

or protests, as set forth above, is January 20, 1999.

Copies of the full text of the Order are available from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-34618 Filed 12-30-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP99-185-000]

CNG Transmission Corporation, Notice of Tariff Filing

December 24, 1998.

Take notice that on December 17, 1998, CNG Transmission Corporation (CNG), tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, the following tariff sheets, with an effective date of January 1, 1999:

Nineteenth Revised Sheet No. 31
Forty Third Revised Sheet No. 32
Forty Third Revised Sheet No. 33
Sixteenth Revised Sheet No. 34
Nineteenth Revised Sheet No. 35
Fifth Revised Sheet No. 37

CNG states that the purpose of this filing is to voluntarily reduce CNG's Rate Schedule FT, IT, MCS, GSS, and GSS II rates consistent with Appendix A of the August 31, 1998, Stipulation and Agreement (Stipulation) filed in Docket No. RP97-406 and approved by the Commission on November 24, 1998. Such voluntary reduction will serve the public interest by lowering costs to CNG's customers, which serves to lessen the collection of amounts that will ultimately be refunded under the terms of the above Stipulation.

CNG states that copies of its filing have been mailed to its customers and interested state commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a 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 proceedings. 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.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-34590 Filed 12-30-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-546-000]

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Availability of the Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation RIPX Project

December 23, 1998.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) on the natural gas pipeline facilities proposed by Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia) in the above-referenced docket. The application and other supplemental filings in this docket are available for viewing on the FERC Internet website (www.ferc.fed.us). Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS menu, and follow the instructions.

The EA was prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The staff concludes that approval of the proposed project, with appropriate mitigating measures, would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

The purpose of the proposed project is to abandon the Derricks Creek Storage Field in its entirety and offset any reductions in working gas capacity and deliverability by facility construction at the Ripley Storage Field. Columbia proposes to increase the certificated capacity at Ripley Storage Field by 0.8 billion cubic feet (Bcf). Columbia must also take immediate action at the Derricks Creek Storage Field to comply with a U.S. Department of Transportation Hazardous Facilities Order.

Specifically, the EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the abandonment of the Derricks Creek Storage Field in Kanawha County, West Virginia and the construction and operation of Columbia's proposed pipeline facilities and modifications at the Ripley Storage Field in Jackson County, West Virginia including:

- Abandonment in place of the Derricks Creek Storage Field in its entirety consisting of 13.1 miles of various diameter pipeline and 20 active storage wells;
- Construction of approximately 3.5 miles of various diameter storage pipeline, drilling six new storage wells, and improving the deliverability of nine existing wells at the Ripley Storage Field;
- Increase the capacity of the Ripley Storage Field by 0.8 Bcf of gas;
- Conversion of two observation wells to active injection/withdrawal wells and conversion of three very low performance wells to observation wells in the Ripley Storage Field;
- Abandonment by sale of up to 5.4 Bcf of base gas within the two storage fields; and
- Performing various well pipeline installations and replacements.

The EA has been placed in the public files of the FERC. A limited number of copies of the EA are available for distribution and public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-1371.

Copies of the EA have been mailed to Federal, state and local agencies, public interest groups, interested individuals, newspapers, and parties to this proceeding.

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. To ensure consideration prior to a Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that we receive your comments before the date specified below. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send two copies of your comments to: David P. Boergers, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Label one of those copies for the attention of the Environmental Review and Compliance Branch II, PR-11.2;
- Reference Docket No. CP98-546-000; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before January 28, 1999.

Comments will be considered by the Commission but will not serve to make

the commentor a party to the proceeding. Any person seeking to become a party to the proceeding must file a motion to intervene pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.214).

