

South Carolina Electric & Gas Company – Request for “Like Facility” Determinations Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-33-110(1)

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COVER SHEET

DOCKET

NUMBER: 2014 - ____ - E

(Please type or print)

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DOCKETING INFORMATION (Check all that apply)

- Emergency Relief demanded in petition
Request for item to be placed on Commission's Agenda expeditiously
Other:

Table with 2 columns: INDUSTRY (Check one) and NATURE OF ACTION (Check all that apply). Includes categories like Electric, Gas, Water, and various legal actions such as Affidavit, Agreement, Answer, etc.



Matthew W. Gissendanner
Assistant General Counsel

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June 6, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk/Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE: South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Request for "Like Facility" Determinations Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-33-110(1)

Dear Ms. Boyd:

I am writing to request that you advise the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") of South Carolina Electric & Gas Company's ("SCE&G" or "Company") intention to replace portions of its two existing Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kilovolt ("kV") transmission lines ("Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 (115) kV Lines No. 1 and No. 2") with "like facilities."

I. Existing Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 (115) kV Line No. 1 and No. 2.

The existing Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 (115) kV Lines No. 1 and No. 2, which currently reside on separate H-frame structures, are used by SCE&G to transmit electricity generated at Williams Station on Bushy Park in Berkeley County to the Company's Mt. Pleasant Substation in Charleston County. From there, the electricity is used to serve SCE&G's customers in areas east of the Cooper River. A depiction of the existing Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 (115) kV Lines No. 1 and No. 2 is set forth in Exhibit B.

Both lines were constructed as 230 kV transmission lines, but both lines are currently operated at 115 kV. SCE&G constructed the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 1 in 1970. SCE&G constructed the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 2 in 1978 after receiving a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Convenience and Necessity from the Commission. See Commission Order No. 78-271, dated May 8, 1978. For the reasons set forth below, it is necessary to replace the H-frame structures along an 8.2-mile long segment of the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 1 with a single pole, double circuit configuration and to relocate approximately 800 feet of the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Lines No. 1 and No. 2 with two single pole, single circuit structures. Attached to this letter is a map identified as Exhibit A, which depicts the location of the replaced and relocated line segments.

II. Necessity for replacement and relocation of the existing transmission lines.

For the approximately 8.2-mile segment of the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 1 on the route shown in green on Exhibit A, SCE&G plans to replace existing H-frame structures with a single pole, double circuit structure within the existing right-of-way to accommodate both the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 1 and a future 115 kV line. The replacement of this segment of the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 1 will not result in any significant increase in environmental impact of the facility or substantially change the location of the facility. Attached to this letter is a diagram, identified as Exhibit B, which depicts the existing structure and arrangement along with the respective replacement line structure for this segment of the existing Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 1.

Both Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 1 and Line No. 2 will be reterminated at the new 230/115 kV substation near Cainhoy ("Cainhoy Substation"), the boundary of which will be located approximately 400 feet from the boundary of the existing corridor. The Cainhoy Substation is shaded in dark gray on Exhibit A. Reterminating the lines makes it necessary to relocate a short segment of right-of-way (shown in yellow on Exhibit A) that will serve to connect the existing right-of-way to the SCE&G property on which the Cainhoy Substation will be built.¹ For the approximately 800-foot segments of the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Lines No. 1 and No. 2 and future 115 kV line that will be built within the relocated right-of-way segment, SCE&G will build three lines running parallel with each other by utilizing three single pole, single circuit structures so as to accommodate both the relocated 230 kV lines and the future 115 kV line. Exhibit C, attached, depicts the configuration of the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Lines No. 1 and No. 2 and new 115 kV line within the relocated right-of-way segment.

