

as a marketer. NMEC also requested waiver of various Commission regulations. In particular, NMEC requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR Part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability by NMEC.

On June 18, 1997, pursuant to delegated authority, the Director, Division of Applications, Office of Electric Power Regulation, granted requests for blanket approval under Part 34, subject to the following:

Within thirty days of the date of the order, any person desiring to be heard or to protest the blanket approval of issuances of securities or assumptions of liability by NMEC 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).

Absent a request for hearing within this period, NMEC is authorized to issue securities and assume obligations or liabilities as a guarantor, endorser, surety, or otherwise in respect of any security of another person; provided that such issuance or assumption is for some lawful object within the corporate purposes of the applicant, and compatible with the public interest, and is reasonably necessary or appropriate for such purposes.

The Commission reserves the right to require a further showing that neither public nor private interests will be adversely affected by continued approval of NMEC's issuances of securities or assumptions of liability.

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing motions to intervene or protests, as set forth above, is July 18, 1997. 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.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-17585 Filed 7-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER97-3289-000, et al.]

### PECO Energy Company, et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Regulation Filings

June 27, 1997.

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

#### 1. PECO Energy Company

[Docket No. ER97-3289-000]

Take notice that on June 11, 1997, PECO Energy Company (PECO), filed a Service Agreement dated May 29, 1997, with Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E) under PECO's FERC Electric Tariff Original Volume No. 1 (Tariff). The Service Agreement adds RG&E as a customer under the Tariff.

PECO requests an effective date of May 29, 1997, for the Service Agreement.

PECO states that copies of this filing have been supplied to RG&E and to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

#### 2. Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

[Docket No. ER97-3290-000]

Take notice that on June 11, 1997, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMPC), tendered for filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission an executed Transmission Service Agreement between NMPC and City of Watertown. This Transmission Service Agreement specifies that City of Watertown has signed on to and has agreed to the terms and conditions of NMPC's Open Access Transmission Tariff as filed in Docket No. OA96-194-000. This Tariff, filed with FERC on July 9, 1996, will allow NMPC and City of Watertown to enter into separately scheduled transactions under which NMPC will provide transmission service for City of Watertown as the parties may mutually agree.

NMPC requests an effective date of June 6, 1997. NMPC has requested waiver of the notice requirements for good cause shown.

NMPC has served copies of the filing upon the New York State Public Service Commission and City of Watertown.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

#### 3. PECO Energy Company

[Docket No. ER97-3291-000]

Take notice that on June 12, 1997, PECO Energy Company (PECO) filed a Service Agreement dated May 29, 1997 with Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (CMEEC) under PECO's FERC Electric Tariff Original Volume No. 1 (Tariff). The Service Agreement adds CMEEC as a customer under the Tariff.

PECO requests an effective date of May 29, 1997, for the Service Agreement.

PECO states that copies of this filing have been supplied to CMEEC and to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

#### 4. Carolina Power & Light Company

[Docket No. ER97-3292-000]

Take notice that on June 10, 1997, Carolina Power & Light Company (Carolina), tendered for filing executed Service Agreements between Carolina and the following Eligible Entities: Constellation Power Source; GPU Energy; Minnesota Power & Light Company; and Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency. Service to each Eligible Entity will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of Carolina's Tariff No. 1 for Sales of Capacity and Energy.

Copies of the filing were served upon the North Carolina Utilities Commission and the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

#### 5. Northern States Power Company (Minnesota Company)

[Docket No. ER97-3293-000]

Take notice that on June 11, 1997, Northern States Power Company (Minnesota) (NSP), tendered for filing a Non-Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service Agreement between NSP and Coral Power L.L.C.

NSP requests that the Commission accept the agreement effective May 13, 1997, and requests waiver of the Commission's notice requirements in order for the agreement to be accepted for filing on the date requested.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

#### 6. Northern States Power Company (Minnesota Company)

[Docket No. ER97-3294-000]

Take notice that on June 11, 1997, Northern States Power Company (Minnesota) (NSP), tendered for filing a Non-Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service Agreement between NSP and NESI Power Marketing, Inc.