The date for filing timely motions to intervene in this proceeding has passed. Therefore, parties now seeking to file late interventions must show good cause, as required by section 385.214(b)(3), why this time limitation should be waived. Environmental issues have been viewed as good cause for late intervention. You do not need intervenor status to have your comments considered. Additional information about the proposed project is available from Mr. Paul McKee of the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088 or on the FERC website (www.ferc.fed.us) using the "RIMS" link to information in this docket number. For assistance with access to RIMS, the RIMS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2222. Access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission with regard to this docket, such as orders and notices, is also available on the FERC website using the "CIPS" link. For assistance with access to CIPS, the CIPS helpline can be reached at (202) 208-2474.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-34607 Filed 12-30-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER99-415-000]

Commonwealth Chesapeake Company, L.L.C.; Notice of Issuance of Order

December 23, 1998.

Commonwealth Chesapeake Company is a Virginia corporation created for the purpose of developing, building, owning and operating a 300 MW generating facility in Accomack County, Virginia. Commonwealth Chesapeake filed an application requesting that the Commission authorize it to engage in wholesale power sales at market-based rates, and for certain waivers and authorizations. In particular, Commonwealth Chesapeake requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR Part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liabilities by Commonwealth Chesapeake. On December 21, 1998, the Commission issued an Order Conditionally

Accepting For Filing Proposed Market-Based Rates (Order), in the above-docketed proceeding.

The Commission's December 21, 1998 Order granted the request for blanket approval under Part 34, subject to the conditions found in Ordering Paragraphs (F), (G), and (I):

(F) Within 30 days of the date of this order, any person desiring to be heard or to protest the Commission's blanket approval of issuances of securities or assumptions of liabilities by Commonwealth Chesapeake 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 Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214.

(G) Absent a request to be heard within the period set forth in Ordering Paragraph (F) above, Commonwealth Chesapeake is hereby authorized to issue securities and assume obligations and liabilities as guarantor, indorser, surety or otherwise in respect of any security of another person; provided that such issue or assumption is for some lawful object within the corporate purposes of Commonwealth Chesapeake, compatible with the public interest, and reasonably necessary or appropriate for such purposes.

(I) The Commission reserves the right to modify this order to require a further showing that neither public nor private interests will be adversely affected by continued Commission approval of Commonwealth Chesapeake's issuances of securities or assumptions of liabilities. . . .

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing motions to intervene or protests, as set forth above, is January 20, 1999.

Copies of the full text of the Order are available from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-114-000]

El Paso Natural Gas Company, Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

December 23, 1998.

Take notice that on December 14, 1998, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso), Post Office Box 1492, El Paso, Texas 79978, filed in Docket No. CP99-114-000 a request pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.212 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205 and 157.212) for authorization to construct, and operate a new delivery point in Pinal County, Arizona, to be known as the Kai Farms #5 Delivery Point, to permit the interruptible transportation and delivery of natural gas to Kai Farms Company (Kai Farms). El Paso makes such request under its blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-435-000 pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request on file with the Commission.

El Paso states that it provides interruptible transportation service to Kai Farms pursuant to the terms and conditions of a Transportation Service Agreement (TSA) dated August 18, 1988, as amended and restated April 1, 1991. It is indicated that the TSA provides for the interruptible transportation of natural gas from any point of interconnection on El Paso's interstate system to various points in Pima County, Arizona.

El Paso states that Kai Farms has informed El Paso that in addition to its operations in Pima County, that Kai Farms has a farming business in Pinal County, Arizona, and that Kai Farms has installed irrigation pumps requiring natural gas for operation. El Paso by its request is proposing to construct and operate a new delivery point on El Paso's existing 6-inch Hayden Line (Line No. 2023) in Pinal County to serve Kai Farms in Pinal County.

It is stated that the proposed quantity of natural gas to be transported on an interruptible basis to the Kai Farms #5 Delivery Point is estimated to be 219,000 Mcf annually, or an average of 600 Mcf per day. The estimated maximum peak day natural gas requirement is 840 Mcf by the fifth year.

El Paso avers that the construction of the proposed delivery point is not prohibited by El Paso's existing tariff, and that the total volumes to be delivered at the proposed delivery point will not exceed the total volumes