Once relocated into the new right-of-way segment and connected to the Cainhoy Substation, the lines will be renamed as the Williams-Cainhoy 230 kV Line (formerly Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 2), the Williams-Cainhoy 115 kV Line No. 1 (the new 115 kV line), and Williams-Cainhoy 115 kV Line No. 2 (formerly Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Line No. 1).² The the H-frame structures on the existing right-of-way segment shown in blue on Exhibit A will be removed when the lines are built in the relocated right-of-way segment and connected to the Cainhoy Substation. The relocated portions of the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Lines No. 1 and No. 2 and the construction of the Cainhoy Substation will not result in any significant increase in environmental impact of the facilities or substantially change the location of the facilities. SCE&G will operate the remaining segments of the existing lines extending from the Cainhoy Substation in a southerly direction to the Mt. Pleasant Substation (the relocated portions of the remaining segments are shown in red on Exhibit A) at 115 kV.

¹ SCE&G plans to relocate the equipment within the existing Cainhoy 115/23 kV Distribution Substation from its present location near the segment to be abandoned (shown in blue on Exhibit A) to the new Cainhoy 230/115 kV Substation.

² SCE&G's current transmission line naming rules require that the operating voltage be a part of the name. This line will be constructed as a 230 kV line but will initially be operated at 115 kV. At such time as SCE&G determines that the second line should be operated at 230 kV, the names of the lines will be changed to the Williams-Cainhoy 230 kV Lines No. 1 and No. 2.

The construction of the future 115 kV line and the Cainhoy Substation is necessary to allow SCE&G to continue to provide an acceptable level of support to existing facilities in the Mt. Pleasant area; due to load growth in the Charleston area, SCE&G currently forecasts that the existing facilities in the Mt. Pleasant area will have inadequate capacity to provide an acceptable level of support in the area as early as the winter of 2015. The new 115 kV line and the new substation will ensure that SCE&G remains in compliance with applicable North American Electric Reliability Corporation standards and SCE&G's own internal transmission planning criteria, continues to provide the level of electric service that its customers enjoy and expect, and enhances system reliability. Conversely, if the new 115 kV line and new substation are not constructed, the Company will not be in compliance with NERC standards and its own internal transmission planning criteria.

III. Request for Relief.

The replacement and relocated portions of the Williams-Mt. Pleasant 230 kV Lines No. 1 and No. 2 are "like facilities" for the two existing named lines. Therefore, SCE&G believes that the relocated and replacement lines do not require certification pursuant to the Utility Facility Siting Act and Environmental Protection Act. Consequently, the Company respectfully requests that the Commission make a determination, as authorized by S.C. Code Ann. § 58-33-110(1) (1976), that the replacement and relocated lines constitute "the replacement of an existing facility with a like facility" and therefore does not constitute "construction of a major utility facility" for which certification would be required under the Utility Facility Siting Act and Environmental Protection Act.

By copy of this letter, we are advising counsel for the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff of SCE&G's request.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