NSP requests that the Commission accept the agreement effective May 12, 1997, and requests waiver of the Commission's notice requirements in order for the agreement to be accepted for filing on the date requested.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**7. Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc.**

[Docket No. ER97-3295-000]

Take notice that on June 11, 1997, Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (O&R), tendered for filing pursuant to Part 35 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Regulations, 18 CFR Part 35, a service agreement under which O&R will provide capacity and/or energy to Plum Street Energy Marketing, Inc. (Plum Street).

O&R has requested waiver of the notice requirement so that the service agreement with Plum Street becomes effective as of June 15, 1997.

O&R served copies of the filing upon the New York State Public Service Commission and Plum Street.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**8. Western Resources, Inc.**

[Docket No. ER97-3296-000]

Take notice that on June 11, 1997, Western Resources, Inc. tendered for filing a non-firm transmission agreement between Western Resources and Citizens Power Sales. Western Resources states that the purpose of the agreement is to permit non-discriminatory access to the transmission facilities owned or controlled by Western Resources in accordance with Western Resources' open access transmission tariff on file with the Commission. The agreement is proposed to become effective June 2, 1997.

Copies of the filing were served upon Citizens Power Sales and the Kansas Corporation Commission.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**9. Tucson Electric Power Company**

[Docket No. ER97-3297-000]

Take notice that on June 11, 1997, Tucson Electric Power Company (TEP), tendered for filing the following four (4) service agreements for firm and non-firm point-to-point transmission service under Part II of its Open Access Transmission Tariff filed in Docket No. OA96-140-000:

(1) Service Agreement For Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service with Enron Power Marketing, Inc. dated May 27, 1997.

(2) Service Agreement For Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service with Enron Power Marketing, Inc. dated May 28, 1997.

(3) Service Agreement For Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service with Enron Power Marketing, Inc. dated May 29, 1997.

(4) Service Agreement For Non-Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service with Noram Energy Services, Inc. dated June 4, 1997.

TEP requests waiver of notice to permit the service agreements to become effective as of May 28, 1997.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**10. Florida Power & Light Company**

[Docket No. ER97-3298-000]

Take notice that on June 12, 1997, Florida Power & Light Company filed executed Service Agreements with City of Lake Worth Utilities and Fort Pierce Utilities Authority for service pursuant to Tariff No. 1 for Sales of Power and Energy by Florida Power & Light. FPL requests that each Service Agreement be made effective on May 19, 1997.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**11. Wisconsin Electric Power Company**

[Docket No. ER97-3299-000]

Take notice that on June 12, 1997, Wisconsin Electric Power Company (Wisconsin Electric), tendered for filing revisions to its Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT), FERC Electric Tariff, volume No. 7. Also submitted are three short term firm transmission service agreements with Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPSC), Madison Gas and Electric Company (Mad Gas), and Delhi Energy Services, Inc. (Delhi). Wisconsin Electric requests an effective date coincident with its filing, in order that the changes contained therein are implemented as soon as possible.

The first change, to the Short Term Firm Form of Service Agreement, is intended to clarify the scheduling of firm and non-firm transmission service requests on the OASIS so that unconfirmed requests for firm point-to-point transmission service are deemed withdrawn if not confirmed within a defined period of time after their acceptance on the OASIS by the Transmission Provider.

The second change would allow the Transmission Provider to calculate the Load Ratio Share of its network transmission service customers on an annual basis, rather than by a rolling twelve month calculation of this ratio.

According to Wisconsin Electric, neither change has an impact on transmission compensation.

Copies of the filing have been served on all Wisconsin Electric transmission service customers, the Michigan Public Service Commission, and the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**12. Idaho Power Company**

[Docket No. ER97-3300-000]

Take notice that on June 12, 1997, Idaho Power Company (IPC) tendered for filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission an amendment of the Power Sales Agreement to terminate the City of Azusa's obligation thereunder.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**13. Union Electric Company**

[Docket No. ER97-3301-000]

Take notice that on June 11, 1997, Union Electric Company (UE), tendered for filing a Service Agreement for Non-Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service between Vastar Power Marketing, Inc. and UE. UE asserts that the purpose of the Agreement is to permit UE to provide transmission service to VPM pursuant to UE's Open Access Transmission Tariff filed in Docket No. OA96-50.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**14. Western Resources, Inc.**

[Docket No. ER97-3302-000]

Take notice that on June 13, 1997, Western Resources, Inc. tendered for filing a non-firm transmission agreement between Western Resources and CMS Marketing Services & Trading. Western Resources states that the purpose of the agreement is to permit non-discriminatory access to the transmission facilities owned or controlled by Western Resources in accordance with Western Resources' open access transmission tariff on file with the Commission. The agreement is proposed to become effective June 6, 1997.

