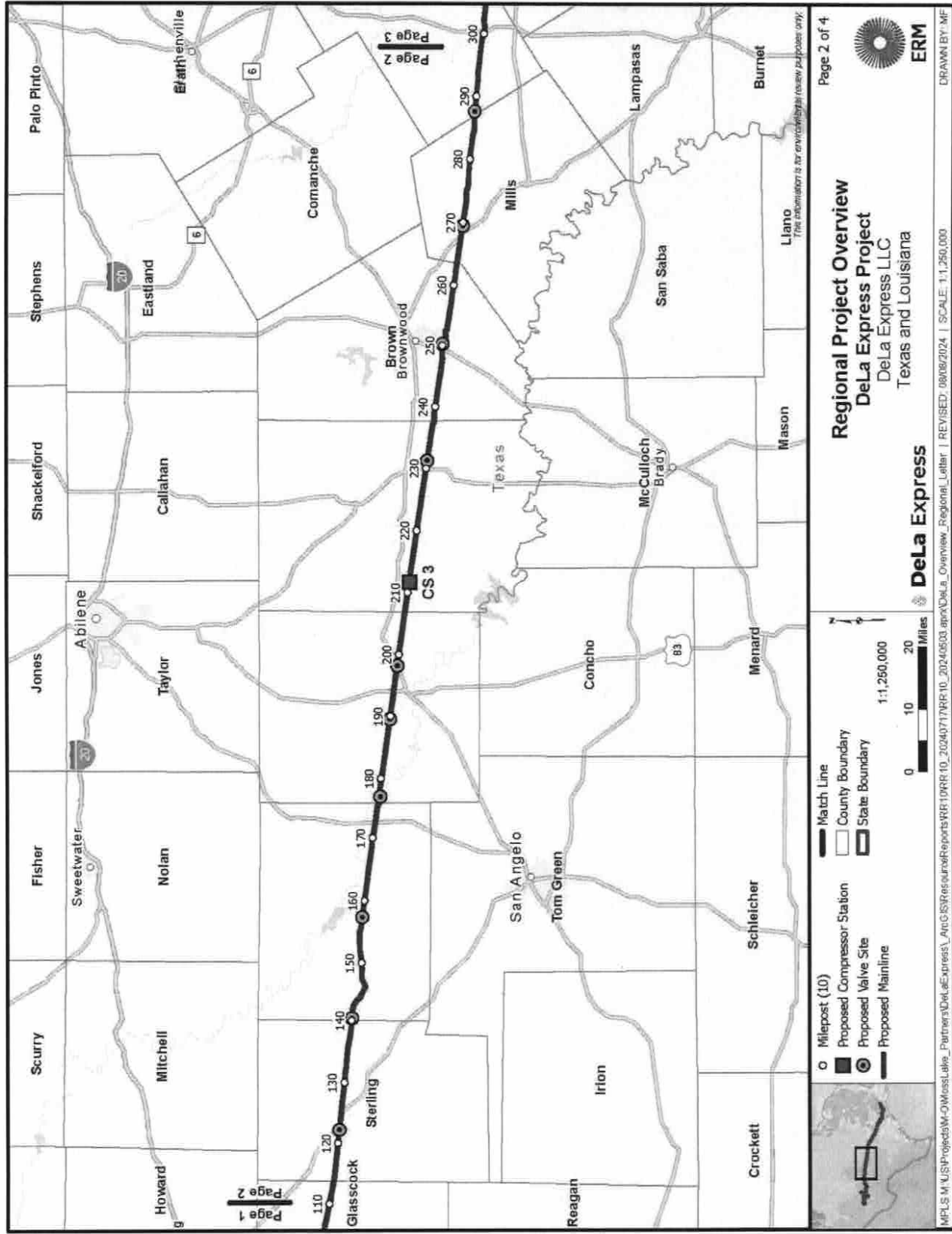
**Regional Project Overview**  
**DeLa Express Project**  
 DeLa Express LLC  
 Texas and Louisiana