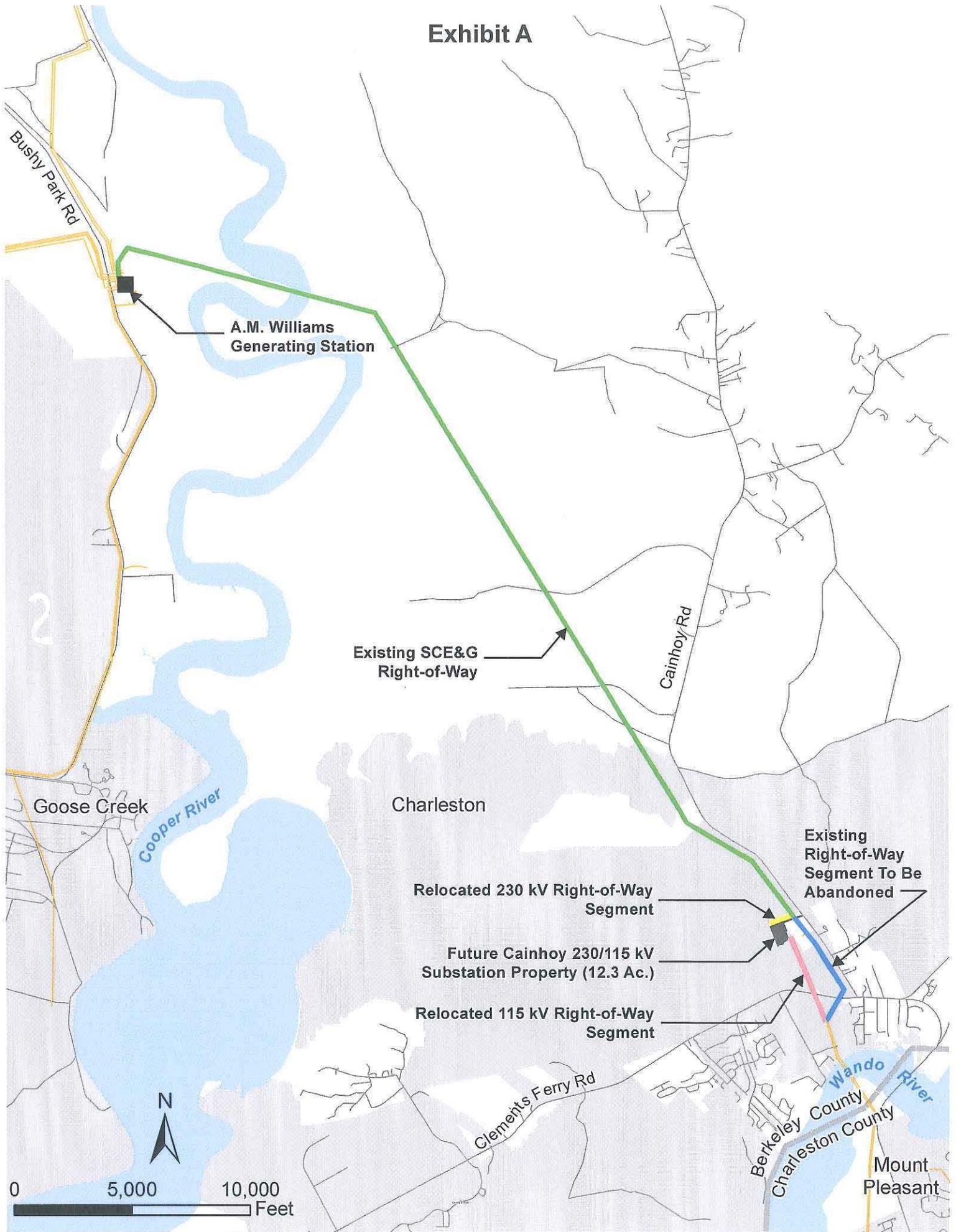


Matthew W. Gissendanner

MWG/kms
Enclosure

cc: Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esquire
John Flitter
(both via electronic mail and U.S. First Class Mail)

