



Outreach for FERC-Jurisdictional Natural Gas Facilities

June 12, 2019

Washington, DC

This presentation does not necessarily reflect the views of the Commission or any Commissioner.



FERC: The Agency

- Independent federal regulatory agency
- FERC implements a statute passed by Congress - the Natural Gas Act
- Regulates natural gas in interstate commerce
- Also regulates hydropower, electricity, oil pipelines (rates/terms and conditions of service)





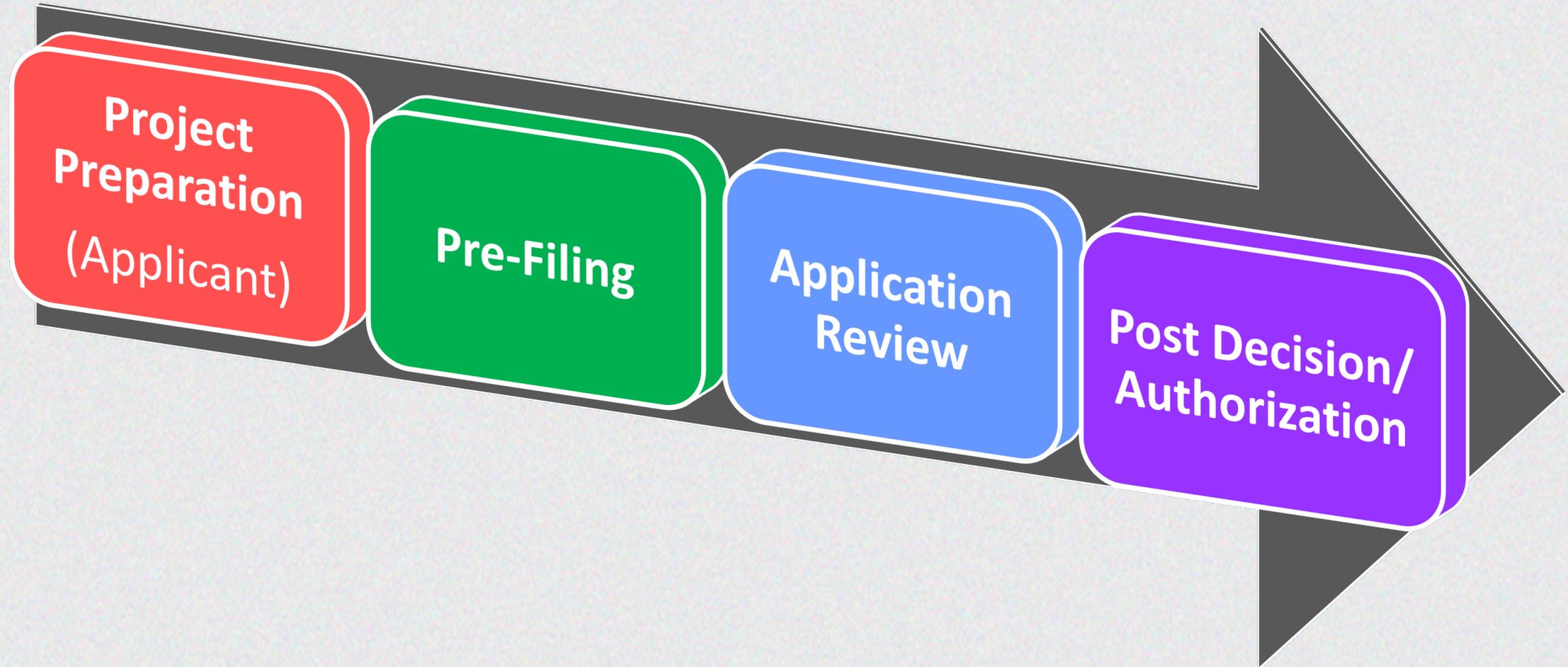
FERC's Natural Gas Program

- Conduct environmental review
- Authorize siting, construction, and operation of natural gas facilities
- Abandonment of pipelines & facilities
- Conduct compliance inspections
- Outreach to stakeholders
 - FERC and project sponsors





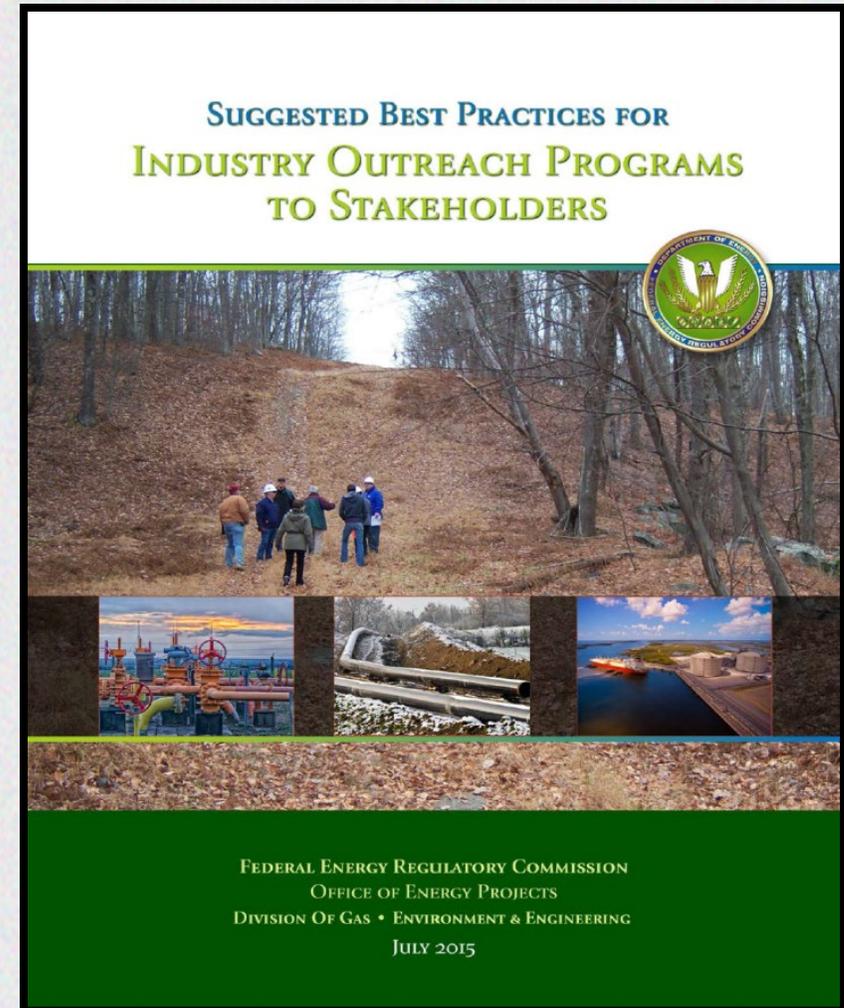
Phases of Project Review





Why Create Best Practices?

- Highlight importance of outreach
- Increasing public interest/involvement
- Industry requests for guidance
- Improve the review process
- Project sponsor vs. agency engagement



FERC's Project-Specific Outreach

Pre-filing (engagement front-loaded)

- Notice of Intent
- Attendance at Open Houses*
- Scoping Sessions*
- Site visits*
- Interagency and other meetings*

Application

- Public notifications (Notice of Application/Schedule)
- Landowner notification requirements (18 CFR § 157.6)
- Environmental documents/comment sessions (* - process only)

Post-Decision/Certificate

- Landowner Helpline
- Compliance inspections

* denotes engagement opportunities



Broader FERC Outreach Efforts

- E-Learning modules

<https://www.ferc.gov/industries/gas/e-learning.asp>

- Agency training
- Conferences/workshops
- Environmental Review and Compliance Seminars



Challenges with Outreach

- Staff/time/budget
- Regulatory constraints (e.g., ex parte/statutes)
- Effective engagement
- Meeting stakeholder expectations



Practices that Work

- Listening
- Responsiveness
- Transparency/honesty
- Engaging in difficult conversations
- Mutual respect
- Properly trained land agents (project sponsor)

