

Second Revised Sheet No. 33,  
Second Revised Sheet No. 34,  
Original Sheet No. 34A,  
First Revised Sheet No. 54,  
Second Revised Sheet No. 54A, and  
Fifth Revised Sheet No. 73

U-TOS asserts that the purpose of this filing is to comply with the Commission's October 12, 1993, letter order in the captioned proceeding, U-T Offshore System, 65 FERC ¶11,054 (1993) that approved U-TOS' line pack settlement. In addition, take notice that U-TOS also filed, also assertedly in compliance with such Commission letter order, Final Reports of line pack surcharge collections and payments which reflect the completion of the line pack cost recovery and disbursement process as of December 20, 1996.

U-TOS states that the purpose of these filings is to reflect the completion of the line pack recovery and disbursement process contemplated by its approved line pack settlement, and the removal of the line pack commodity surcharge provisions that were contained in Section 15 of the General Terms and Conditions and related provisions of U-TOS' tariff in light of such completed process.

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, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with 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 these filings are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Lois D. Cashell,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-1838 Filed 1-24-97; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. RP97-220-001]

**Williams Natural Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff**

January 21, 1997.

Take notice that on January 13, 1997, Williams Natural Gas Company (WNG), tendered for filing to become part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised

Volume No. 1, Substitute Third Revised Sheet Nos. 8C and 8D, with the proposed effective date of February 1, 1997.

WNG states that on December 31, 1996, it filed, pursuant to Article 14 of the General Terms and Conditions of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, its first quarter 1997 report of take-or-pay buyout, buydown and contract reformation costs and gas supply related transition costs, and the application or distribution of those costs and refunds.

WNG states that the instant filing is being made to revise Schedule 4 of the original filing to reflect revision of certain customers' January MDTQ's which were not finalized until after January 1, 1997. All other aspects of WNG's December 31 filing are unchanged.

WNG states that a copy of its filing was served on all participants listed on the service lists maintained by the Commission in the dockets referenced above and on all of WNG's jurisdictional customers and interested state commissions.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such 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 proceedings. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Lois D. Cashell,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-1836 Filed 1-24-97; 8:45 am]

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[Docket Nos. RP97-227-000 and TM97-2-49-001]

**Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff**

January 21, 1997.

Take notice that on January 14, 1997, Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company (Williston Basin), tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1 and Original Volume No. 2, the following revised tariff sheets to become effective January 1, 1997:

Second Revised Volume No. 1  
Twenty-second Revised Sheet No. 15  
Twenty-fifth Revised Sheet No. 16  
Twenty-second Revised Sheet No. 18  
Nineteenth Revised Sheet No. 21

Original Volume No. 2  
Sixty-sixth Revised Sheet No. 11B

Williston Basin states that it has determined that the take-or-pay amounts associated with Docket No. RP96-93-000 have been fully recovered as of December 31, 1996. As a result, the instant tariff sheets reflect the elimination of the throughput surcharge associated with Docket No. RP96-93-000, effective January 1, 1997. Williston Basin further states that it will file a final reconciliation of such throughput surcharge at the time of its next annual reconciliation, to be filed May 30, 1997, at which time all appropriate accounting will be finalized. At that time, Williston Basin will propose a mechanism for final disposition of any overcollections.

Williston Basin also states that on December 31, 1996, it filed its Semi-annual Fuel Reimbursement Adjustment filing in Docket No. TM97-2-49-000. The tariff sheets in that filing reflected an effective date of February 1, 1997. Therefore, Williston Basin filed the following revised tariff sheets to its December 31, 1996 filing in Docket No. TM97-2-49-000 to reflect the reduction in the take-or-pay surcharge reflected in the instant filing:

Second Revised Volume No. 1  
Sub Twenty-first Revised Sheet No. 15  
Sub Twenty-fourth Revised Sheet No. 16  
Sub Twenty-first Revised Sheet No. 18  
Sub Eighteenth Revised Sheet No. 21

Original Volume No. 2  
Sub Sixty-fifth Revised Sheet No. 11B

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 N.W., 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 in accordance with 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 Reference Room.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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[Docket No. CP97-156-000]

**Hopkinton LNG Corporation; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Hopkinton LNG Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