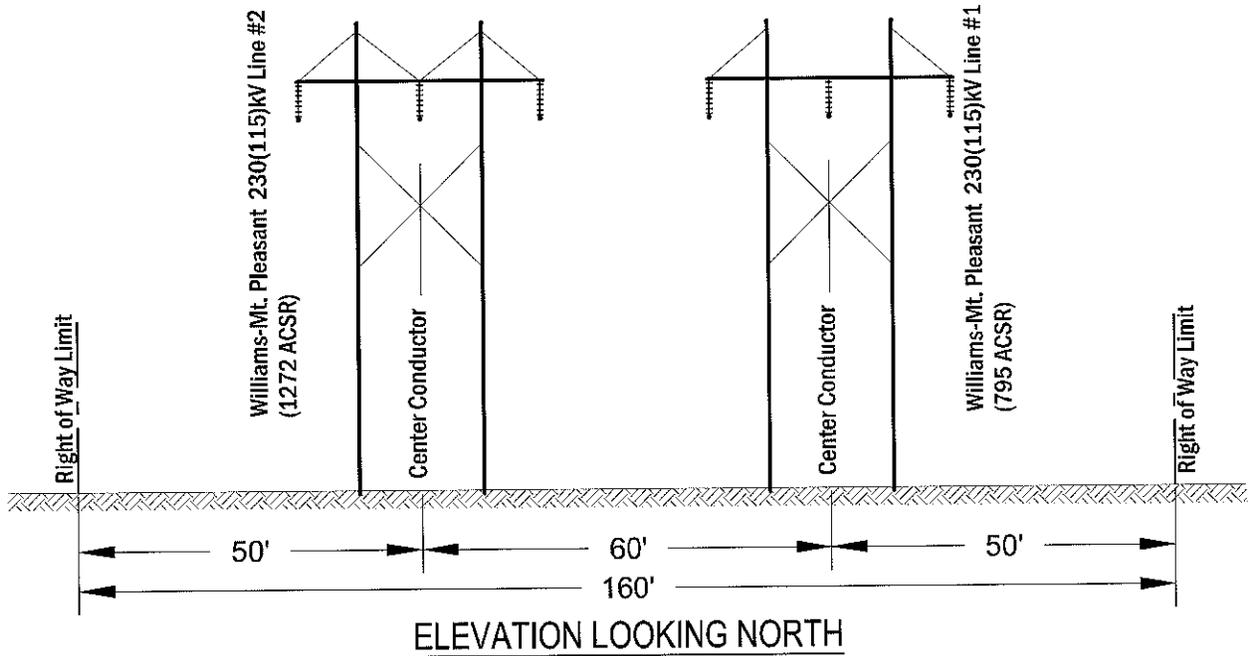
Exhibit A



Note: Gray shading indicates areas within municipal boundaries.

EXHIBIT B

EXISTING



FUTURE

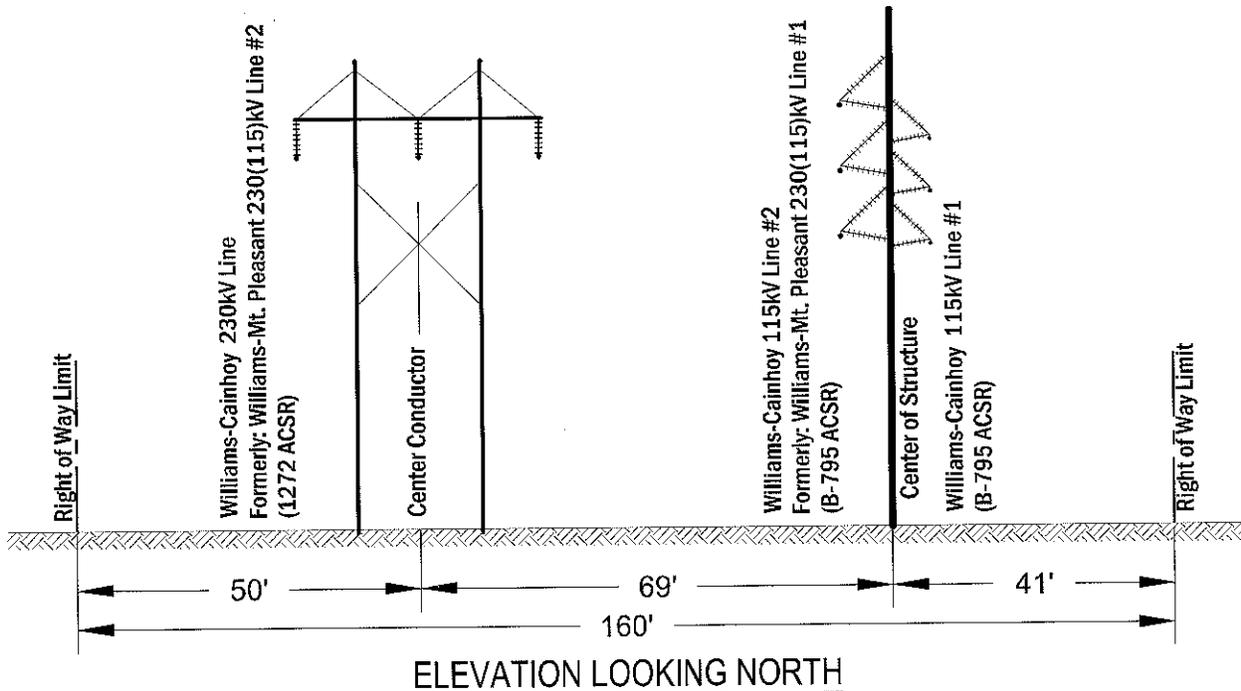


EXHIBIT C

FUTURE