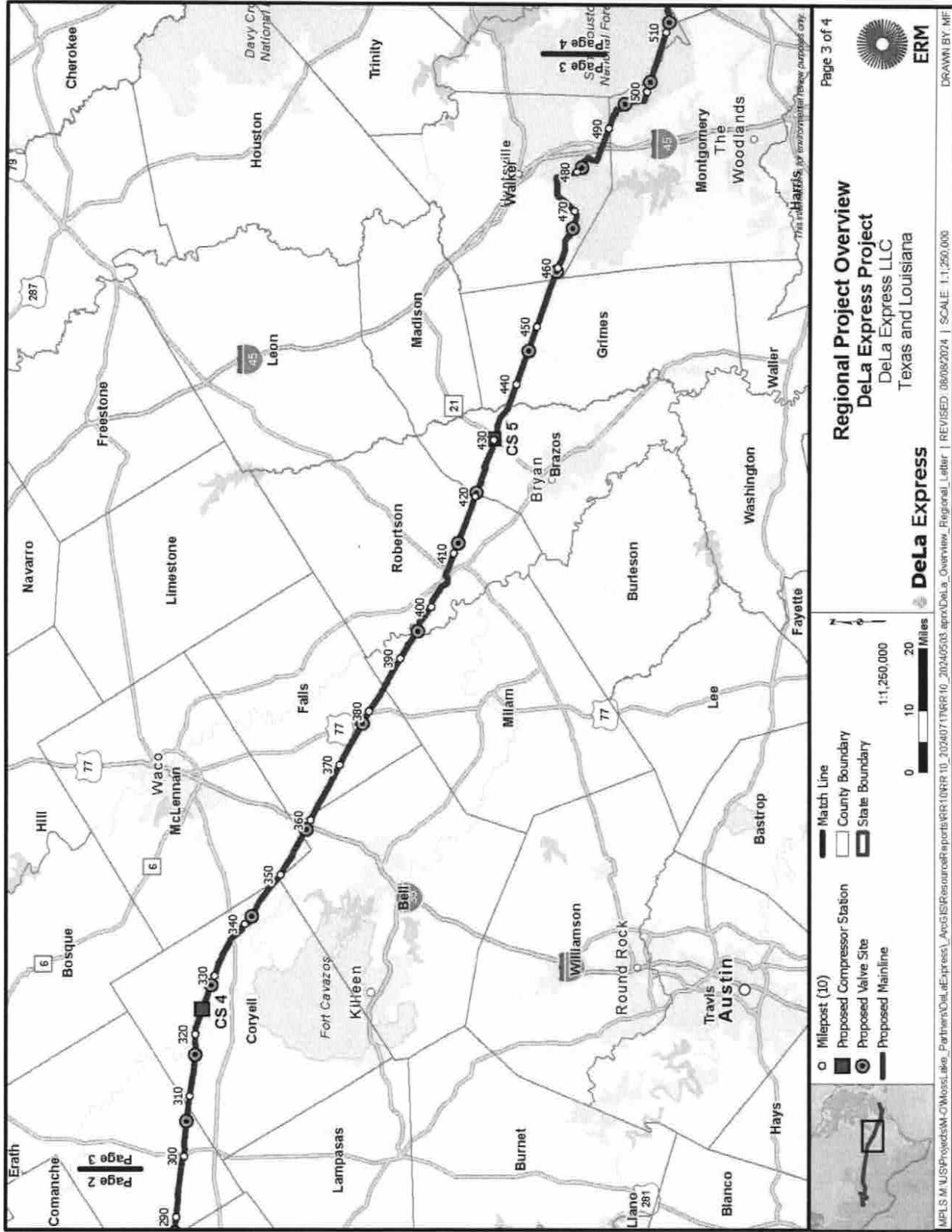
**ERM**

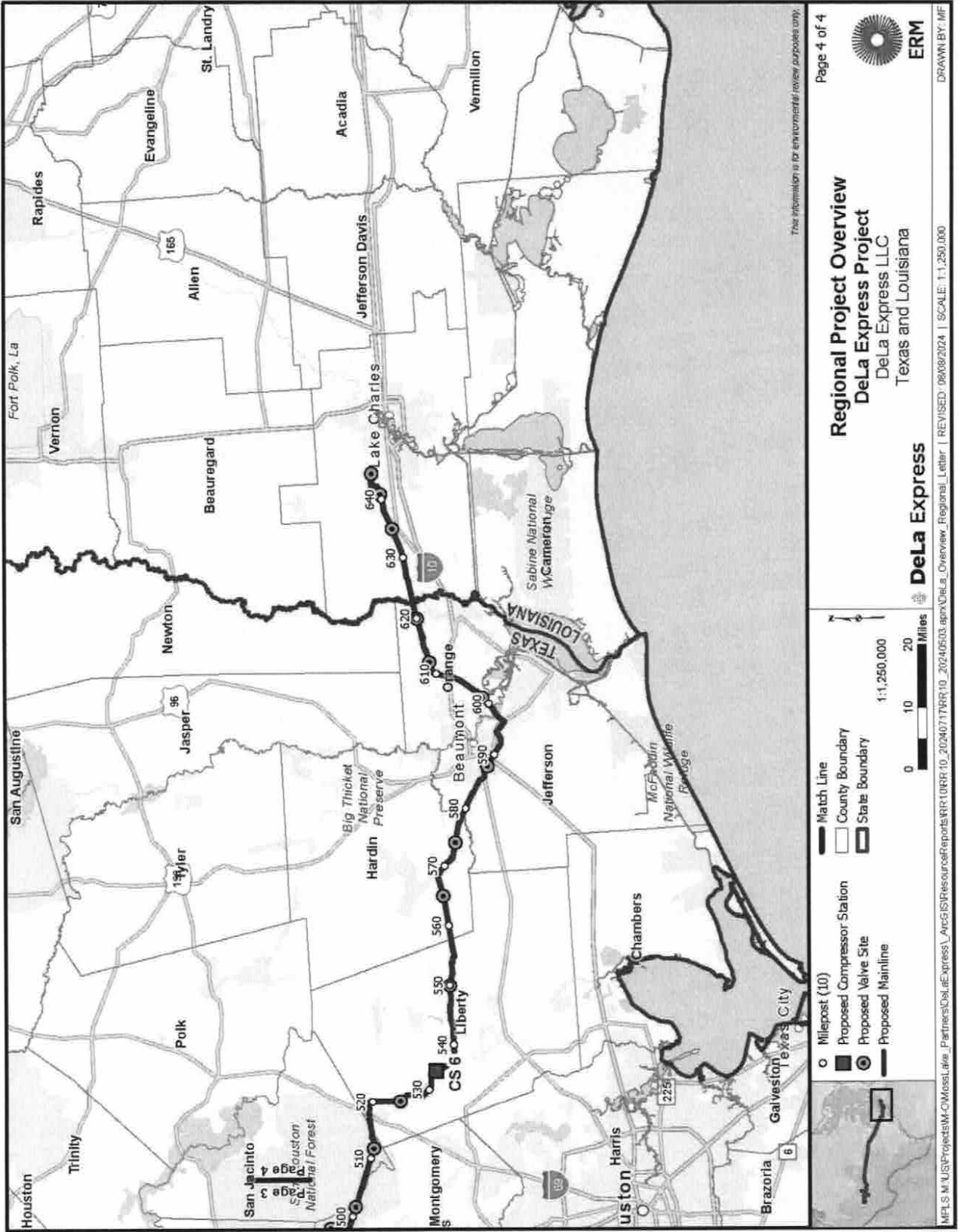
MFLS M:\US\Projects\NH-OW\MissLake\_Parthers\DeLaExpress\ArcGIS\Resources\Reports\RR10RR10\_20240717\RR10\_20240503.aprx\DeLa\_Overview\_Regional\_Letter | REVISED: 08/09/2024 | SCALE: 1:1,250,000

1:1,250,000

0 10 20 Miles







**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

## DeLa Express Pipeline Project – Scoping Session Schedule

DeLa Express is in FERC’s Pre-Filing Review Process (Docket No. PF24-4) and plans to construct over 750 miles of natural gas pipeline from West Texas to Lake Charles, LA



**Scoping Sessions** are an in-person opportunity to collect public comments about a proposed interstate natural gas project.

For more information visit: [www.ferc.gov/projects](http://www.ferc.gov/projects)

City	Date	Time	Location
Liberty, TX	September 9, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Harvest Event Center 9775 N Hwy 146, Liberty, TX77575
Vinton, LA	September 10, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Ward 7 Recreation Center 1615 Horridge St, Vinton, LA70668
Ballinger, TX	September 10, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Ballinger Community Center 200 Crosson Ave, Ballinger, TX 76821
Cleveland, TX	September 11, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Cleveland Civic Center 210 Peach Ave, Cleveland, TX77327
Sterling, TX	September 11, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Sterling County Senior Citizens Center 415 Stadium Ave, Sterling, TX76951
Huntsville, TX	September 12, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Huntsville Public Library 1219 13th Street, Huntsville, TX 77340
Odessa, TX	September 12, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Lawndale Community Center 9201 Rainbow Dr, Odessa, TX79765
Kurten, TX	September 16, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Kurten Community Center 13055 E State Hwy 21, Kurten, TX 77808
Lott, TX	September 17, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Westphalia Parish Hall 114 County Rd 3000, Lott, TX76656
Gatesville, TX	September 18, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Windmill Hill Venue 1808 Bridge St, Gatesville, TX76528
Brownwood, TX	September 19, 2024	4:30pm- 6:30pm	Adams Street Community Center 511 E Adams St, Brownwood, TX 76801