Copies of the filing were served upon CMS Marketing Services & Trading and the Kansas Corporation Commission.

*Comment date:* July 11, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

**Standard Paragraph**

E. 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 Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions

or protests should be filed on or before the comment date. 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.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-17582 Filed 7-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-331-000]

#### Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Cherokee Expansion Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

June 30, 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 construction and operation of the facilities proposed in the Cherokee Expansion Project.<sup>1</sup> This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation (Transco) wants to expand the capacity of its facilities in Alabama and Georgia to provide 87,070 dekatherms per day of additional firm transportation capacity to growing markets in the southeast for two existing customers, a local distribution company and a municipal gas distribution system. Transco seeks authority to:

- Construct about 11.2 miles of 48-inch-diameter pipeline loop from milepost (MP) 826.3 to MP 837.5 in Marengo County, Alabama;
- Uprate the 16-inch-diameter Georgia Extension in Walton and Gwinnett Counties, Georgia from a maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) of 780 pounds per square inch

(psi) to a MAOP of 960 psi. The uprating would include:

- a. Replacement of 3.7 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline with 3.7 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline in five sections;
  - b. Expansion and/or uprating of four meter and regulator (M&R) stations;
  - c. Hydrostatic testing of 26.7 miles of 16-inch-diameter pipeline; and
  - d. Abandonment in place of about 0.1 mile of 16-inch-diameter pipeline.
- Construct a new 15,000 horsepower (hp) compressor station (Compressor Station 115), in Coweta County, Georgia;
  - Install an additional 8,000 hp of compression at Compressor Station 125 in Walton County, Georgia; and
  - Rewheel existing compressor units at Compressor Station 100 in Chilton County, Alabama and Compressor Station 120 in Henry County, Georgia and install additional gas cooling capacity at Compressor Station 110 in Randolph County, Alabama.

The general location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 1.<sup>2</sup> If you are interested in obtaining detailed maps of a specific portion of the project, or procedural information, please write to the Secretary of the Commission.

#### Land Requirements for Construction

Construction of Transco's proposed pipeline facilities in Alabama would affect about 156.8 acres, of which 32.0 acres would be within existing, cleared right-of-way. Following construction, about 34.8 acres would be maintained as new permanent right-of-way. The remaining 122.0 acres of land would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

Replacement of the pipeline facilities in Georgia would affect about 38.4 acres, of which 29.0 acres would be within existing cleared right-of-way. The replacement pipeline would be installed in the same location as the existing 16-inch-diameter pipeline after it is removed and would not require any new permanent right-of-way.

Construction of Compressor Station 115 would require about 30.0 acres of which 25.5 acres would be maintained during operation of the compressor station. Construction at Compressor Station 125 would affect about 1.7 acres of which about 1.0 acre would be maintained with the existing compressor station area during operation. The installation of the

additional cooling capacity at Compressor Station 110 would require about 1.0 acre of land of which less than 0.1 acre would be affected by operation. The work that would occur at Compressor Stations 100 and 120 would take place within the existing compressor station buildings and would not require additional land.

Modification of the M&R stations would affect a total of about 0.6 acre of land during construction. However, no increases in the size of the existing fenced areas would occur.

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

The EA will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed project under these general headings:

- Geology and soils
- Water resources, fisheries, and wetlands
- Vegetation and wildlife
- Endangered and threatened species
- Public safety
- Land use
- Cultural resources
- Air quality and noise
- Hazardous waste

We will also evaluate possible alternatives to the proposed project or portions of the project, and make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas.

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

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

<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, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, or call (202) 208-1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.