

Answers to this complaint shall be due on or before October 3, 1997.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-25720 Filed 9-26-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-755-000]

#### Northern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Application

September 23, 1997.

Take notice that on September 15, 1997, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern), 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124-1000, filed, in Docket No. CP97-755-000, an application pursuant to Sections 7(b) and 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's Regulations for an order permitting and approving the abandonment of certain compressor station facilities and a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct and operate approximately 25 miles of 36-inch pipeline, with appurtenant facilities, all located in the state of Kansas, as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, Northern proposes to (1) abandon in place eleven (11) 1,600 HP horizontal compressor units (units 12 through 22) at its Bushton Compressor Station located in Rice County, Kansas; and (2) install and operate two pipeline stitches totaling approximately 25 miles of 36-inch pipeline and appurtenant facilities to connect and complete its existing "E-Line" between its Mullinville and Mackville Compressor Stations in Edward and Pawnee Counties, Kansas (Mullinville to Macksville Stitch) and between its Macksville and Bushton Compressor Stations in Barton and Rice Counties, Kansas (Macksville to Bushton Stitch). Northern states that, when compared to currently existing capacity, the overall capacity of Northern's mainline will be essentially the same when both the abandonment and pipeline stitches are completed. Northern estimates that the cost of the proposed project is approximately \$25,655,000, which will be financed with internally generated funds. Northern requests that authorization be issued by early spring 1998 in order for the facilities to be constructed and placed in service during Spring 1998.

Northern asserts that the rate impact to its existing shippers is within the 5 percent threshold applied by the Commission for a presumption in favor of rolled-in rates. Northern states the proposed abandonment, in conjunction with the new pipeline segment, is integral to Northern's existing pipeline system to ensure pipeline reliability during peak periods of demand thereby meeting the operational standard for rolled-in rates.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before October 14, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements 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). 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 protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party in any proceeding herein 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 filing it makes with the Commission to every other intervenor in the proceeding, as well as 14 copies with the Commission.

A person does not have to intervene, however, in order to have comments considered. A person, instead, may submit two copies of comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Commentors 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. Commentors will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, commentors 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 and a grant of the certificate 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 formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Northern to appear or to be represented at the hearing.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-25717 Filed 9-26-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-761-000]

#### Venice Gathering System, L.L.C., Notice of Application

September 23, 1997.

Take notice that on September 18, 1997, Venice Gathering System, L.L.C. (VGS), 1000 Louisiana, Suite 5800, Houston, Texas 77002-5050, filed an application with the Commission in Docket No. CP97-761-000 pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) for permission and approval to abandon a transportation service currently performed for Samedan Oil Corporation (Samedan), all as more fully set forth in the application which is open to public inspection.

VGS states that it currently transports natural gas on an interruptible basis for Samedan under the month-to-month evergreen provisions of an October 1, 1991, gathering agreement while VGS' request in Docket Nos. CP97-533-000, *et al.*, for a Part 284 blanket certificate is pending before the Commission.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Commission declared VGS to be a jurisdictional entity subject to the Natural Gas Act

VGS notified Samedan via a letter dated June 27, 1997, that it would terminate its transportation service for Samedan as of October 1, 1997. Samedan then filed with the Commission, as a complaint against VGS, an emergency request on September 12, 1997, for an order prohibiting unlawful abandonment and motion for shortened time to answer.<sup>2</sup>

VGS states that Samedan's gas reaches VGS' jurisdictional Venice system, offshore Louisiana, via a non-jurisdictional feeder lateral<sup>3</sup> between Samedan's South Timbalier Block 163 production platform and Chevron U.S.A. Inc.'s (Chevron) South Timbalier Block 141 platform. VGS states that it believes its interim service obligation to Samedan extends only to transportation service provided via the now jurisdictional Venice system and that VGS would continue to transport said gas for Samedan subject to capacity availability on the Venice system. VGS further states that following expiration of the gathering agreement's primary term, and in response to VESCO's open-season solicitation June 16-20, 1997, Samedan Chose not to submit a qualifying bid, instead submitting a bid for a limited-term commitment at a rate that was approximately one-half of VGS's cost-based rate and about one-half of the rate Samedan paid under the existing contract. VGS also states that while other shippers were willing to make long-term commitments at compensatory rates, Samedan would make only a limited commitment geared to securing cheap service until its alternative arrangements could be put into service.

Accordingly, to the extent necessary, VGS seeks to abandon the service provided under the gathering agreement. The subject service is a non-firm service that provides no guarantee of the availability or use of VGS' capacity. Further, VGS believes that to ignore these market signals and to require service to continue under manifestly non-competitive terms and conditions would fly in the face of the Commission's policies promoting allocative and productive efficiencies and the rational allocation of capacity.

No facilities are proposed to be abandoned.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before September 30, 1997, file with the

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a 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 NGA (18 CFR 15710). 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 protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person within 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.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the NGA 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 procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for VGS to appear or be represented at the hearing.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-25718 Filed 9-26-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER97-4437-000, et al.]

#### The Detroit Edison Company et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Regulation Filings

September 22, 1997.

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

##### 1. The Detroit Edison Company

[Docket No. ER97-4437-000]

Take notice that on September 2, 1997, The Detroit Edison Company (Detroit Edison), tendered for filing a Service Agreement for Network

Integration Transmission Service (the Service Agreement) between Detroit Edison Transmission Operations and the City of Croswell, Michigan, under the Joint Open Access Transmission Tariff of Consumers Energy Company and Detroit Edison, FERC Electric Tariff No. 1, dated as of November 1, 1997. Detroit Edison requests that the Service Agreement be made effective as of November 1, 1997.

*Comment date:* October 6, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

##### 2. The Detroit Edison Company

[Docket No. ER97-4438-000]

Take notice that on September 2, 1997, The Detroit Edison Company (Detroit Edison), tendered for filing a Service Agreement for wholesale power sales transactions (the Service Agreement) under Detroit Edison's Wholesale Power Sales Tariff (WPS-1), FERC Electric Tariff No. 4 (the WPS-1 Tariff), between Detroit Edison and AYP Energy, Inc., dated as of June 30, 1997. The parties have not engaged in any transactions under the Service Agreement. Detroit Edison requests that the Service Agreement be made effective as of August 4, 1997.

*Comment date:* October 6, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

##### 3. Duke Energy Corporation

[Docket No. ER97-4439-000]

Take notice that on September 2, 1997, Duke Power, a division of Duke Energy Corporation, on its own behalf and acting as agent for its wholly-owned subsidiary, Nantahala Power and Light Company (Duke), filed forms of service agreements for Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service and Non-Firm Point-to-Point Transmission Service between Duke Power Company, as the Transmission Provider, and Duke Power Company, as the Transmission Customer, dated as of July 9, 1996.

*Comment date:* October 6, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

##### 4. Puget Sound Energy, Inc.

[Docket No. ER97-4440-000]

Take notice that on September 2, 1997, Puget Sound Energy, Inc. tendered for filing an unexecuted Amendment No. 1 to Transmission Agreement (the Amendment) with The City of Seattle, acting by and through its City Light Department (City of Seattle). A copy of the filing was served on City of Seattle.

*Comment date:* October 6, 1997, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

in the order issued April 17, 1997, in Docket No. CP95-202-000, 79 FERC ¶ 61,037 (1997).

<sup>2</sup> The subject application was included, in the alternative, in VGS' answer to Samedan's emergency request.

<sup>3</sup> The lateral is owned by Venice Energy Services Company (VESCO), an affiliate of VGS.