[www.FERC.gov/OPP](http://www.FERC.gov/OPP)  
Email: [opp@ferc.gov](mailto:opp@ferc.gov)  
Phone: 202-502-6595

Follow OPP on social media

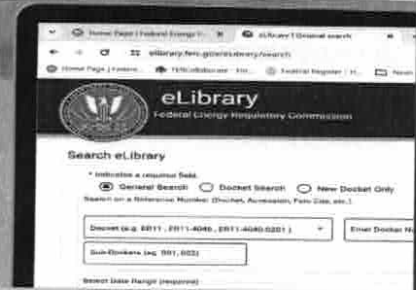




# OFFICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION






FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

## TOP 5 TIPS SEARCHING FERC'S eLIBRARY



eLibrary is FERC's official online library for all records received or issued by FERC. Everyone may search eLibrary using filters, including project or filing name, docket number, date range, and industry.

For more information on eLibrary, see the **WorkshOPP on FERC's eLibrary**: [www.ferc.gov/OPP/workshopp-fercs-elibrary](http://www.ferc.gov/OPP/workshopp-fercs-elibrary). Other WorkshOPPs are available on FERC's YouTube Channel: [www.youtube.com/@FERC](http://www.youtube.com/@FERC). All media inquiries should be directed to [MediaDL@ferc.gov](mailto:MediaDL@ferc.gov).

- 1  **For broad inquiries, use the Keyword and Date Range Search functions**
- 2  **Search by Docket Number with the Docket Search function**
- 3  **Bookmark: [elibrary.ferc.gov](http://elibrary.ferc.gov)**
- 4  **To stay informed, eSubscribe to a specific docket number at [www.ferc.gov/esubscription](http://www.ferc.gov/esubscription)**
- 5  **Contact FERC's Office of Public Participation if you have questions or need assistance**



[www.FERC.gov/OPP](http://www.FERC.gov/OPP)  
Email: [opp@ferc.gov](mailto:opp@ferc.gov)  
Phone: 202-502-6595

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@ferc







# Writing Effective Comments

Public comments are *critical* to FERC's decision-making process. Public comments can have specific to far-reaching impacts on individuals, communities, industries, and the environment. Through comments, the public provides Commission staff information that adds important context, detail or data that can inform outcomes.

## Why Submit Comments?

FERC must make decisions related to diverse and complex aspects of the energy industry. FERC's subject matter experts – that include scientists, engineers, economists, attorneys, and others – base their analysis on relevant law, science, and economic analysis. However, because staff members are not necessarily experiencing, first-hand, the issues that they are trying to address, they need public comments to better understand an issue, perspective, problem, or potential implications of a given FERC action.

Public comments add knowledge and insight to a proceeding. Members of the public may know the land, the resources, the industry, and the stakeholders intimately and this knowledge can greatly assist the Commission during its review. Public comments strengthen Commission decisions by providing FERC with essential facts, perspectives, and data. Comments can also express support and let FERC know when it is heading in the right direction for a given issue.



### Document Filed

A filing is submitted to FERC. FERC opens a public record called a "docket" and assigns the filing a unique identifier called a "docket number." For policy and rulemaking proceedings, the Commission is the one to initiate the proceeding.



### Public Input Considered

Staff read and consider all comments filed by the end of the comment period before finalizing their analysis and providing recommendations for the Commission to consider and vote on.



### FERC Adopts Decisions

Finally, FERC decides on the issues before it and explains its actions. A final document called an "Order" is issued.

## The Public Comment Process

### Public Comment Opportunity

The filing is publicly noticed in the Federal Register and through FERC's eLibrary system, beginning the comment period. The public notice provides the start and end dates of a comment period. The timelines can vary depending on the proceeding.

## How Does FERC Use Comments?

While the work of Commission staff is often not available to the public eye (and in some instances communications with staff may be limited by off-the-record communications rules), public comments have a significant role at FERC. The Commission may not have the resources to reply to every comment received, but every comment is recorded, read, and considered by a FERC staff member.