January 21, 1997.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the operation of facilities at the Hopkinton, Massachusetts LNG Plant. This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether an environmental impact statement is necessary and whether to approve the project.<sup>1</sup>

**Summary of the Proposed Project**

Hopkinton LNG Corporation (Hopkinton) is seeking approval to operate in interstate commerce an existing liquefied natural gas (LNG) peak-shaving facility located in Hopkinton, Massachusetts. The facility is owned by Hopkinton and operated and maintained by Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. (APCI). The LNG facility is currently operated to provide LNG storage, liquefaction, and vaporization services to Commonwealth Gas Company (Commonwealth), Hopkinton's affiliated local distribution company. Commonwealth no longer needs as much of Hopkinton's capacity to support its local distribution operations as it has in the past. Therefore, Hopkinton requests authorization to lease to COM/Energy Resources, Inc. (Resources), its affiliated marketing company, the capacity in the Hopkinton LNG facility that is not required by Hopkinton to serve Commonwealth on a firm basis. Resources would use the leased capacity to support its own natural gas marketing activities and would not provide any LNG storage, liquefaction, or vaporization services to third parties.

**Existing Facilities**

The Hopkinton LNG Plant was constructed in 1967 and consists of natural gas liquefaction, LNG storage, and LNG revaporization facilities. The plant was designed to supply Commonwealth's gas utility needs by liquefying and storing natural gas in the summer for revaporization during peak periods in the winter heating season. The Hopkinton LNG Plant has a design liquefaction rate of 17 million cubic feet per day (MMCFD) and a sendout capacity of 240 MMCFD. The LNG is stored in three 290,000-barrel LNG storage tanks.

The Hopkinton LNG Plant receives gas for liquefaction and storage through the facilities of Tennessee Gas Pipeline. Although not used to date, the plant is also able to receive gas through the facilities of Algonquin Gas Transmission. Additionally, the plant can receive LNG by tanker truck.

**Proposed Facilities**

Hopkinton does not propose any new facilities or any modifications to existing facilities. The Hopkinton LNG Plant would continue to be operated and maintained by APCI on behalf of Hopkinton.

The location of the Hopkinton LNG Plant is shown in appendix 1.<sup>2</sup>

**Land Requirements for Construction**

No additional land is required since Hopkinton does not propose any additions or modifications to the existing facility.

**The EA Process**

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires the Commission to take into account the environmental impacts that could result from an action whenever it considers the issuance of a certificate of public convenience and necessity. NEPA also requires us to discover and address concerns the public may have about proposals. We call this "scoping". The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the EA on the important environmental issues. By this Notice of Intent, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of the issues it will address in the EA. All comments received are considered during the preparation of the EA. State and local government representatives are encouraged to notify their constituents

<sup>2</sup> The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the Federal Register. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

of this proposed action and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

Because the LNG plant is an existing facility and no new additions or modifications are proposed, the EA will focus on the operation of the proposed project, the cryogenic design aspects of the plant, and public safety including LNG trucking.

Prior to finalizing the EA, the FERC staff will meet with representatives of Hopkinton (time and location to be noticed at a later date) to conduct a cryogenic design and engineering review of the LNG facility at Hopkinton, Massachusetts.

Our independent analysis of the issues will be in the EA. Depending on the comments received during the scoping process, the EA may be published and mailed to Federal, state, and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, affected landowners, newspapers, libraries, and the Commission's official service list for this proceeding. A comment period will be allotted for review if the EA is published. We will consider all comments on the EA before we recommend that the Commission approve or not approve the project.

**Public Participation**

You can make a difference by sending a letter addressing your specific comments or concerns about the project. You should focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal, and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Please follow the instructions below to ensure that your comments are received and properly recorded:

- Address your letter to: Lois Cashell, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Washington, DC 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP97-156-000;
- Send a copy of your letter to: Mr. James Dashukewich, EA Project Manager, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 71-44, Washington, DC 20426; and
- Mail your comments so that they are received in Washington, DC on or before February 14, 1997.

**Becoming an Intervenor**

In addition to involvement in the EA scoping process, you may want to become an official party to the proceeding or an "intervenor". Among other things, intervenors have the right to receive copies of case-related

<sup>1</sup> Hopkinton LNG Corporation's application was filed under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.