

number of small entities. The only small entity that would be affected is the PACER Center, Inc., which operates the Technical Assistance ALLIANCE for Parent Centers project.

#### *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*

This extension and waiver does not contain any information collection requirements.

#### *Intergovernmental Review*

This program is subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive Order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive Order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

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(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.328, Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities.)

Dated: January 27, 2003.

**Robert H. Pasternack,**  
*Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.*

[FR Doc. 03-2193 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### DOE Response to Recommendation 2002-2 of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Weapons Laboratory Support of the Defense Nuclear Complex

AGENCY: Department of Energy, DOE.

#### **ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 2002-2, concerning weapons Laboratory support of the DOE nuclear complex at Department of Energy Defense Nuclear Facilities was published in the **Federal Register** on October 10, 2002 (67 FR 63081). On November 21, 2002 the Secretary requested a 45-Day Extension to respond. In accordance with section 315(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2286d(b), the Secretary transmitted the following response to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board on January 8, 2003.

**DATES:** Comments, data, views, or arguments concerning the Secretary's response are due on or before February 7, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments, data, views, or arguments concerning the Secretary's response to: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue NW., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Karen L. Boardman, Director, Office of Complex Readiness, Albuquerque Operations Office, Pennsylvania & H Street, Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, NM 87116.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 8, 2003.

**Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.,**

*Departmental Representative to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.*

January 8, 2003.

The Honorable John T. Conway,  
*Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20004.*

Dear Mr. Chairman: On October 3, 2002, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) issued recommendation 2002-2, Weapons Laboratory Support of the Defense Nuclear Complex. The Department agrees that providing the defense nuclear complex with appropriate support is an essential priority. We also recognize that "one-size-fits-all" organizational structures and systems are not appropriate for our weapons laboratories.

The Department accepts recommendation 2002-2 and will develop an implementation plan to accomplish the following:

- We will re-emphasize the policy that the nuclear weapons program is the top priority among all activities at the weapons laboratories.
- Each weapons laboratory will review its existing processes for assigning individuals as the senior point of contact for each weapons system and ensure that selection criteria, training and mentoring, and succession planning are in place. Personnel management is an internal process of the weapons laboratories and should not be

prescribed by the Department. However, the Department will ensure that the end result is that senior technically competent individuals are assigned as the point of contact for each weapons system. A list of senior individuals assigned as the point of contact of each weapon system will be provided.

- Each weapons laboratory will review its existing management system and demonstrate that through the appropriate alignment of a combination of internal organizational structure, programs, and procedures that the roles and responsibilities of each weapons point of contact are clearly defined. The point of contact for each weapon will be empowered to direct appropriate resources to ensure the safety of operations in the nuclear weapons complex within his/her assigned weapon system or have direct access to the management authority to acquire the necessary support.

- The Department will establish and staff a Federal function at each site office managing a weapons laboratory contract to ensure that the laboratory support requirements related to safety of operations of the defense nuclear weapons complex are being tracked and met. For this function, the National Nuclear Security Administration reengineering will clarify the roles and responsibilities and the contractual lines of authority for providing direction and resolving competing requirements for resources.

I have designated Ms. Karen Boardman as the responsible manager for developing the Department's implementation plan for this recommendation. Ms. Boardman may be reached at (505) 845-6039.

Sincerely,

Signed by Secretary Spencer Abraham.

[FR Doc. 03-2165 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2597]

### Northeast Generation Company (Proposed To Be Combined With Project No. 2576); Notice of Authorization for Continued Project Operation

January 24, 2003.

On August 31, 1999, The Connecticut Light and Power Company, licensee for the Falls Village Project No. 2597, filed an application for a new or subsequent license pursuant to the Federal Power Act (FPA) and the Commission's regulations thereunder. Project No. 2597 is located on the Housatonic River in Litchfield County, Connecticut. The application proposes to combine Project No. 2597 with the licensed Housatonic Project No. 2576. The application further requests that the Commission issue a single new license for both

projects to be called the Housatonic River Project No. 2576. On November 17, 1999, the Commission issued an order transferring the licenses for Project Nos. 2597 and 2576 to Northeast Generation Company.

The license for Project No. 2597 was issued for a period ending August 31, 2001. Section 15(a)(1) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. 808(a)(1), requires the Commission, at the expiration of a license term, to issue from year to year an annual license to the then licensee under the terms and conditions of the prior license until a new license is issued, or the project is otherwise disposed of as provided in Section 15 or any other applicable section of the FPA. If the project's prior license waived the applicability of Section 15 of the FPA, then, based on Section 9(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 558(c), and as set forth at 18 CFR 16.21(a), if the licensee of such project has filed an application for a subsequent license, the licensee may continue to operate the project in accordance with the terms and conditions of the license after the minor or minor part license expires, until the Commission acts on its application. If the licensee of such a project has not filed an application for a subsequent license, then it may be required, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.21(b), to continue project operations until the Commission issues someone else a license for the project or otherwise orders disposition of the project.

If the project is subject to Section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that an annual license for Project No. 2597 has been issued to Northeast Generation Company for a period effective September 1, 2001, through August 31, 2002. This license was effective until the issuance of a new license for the project or other disposition under the FPA. Because issuance of a new license (or other disposition) did not take place on or before September 1, 2002, notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.18(c), an annual license under Section 15(a)(1) of the FPA is renewed automatically without further order or notice by the Commission, unless the Commission orders otherwise.

If the project is not subject to Section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that Northeast Generation Company is authorized to continue operation of the Falls Village Project No. 2597 until such time as the Commission acts on its application for subsequent license.

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-2235 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP03-38-000]

#### Northern Natural Gas Company and Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America; Notice of Application

January 24, 2003.

Take notice that on January 9, 2003, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern), 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124-1000 and Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America (Natural), 747 East 22nd Street, Lombard, Illinois 60148, filed in Docket No. CP03-38-000 a joint abbreviated application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) Regulations thereunder requesting permission and approval to abandon effective January 7, 2003, an exchange service under Northern's Rate Schedule X-82 and Natural's Rate Schedule X-85 jointly authorized in Docket No. CP81-64-000.

Specifically, Northern and Natural explain that they are parties to a gas exchange agreement dated May 5, 1980, pursuant to which natural gas was delivered to various small customers in Mills County, Iowa via an exchange arrangement. Northern and Natural state that these customers are currently being supplied with gas in a manner that no longer requires the use of the exchange arrangement. Northern and Natural state that by a termination agreement dated January 7, 2003, they agreed to terminate their gas exchange agreement.

This filing is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-free at (866)208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing should file on or before the comment date with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) and the regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the

appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make the Protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. All such motions or protests should be filed and, to the extent applicable, must be served on the applicant and on any other person designated on the official service list.

Protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper; see 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

*Comment Date:* February 14, 2003.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-2232 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP02-114-002]

#### Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company; Notice of Compliance and Refund Plan Filing

January 24, 2003.

Take notice that on January 21, 2003, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, (Tennessee) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Fifth Revised Volume No. 1, Sixth Revised Sheet No. 209A, with an effective date of February 20, 2003 and a revised refund plan.

Tennessee states that the revised tariff sheet and refund plan are being filed in accordance with the Commission's December 19, 2002 Order in the referenced proceeding, which relates to Tennessee's Cashout Report for the period from September 2000 through August 2001.

Any person desiring to protest said 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 on or before January 31, 2003. 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. This filing is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket