

(Granite State) tendered for filing a report of the disposition of refunds received from the Gas Research Institute (GRI) for overcollections of the GRI surcharge pursuant to the Commission's Order issued February 22, 1995. See Gas Research Institute, 70 FERC ¶ 61,205 (1995).

According to Granite State, it received a total refund of \$196,247.00 from GRI, which Granite State allocated between its firm transportation customers, Bay State Gas Company (Bay State) and Northern Utilities, Inc. (Northern Utilities) and their proportionate shares were wire transferred to these customers on July 22, 1996. Granite State further states that Bay State and Northern Utilities are its only firm transportation customers.

According to Granite State, its filing has been served on Bay State and Northern Utilities and the regulatory agencies of the States of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 214 or 211 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All such motions to intervene or protests should be filed on or before August 1, 1996. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and area available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-19383 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. TM96-15-29-000]

### **Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff**

July 25, 1996.

Take notice that on July 22, 1996 Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation (Transco) tendered for filing certain revised tariff sheets to its FERC Gas Tariff, Third Revised Volume No. 1 which tariff sheets are enumerated in Appendix A attached to the filing.

Transco states that the purpose of the instant filing is to track rate changes attributable to (a) transportation and storage service purchased from National

Fuel Gas Supply Corporation (National Fuel) under its Rate Schedule X-42 and SS-1 the costs of which are included in the rates and charges payable under Transco's Rate Schedule LSS, (b) transportation and storage service purchased from National Fuel under its Rate Schedule X-54 and SS-1 the costs of which are included in the rates and charges payable under Transco's Rate Schedule SS-2, (c) transportation services purchased from National Fuel under its Rate Schedule X-58 the costs of which are included in the rates and charges payable under Transco's Niagara Import Point Project—System Expansion (NIPPs-SE), and (d) transportation service purchased from Texas Gas Transmission Corporation (Texas Gas) under its rate schedule FT the costs of which are included in the rates and charges payable under Transco's Rate Schedule FT-NT.

Transco states that the tracking filing is being made pursuant to Section 4 of Transco's Rate Schedule LSS, Section 4 of Transco's Rate Schedule SS-2, Section 8.01(i) of Transco's NIPPs-SE Rate Schedule X-315, and Section 4 of Transco's Rate Schedule FT-NT.

Transco states that included in Appendix B, C, and D attached to the filing are explanations of the rate changes and details regarding the computation of the revised Rate Schedule LSS, SS-2, NIPPs-SE, and FT-NT rates.

Transco states that copies of the filing are being mailed to each of its LSS, SS-2, NIPPs-SE, and FT-NT customers and interested State Commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed as provided in Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Conference Room.

Lois D. Cashell,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-19384 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

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### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-5545-7]

#### **Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Beach Closing Survey**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) this notice announces that the following information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Beach Closing Survey, OMB Control No. 2090-0003, expiration date 8/31/96. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before August 30, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sandy Farmer at EPA, (202) 260-2740, and refer to EPA ICR No. 0994.06.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Beach Closing Survey Report on the Great Lakes:

(OMB Control No. 2090-0003; EPA ICR No. 0994.06) expiring 8/31/96. This is an extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* U.S. EPA Region V Administrator requested a beach closing survey to determine the quality of the water of the Great Lakes as it affected public recreational bathing beach usage. Respondents are county or city public health agencies which maintain beach closing information. Beach closing summary information is used by the International Joint Commission and approximately 100 county or city public health agencies responsible for monitoring beach water quality. Public inquiries are answered based on this report. Responses are voluntary with almost 100 percent return of questionnaire. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR Part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15. The Federal Register Notice required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on March 21, 1996. (Volume 61, Number 56, pages 11635-11636, FRL-5443-6).

**Burden Statement:** The annual public reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one-half hour per response. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal Agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

**Respondents/Affected Entities:** 105.

**Frequency of Response:** One per year.

**Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden:** 52.5 hours.

**Estimated Total Annualized Cost Burden:** \$0.

Send Comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the following addresses. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 0994.06 and OMB Control No. 2090-0003 in any correspondence.

Ms. Sandy Farmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OPPE, Regulatory Information Division (2137), 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460 and

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503

Dated: July 25, 1996.

Joseph Retzer,

Director, Regulatory Information Division.

[FR Doc. 96-19431 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

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[OPPTS-00190; FRL-5380-1]

#### Notice of Availability of Contractor Reports, Request for Public Comment

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that EPA is making available reports

generated by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources describing the utility of information directed to EPA through the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), including confidential business information (CBI), to state environmental protection and public health efforts. EPA is also requesting public comment on the reports and the overall issue of state access to TSCA data, including CBI information.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by September 30, 1996. The reports are available as of July 31, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit three copies of all written comments to: TSCA Document Receipts (7407), Rm. NE-G99, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, Attention: Docket No. 00190, Telephone 202-260-7099.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to: [ncic@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:ncic@epamail.epa.gov). Electronic comments must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Comments and data will also be accepted on disks in WordPerfect in 5.1 file format or ASCII file format. All comments and data in electronic form must be identified by the docket number "OPPTS-00190." No CBI should be submitted through e-mail. Electronic comments on this proposed rule may be filed online at many Federal Depository Libraries. Additional information on electronic submissions can be found in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION unit of this document.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan B. Hazen, Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. E-545, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460, (202) 554-1404, TDD: (202) 554-0551, e-mail: [TSCA-Hotline@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:TSCA-Hotline@epamail.epa.gov). Additional general information may be secured from Scott M. Sherlock at (202) 260-1536; e-mail: [sherlock.scott@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:sherlock.scott@epamail.epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Toxic Substances Control Act was enacted in 1976 to facilitate the development of data on the effect of chemical substances and mixtures on health and the environment and to regulate those substances and mixtures which present

an unreasonable risk of injury to health and the environment.

Since 1977, EPA has collected through its TSCA authority a vast amount of information on chemicals in commerce. This information includes specific chemical health and safety studies, environmental exposure information, and company and manufacturing facility-specific data. This information is used throughout the Federal government for a wide variety of activities associated with protecting the public health and the environment.

Section 14 TSCA provides that certain information which is considered proprietary and confidential may be claimed as CBI. TSCA requires that EPA strictly limit access to CBI information, except under very limited circumstances, to the Federal government and its contractors who are performing work for the Federal government. The Federal government is required to and committed to protecting that information claimed as confidential.

Since the early 1980's, it has been recognized by many persons from industry, labor, states, and the Federal government that state public health and environmental organizations might benefit from access to TSCA derived data. This has been recognized because state public health and environmental programs in many ways mirror Federal ones: states also do chemical risk assessments and management and prepare for and address chemical emergencies. Yet states access to TSCA CBI data for their own use is barred by statute, irrespective of the level of security the states might provide or the need and utility of the information. In the past, numerous letters have been generated, and statements have been made in Congressional and other public hearings supporting the need for states to gain access to this data. However, no actions have taken place which resulted in states being able to access TSCA data claimed as CBI to address state public health and environmental concerns.

In the early 1990's with the widespread recognition and appreciation of the critical role states have in protecting public health and the environment, the issue of state access to TSCA data again was raised. EPA determined it was of programmatic importance to determine how states might benefit from access to TSCA data, including CBI. The Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA) provided an important and supportive role in developing the strategy for exploring the issue. Subsequently in the fall of 1995, EPA, as permitted under TSCA section 14, entered into contracts