

3. Competency of Applicant's Personnel and Adequacy of Proposed Resources,

4. Reasonableness and Appropriateness of the Proposed Budget.

The evaluation will include program policy factors such as the relevance of the proposed research to the terms of the announcement and the agency's programmatic needs. Note, external peer reviewers are selected with regard to both their scientific expertise and the absence of conflict-of-interest issues. Non-federal reviewers may be used, and submission of an application constitutes agreement that this is acceptable to the investigator(s) and the submitting institution.

Information about the development and submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluation, selection process, and other policies and procedures may be found in 10 CFR Part 605, and in the Application Guide for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program. Electronic access to the Guide and required forms is made available via the World Wide Web at: <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>. DOE is under no obligation to pay for any costs associated with the preparation or submission of applications if an award is not made.

The research project description must be 15 pages or less, exclusive of attachments and must contain an abstract or summary of the proposed research. On the SC grant face page, form DOE F 4650.2, in block 15, also provide the PI's phone number, fax number and E-mail address.

Attachments include curriculum vitae, a listing of all current and pending federal support, and letters of intent when collaborations are part of the proposed research. Curriculum vitae should be submitted in a form similar to that of NIH or NSF (two to three pages), see for example: <http://www.nsf.gov:80/bfa/cpo/gpg/fkit.htm#forms-9>.

Although the required original and seven copies of the application must be submitted, researchers are asked to submit an electronic version of their abstract of the proposed research in ASCII format and their E-mail address to Karen Carlson by E-mail at karen.carlson@science.doe.gov.

Related Funding Opportunities: Investigators may wish to obtain information about the following related funding opportunities:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: Within the context of its Human Dimensions of Global Change Research Program, the Office of Global Programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will support research that identifies and

analyzes how social and economic systems are currently influenced by fluctuations in climate, and how human behavior can be (or why it may not be) affected based on information about variability in the climate system. The program is particularly interested in learning how advanced climate information on seasonal to yearly time scales, as well as an improved understanding of current coping mechanisms, could be used for reducing vulnerability and providing for more efficient adjustment to these variations. Notice of this program is included in the Program Announcement for NOAA's Climate and Global Change Program, which is published each spring in the **Federal Register**. The deadline for proposals to be considered in Fiscal Year 2001 is expected to be in late summer 2000. For further information, contact: Caitlin Simpson; Office of Global Programs; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; 1100 Wayne Ave., Suite 1225; Silver Spring, MD 20910; telephone: (301) 427-2089, ext. 152; Internet: simpson@ogp.noaa.gov.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for this program is 81.049, and the solicitation control number is ERFAP 10 CFR part 605.

Issued in Washington, DC on February 17, 2000.

John Rodney Clark,

Associate Director of Science for Resource Management.

[FR Doc. 00-4584 Filed 2-25-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Secretary of Energy Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces an open meeting of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board's, Laboratory Operations Board. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), requires that agencies publish these notices in the **Federal Register** to allow for public participation.

NAME: Secretary of Energy Advisory Board—Laboratory Operations Board.

DATES: Thursday, March 9, 2000, 8:30 a.m. 3 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: Westin Fairfax Hotel, Ballroom, 2100 Massachusetts Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Betsy Mullins, Executive Director, or Laurie Keaton, LOB Staff Director, Office of Secretary of Energy Advisory

Board (AB-1), US Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20585, (202) 586-7092 or (202) 586-6279 (fax).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Laboratory Operations Board is to provide independent external advice to the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board regarding the strategic direction of the Department's laboratories, the coordination of budget and policy issues affecting laboratory operations, and the reduction of unnecessary and counterproductive management burdens on the laboratories. The Laboratory Operations Board's goal is to facilitate the productive and cost-effective utilization of the Department's laboratory system and the application of best business practices.