Further, comments often result in a number of actions and outcomes. Comments may:

- Impact a decision directly, or may spur a request to a party to provide additional information
- Result in consultation with other federal agencies
- Raise awareness at FERC of an emerging issue or concern that may impact future proceedings



## Top 5 Tips for Powerful Comments

- 1 **Organize Yourself**  
 Prepare by reviewing the filing and gathering any background materials. Identify comment period deadlines and file on time. Ensure comments reference the correct docket number.
- 2 **Get to Your Point**  
 State your objective and your motivation for commenting up front.
- 3 **Support Your Points**  
 Present a concise and thorough argument, and include factual information and data, if available. Offer justifications to support your comments.
- 4 **Be Specific About Impacts**  
 Provide specific examples of how you would be impacted negatively or positively. Include scientific data, charts, graphs, or maps that support these impacts. When recommending an alternative course of action, be specific about the alternative.
- 5 **Understand FERC's Role**  
 Knowing FERC's role in energy regulation will help you support your claims. As such, connect your comments to issues, factors, or impacts that are within FERC's authority. Stay within the "scope" of the proceeding and focus on issues that FERC regulates.

## Building the Administrative Record

As mentioned, a key goal of commenting is to help FERC "collect evidence." Through the information and perspectives they provide, comments ultimately aid in building a "file" that contains detailed information on a particular case or proceeding – commonly referred to as an **administrative record**.

Along with filings made by others in the proceeding, FERC will post your comment in the administrative record. The administrative record supports informed decision-making and provides the required basis of evidence for FERC's decisions.

FERC assigns every case a unique **docket number** (e.g., AD21-9-000). This allows any member of the public to search for and view the most current administrative record for a proceeding, including your filed comment, by locating it online in **eLibrary**, FERC's online records system.

In short, comments can lead to a variety of new developments in energy regulation. The recommended course is to submit your comment on the record.

Less Effective	More Effective
<b>Identifying Violations in Law or Regulations</b>	
The old mill at the end of our street has a rich history and may contain artifacts.	As required by the National Historic Preservation Act, FERC must take steps to identify and protect historic properties. The old mill at the end of our street has a rich history and may contain artifacts. At minimum, a historical survey should assess the mill's historic values and identify mitigation measures.
<b>Using Examples</b>	
The company underestimates the economic benefits of waste minimization.	The company underestimates the economic benefits of waste minimization. As the attached article shows, similar companies have already recouped the costs from implementing waste reduction programs.
<b>Highlighting Specific Concerns</b>	
The utility's proposal is overly-simplistic and we disagree with it as the utility should have proposed something more targeted. Also, the utility was dismissive of evident facts on the ground in submitting this proposal.....	The method that the utility proposes to model power flows does not reflect the fact that the utility's system is highly interconnected with neighboring systems, which is not consistent with Commission regulations.

## How to File Comments

On FERC's website, you can find a step-by-step instruction guide that explains how the public can file comments in Commission proceedings that include natural gas pipeline, electric, and hydropower projects.

There, you can also find a recording of a workshop produced by the Office of Public Participation (OPP) on how to file comments in a FERC proceeding using FERC's **eFiling** and **eComment** online applications.



**Contact OPP**

 888 1st St. NW  
 Washington, DC 20001

 202-502-6595

 [OPP@ferc.gov](mailto:OPP@ferc.gov)

 [ferc.gov/OPP](http://ferc.gov/OPP)





## OFFICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

# Natural Gas Scoping Sessions Public Participation and What to Expect

When a company seeks approval to construct and operate an interstate natural gas pipeline or liquefied natural gas (LNG) project, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) must conduct an environmental review of the proposed project's effects. Scoping Sessions are an in-person opportunity to collect public comments about a **proposed interstate natural gas project**. Public comments help FERC staff:

- better understand community concerns
- define the scope of the environmental analysis for the proposed project
- consider relevant factors in the environmental analysis
- make recommendations about how an applicant could avoid, mitigate, or minimize impacts on the environment from a proposed project

FERC is the host and organizer of the Scoping Sessions and strongly encourages the public to attend. During a Session, you can ask questions about the proposed project and environmental review process. Most importantly, you can provide comments about how the proposed project may affect you, your land, or your community. All comments received at Scoping Sessions are entered into FERC's administrative record called eLibrary, reviewed by FERC staff, and considered during the environmental review process.

## SCOPING SESSION FORMAT

When you attend a FERC Scoping Session, you will be greeted at a welcome table by FERC staff. At that time, staff should provide an overview of the session, direct you to a poster or handout of session rules and procedures, inquire if you are interested in project-specific mailings to stay updated on project developments, and ask if you are interested in providing comments. FERC's Office of Public Participation (OPP) staff may also attend and have their own table at the Scoping Session. Like the other members of FERC staff, OPP can provide you information and direction, with a focus on participation opportunities.

