

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

In Reply Refer To:  
OEP/DG2E/Gas 3  
Downeast LNG, Inc.  
Docket No. PF06-13-000

January 25, 2006  
Robert C. Wyatt  
Downeast LNG, Inc.  
6431 Barnaby Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20015

**Re: Approval of Pre-Filing Request**

Dear Mr. Wyatt:

Thank you for your letter, dated January 5, 2006, requesting use of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC or Commission) pre-filing review process for Downeast LNG, Inc.'s (Downeast) proposed Downeast Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Receiving Terminal Project. We believe that beginning the Commission's review of this proposal prior to the receipt of your application will greatly improve our ability to identify issues early and address them in our environmental impact statement (EIS).

As stated in your letter, Downeast proposes to deliver up to 625 million cubic feet per day of natural gas to an interconnect with the Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline (M&NE) system. Accordingly, we encourage Downeast to work with M&NE during the Pre-Filing Process to identify any additional pipeline facilities that may be needed to transport the gas volumes on M&NE's system. Any such additional pipeline facilities necessary will be addressed in the EIS being prepared for Downeast's proposal. To the extent there are additional facilities associated with this project, they must be described in detail in draft Resource Reports supporting any application to the FERC.

Your letter stated your intention to file an application in September 2006. When Downeast files its application with the Commission, we will evaluate the progress made during the Pre-filing Process, based in part on our success in resolving the issues raised during scoping. Once we determine that your application is ready for processing, we will establish a schedule for completion of the draft and final EIS and for the issuance of all other Federal authorizations.

We have also reviewed the proposals submitted for the selection of a third-party contractor to assist the Commission staff in preparing the NEPA documentation. We have selected Tetra Tech, EC as the third-party contractor to work under the direct supervision and control of the Commission staff. I request that you proceed with executing a contract with Tetra Tech, EC so work may begin as soon as possible.

Your project has been assigned Docket No. PF06-13-000. All future "pre-filing" correspondence and submissions by Downeast to the Commission for this project should reference this docket number. If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Dunn at (202) 502-8853.

Sincerely,

J. Mark Robinson  
Director  
Office of Energy Projects

cc: Public File, Docket No. PF06-13-000

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