Tentative Agenda

Thursday, March 9, 2000

8:30-8:45 a.m.—Opening Remarks

8:45-9:30 a.m.—Briefing & Discussion: Thirty-Day Review

9:30-10:30 a.m.—Briefing & Discussion: Budget Overview

10:30-10:45 a.m.—Break

10:45-11 a.m.—Briefing & Discussion: Technology Transfer Rule Making

11:00-12:00 p.m.—Briefing &

Discussion: Policy Issues Involving Tier 2 Laboratories

12-1 p.m.—Lunch

1-2 p.m.—Briefing & Discussion: National Nuclear Safety

Administration

2-2:45 p.m.—Briefing & Discussion: Performance Based Management

2:45-3 p.m.—Public Comment

3 p.m.—Adjourn

This tentative agenda is subject to change.

Public Participation: In keeping with procedures, members of the public are welcome to monitor the business of the Laboratory Operations Board and to submit written comments or comment during the scheduled public comment period. The meeting will be conducted in a fashion that will, in the Co-Chairs' judgment, facilitate the orderly conduct of business. During its open meeting, the Laboratory Operations Board welcomes public comment. Members of the public will be heard in the order in which they sign up at the beginning of the meeting. The Board will make every effort to hear the views of all interested parties. You may submit written comments to Betsy Mullins, Executive Director, Secretary of Energy Advisory Board, AB-1, US Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20585. This notice is being published less than 15 days before

the date of the meeting due to the late resolution of programmatic issues.

Minutes: A copy of the minutes and a transcript of the meeting will be made available for public review and copying approximately 30 days following the meeting at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190 Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday except Federal holidays. Further information on the Laboratory Operations Board is available at the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board's web site, located at <http://www.hr.doe.gov/seab>.

Issued at Washington, DC, on February 22, 2000.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-4585 Filed 2-25-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP00-88-000]

National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation; Notice of Application

February 22, 2000.

Take notice that on February 11, 2000, National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation (National Fuel), 10 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, New York 14203, filed an application in Docket No. CP00-88-000 pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's Regulations, for authority to abandon certain minor underground natural gas storage facilities, all as more fully set forth in application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

National Fuel proposes to abandon facilities in Collins Storage Field located in Erie County, New York. Specifically, National Fuel proposes to abandon Well 245-I and to abandon the associated well line R-W245, because the line will no longer serve a purpose once the well is plugged and abandoned. National Fuel states that the well is no longer useful due to poor deliverability and it needs to be reconditioned or plugged due to deterioration of the well casing. National Fuel emphasizes that there will be no abandonment or decrease in service to any of its customers as a result of the proposed abandonment.

National Fuel states that the estimated cost of the abandonment is \$55,000.

Any questions regarding this application should be directed to David W. Reitz, Assistant General Counsel for National Fuel, 10 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, New York 14203 at (716) 857-7949.

Any person obtaining to be heard or to make a protest with reference to said application should on or before March 14, 2000, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestant a party to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

A person obtaining intervenor status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by every one of the intervenors. An intervenor can file for rehearing of any Commission order and can petition for court review of any such order. However, an intervenor must submit copies of comments or any other filings it makes with the Commission to every other intervenor in the proceeding, as well as an original and 14 copies with the Commission.

A person does not have to intervene, however, in order to have environmental comments considered. A person, instead, may submit two copies of comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of environmental documents and will be able to participate in meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission and will not have the right to seek rehearing or appeal the Commission's final order to a federal court.

The Commission will consider all comments and concerns equally,

whether filed by commenters or those requesting intervenor status.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed abandonment are required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedures herein provide for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for National Fuel to appear or to be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-4587 Filed 2-25-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. EG00-94-000, et al.]

Northeast Generation Company, et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Regulation Filings

February 17, 2000.

Take notice that the following filings have been made with the Commission:

1. Northeast Generation Company

[Docket No. EG00-94-000]

Take notice that on February 14, 2000, Northeast Generation Company, P.O. Box 270, Hartford, Connecticut, 06141, filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission an application for determination of exempt wholesale generator status pursuant to Part 365 of the Commission's regulations.

Northeast Generation Company, a Connecticut corporation, proposes to acquire 13 electric generating stations currently owned by The Connecticut Light and Power Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company and to sell the electric energy at wholesale. The transaction is the result of an auction of those assets held in accordance with the retail restructuring plans in Connecticut and Massachusetts. State Commission determinations allowing such facilities