Please note that the Scoping Session will not include a formal presentation with an audience like you may see at a town hall meeting. Instead, information tables are around the room and FERC staff are available to address any of your questions about the FERC review process or the proposed project. Depending on attendance at the meeting, you may need to wait to provide comments because Scoping Sessions can sometimes be crowded.

## WHO MAY BE PRESENT AT SCOPING SESSIONS?

**FERC staff** are there to answer questions about scoping and the FERC environmental review process.

**Company representatives** may be present. They only provide basic information about their proposed project and do not advocate for or promote the benefits of their project.

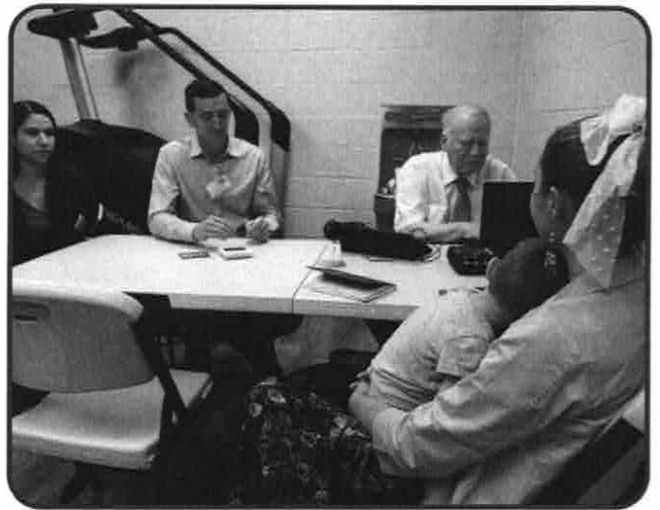
**A local police officer or private security** may be present to ensure everyone's safety.

**Individuals or groups advocating for or against a project** may be present. They are not a formal part of the Scoping Session, and their positions are not endorsed by FERC or its staff.

**Landowners, community members, and other individuals** may wish to provide comments on the proposed project and scope of the environmental review.

## PROVIDING VERBAL COMMENTS

Commenting at a Scoping Session is done individually and on a first-come, first-served basis. When it is your turn to provide a verbal comment, you will be escorted by FERC staff to a room or area that is separate from the welcome area. This layout ensures privacy. First, you will be asked to provide your name and any group affiliation. Depending on the number of individuals wanting to comment, a time limit may be implemented. If a time limit is given, you will be informed and provided notice when your time is about to expire. Upon request, accommodations can be made for spouses, parents, caregivers, or support providers to accompany the commenter.



Then, a representative of FERC and a court reporter will listen to your comments. The court reporter will record and transcribe all comments. You will not be able to hear other people's comments and other people won't hear yours. Once the transcripts are finalized, FERC will post the publicly available transcripts to FERC's eLibrary of all comments received.

## PROVIDING WRITTEN COMMENTS

At some Scoping Sessions, FERC may provide a comment form for written comments at the welcome table. FERC staff treat both verbal and written comments the same way. Please choose the format that works best for you. If a form is provided, you may take it home, write your comments, and mail the form to FERC at your convenience. Comment forms or pre-prepared written comments **cannot** be accepted at Scoping Sessions. They must be submitted to FERC via U.S. Mail:



Secretary of the Commission  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE  
Washington, D.C. 20426

You may also file comments online through FERC's eFile/eComment portal called **FERC Online** at **ferconline.ferc.gov**. You will need to register with FERC Online, which will then allow you to file online comments and eSubscribe to stay updated on projects and proceedings. FERC also provides a step-by-step guide on using FERC Online at **www.ferc.gov/how-file-comment**

## FERC'S OFFICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In 2021, FERC established the Office of Public Participation (OPP) to empower, promote, and support public voices at FERC. Members of the public can contact OPP for assistance in navigating FERC proceedings and receiving information on when and how to comment, intervene, or file motions during proceedings. If you have any questions, please contact OPP via email at **opp@ferc.gov** or by phone at **202-502-6595**. For additional information about OPP and educational resources, you can also visit **www.ferc.gov/opp**. All media inquiries should be directed to **MediaDL@ferc.gov**.



[www.FERC.gov/OPP](http://www.FERC.gov/OPP)  
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