



# RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

## HEARINGS DIVISION

**OIL & GAS DOCKET NO. 05-0278041**

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**THE APPLICATION OF TREND GATHERING & TREATING, LLC TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE A HYDROGEN SULFIDE GAS PIPELINE, 8" KENNEDY ROAD TO HUNTER #7 WELL SITE, SOUR BEAR GRASS FIELD, LEON COUNTY, TEXAS**

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**APPLICATION REVIEWED BY:** Andres J. Trevino, P.E.

**DATE APPLICATION FILED:** August 28, 2012

**DATE REVIEWED:** October 10, 2012

### **EXAMINER'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION** **STATEMENT OF THE CASE**

This is the unprotested application of Trend Gathering & Treating LP for Commission authority to construct and operate a hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) gas pipeline in Leon County, pursuant to Statewide Rules 106, 70 and 36.

The Commission's Field Operations section has reviewed the application and has determined that the application complies with the applicable provisions of Rule 36. In addition, the Commission's Safety Division and Gas Services Division have reviewed the application. The examiner recommends approval of the application.

### **DISCUSSION OF THE EVIDENCE**

Trend Gathering & Treating LP proposes construction of a gas gathering pipeline to transport produced gas from acreage XTO Energy Inc. is developing to the Kennedy Road delivery system in the Sour Bear Grass Field. The line will be 8 inches in diameter and approximately 2.97 miles long. The line will carry a maximum 70 MMCFD of gas containing 2,000 parts per million (ppm) of H<sub>2</sub>S. The maximum operating pressure will be 1,200 psig. The normal operating pressure will be 850-900 psi.

The 100 ppm ROE is 2,220 feet and the 500 ppm ROE is 1,014 feet. The 500 ppm ROE and 100 ppm ROE includes portions of four public roads. The public roads include: FM 39, County Roads 336, 338, and Gas Well Rd. There are no public structures within the 100 & 500 ppm ROE. The line will originate approximately 0.78 miles east southeast of FM 39 and terminate at County Road 336. The submitted contingency plan for the gathering line complies with the provisions of Rule 36(c)(9).

All materials will satisfy the requirements described in the latest editions of NACE Standard MR-0175-2003. The gathering line is constructed of API-5L X-42 grade steel pipe. 100% of the welds will be X-rayed. The line will be equipped with cathodic protection to prevent external corrosion. The line will be chemically treated as needed for internal corrosion and monitored with corrosion coupons.

H<sub>2</sub>S warning signs compliant with Rule 36(c)(6)(A) and (c)(6)(B) will be posted at all public road crossings as well as intervals along the pipeline frequent enough as to provide warning to avoid accidental rupture of the line by excavation. The signs will indicate poison gas, company name and emergency phone numbers.

The proposed line will comply with Statewide Rule 36(c)(8). Trend Gathering & Treating will use safety controls and automatic devices. This will also trigger closure of the block valves. Trend Gathering is an indirectly wholly owned subsidiary of XTO Energy. The line will be equipped with high pressure relief valves set at 1,200 psi and located at the compressor station and piped to an emergency flare. The pipeline will be continuously monitored for any pressure fluctuations by Gas Control Service at their office. Any fluctuations in pressure will result in an automatic callout to Trend Gathering & Treating personnel.

Trend Gathering & Treating LP published notice of the application in a newspaper of general circulation in Leon County. The notice was published in *The Buffalo Press* on August 28, 2012. The application was filed with the Leon County Clerk on August 27, 2012.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. On August 28, 2012, Trend Gathering & Treating LP filed an application for a permit to construct a hydrogen sulfide gas gathering pipeline in Leon County.
2. Trend Gathering & Treating LP published notice of the application in a newspaper of general circulation in Leon County. The notice was published in *The Buffalo Press* on August 28, 2012. The application was filed with the Leon County Clerk on August 27, 2012.
3. Trend Gathering & Treating LP proposes construction of a gas gathering pipeline to transport produced gas from XTO acreage to the Kennedy Road delivery system in the Sour Bear Grass Field.
  - a. The line will be 8 inches in diameter and approximately 2.97 miles long.
  - b. The line will carry a maximum 70 MMCFD of gas containing approximately 2,000 parts per million (ppm) of H<sub>2</sub>S.
  - c. The maximum operating pressure will be 1,200 psig.

- d. The 100 ppm ROE is 2,220 feet and the 500 ppm ROE is 1,014 feet.
  - e. The public roads within the 100 & 500 ppm ROE include: FM 39, County Roads 336, 338, and Gas Well Rd.
  - f. The proposed pipeline will be in a rural area, there are no public structures along the route within the 100 & 500 ppm ROE.
- 4. Pipeline materials and construction meet the NACE standards as required by Statewide Rule 36 for hydrogen sulfide service.
  - 5. The submitted contingency plan for the line is in accordance and complies with the provisions of Rule 36(c)(9).
  - 6. The pipeline will be constructed subject to Commission inspections for compliance with the appropriate Commission Rules pursuant to Statewide Rule 36(c)(6)(7)(8) and (13).
  - 7. The Commission's Field Operations Section recommends approval. The Commission's Pipeline Safety Division and Gas Services Division have reviewed the application.

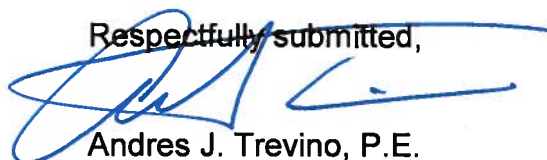
**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Proper notice was timely given to all parties entitled to notice pursuant to applicable statutes and rules.
- 2. All things have occurred and have been accomplished to give the Commission jurisdiction in this case.
- 3. The application complies with Statewide Rules 36, 70 and 106.
- 4. Approving the application for a permit to construct and operate the proposed gas pipeline is consistent with the rules and safety standards adopted by the Commission.

**EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION**

The examiner recommends that the application of Trend Gathering & Treating LP for Commission authority pursuant to Statewide Rules 106, 70 and 36, to construct and operate the proposed hydrogen sulfide gas pipeline in Leon County, be approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Andres J. Trevino, P.E.  
Technical Examiner