

Columbia asserts Norse is not an affiliate of Columbia.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before June 23, 1998, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., 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.

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 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 Columbia to appear or to be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-15091 Filed 6-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-231-000]

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

June 2, 1998.

Take notice that on May 29, 1998, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised

Volume No. 1, the following tariff sheets to become effective July 1, 1998.

Original Sheet No. 99Q

Original Sheet No. 99R

Pursuant to the prior agreements of the parties following Columbia's first filing to recover Accrued-But-Not-Paid Gas Costs, this filing should be sub-docketed under the RP96-140 docket number.

Columbia states that the instant filing is being submitted pursuant to Article VII, Section C, Accrued-But-Not-Paid Gas Costs, of the "Customer Settlement" in Docket No. GP94-02, et al., approved by the Commission on June 15, 1995 (71 FERC ¶ 61,337 (1995)). The Customer Settlement became effective on November 28, 1995, when the Bankruptcy Court's November 1, 1995 order approving Columbia's Plan of Reorganization became final. Under the terms of Article VII, Section C, Columbia is entitled to recover amounts for Accrued-But-Not-Paid Gas Costs. As directed by Article VII, Section C, the tariff sheets contained herein are being filed in accordance with Section 39 of the General Terms and Conditions of the Tariff, to direct bill the Accrued-But-Not-Paid Gas Costs that have been paid subsequent to November 28, 1995.

Columbia states that the instant filing reflects Accrued-But-Not-Paid Gas Costs in the amount of \$382,636.45 plus applicable FERC interest of \$7,421.23. This is Columbia's eighth filing pursuant to Article VII, Section C, and Columbia reserves the right to make the appropriate additional filings pursuant to that provision. The allocation factors on Appendix F of the Customer Settlement were used as prescribed by Article VII, Section C.

Columbia states that copies of its filing have been mailed to all parties on the Commission's service list in Docket No. RP96-140 and RP96-140-002, and to each of Columbia's firm customers, interruptible customers, and affected state commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this 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 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed as provided in 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.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-15099 Filed 6-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. TM98-9-23-000]

Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

June 2, 1998.

Take notice that on May 29, 1998, Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company (Eastern Shore) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, the following revised tariff sheets, with a proposed effective date of July 1, 1998:

First Revised Sheet No. 4

First Revised Sheet No. 5

First Revised Sheet No. 6

Eastern Shore states that it submitted this filing pursuant to the provisions of Section 31, Fuel Retention Adjustment, of the General Terms and Conditions (GT & C) of its Tariff. First Revised Sheet Nos. 4, 5, and 6, respectively, set forth Eastern Shore's Fuel Retention Percentage (FRP), as revised by this filing and proposed to be effective July 1, 1998. Eastern Shore states that Section 31 of the GT & C permits Eastern Shore to file with the Commission revised tariff sheets containing a re-determined FRP for the affected transportation rate schedules. Such FRP is designed to reimburse Eastern Shore for the cost of its Gas Required for Operations (GRO) which consists of (a) gas used for compressor fuel and (b) gas otherwise used, lost or unaccounted for, in its operations. Eastern Shore's states that its new FRP is .30% and was determined by computing the GRO quantities attributable to system wide operations for the affected transportation rate schedules using the twelve (12) month period ending April, 1998 and then dividing such result by the transportation quantities received by Eastern Shore for the corresponding twelve (12) month period.

Eastern Shore further states that Section 31 also requires Eastern Shore to determine for each month the difference, positive or negative, between (a) total GRO quantities actually

incurred and (b) the total quantities retained from all Buyers for transportation service in accordance with the applicable FRP. For every such month the foregoing difference is multiplied by the applicable monthly GRO Index Price. The resulting product is recorded in a Deferred GRO Account and interest is computed on the balance in the manner prescribed in Section 154.305(h) of the Commission's regulations. The actual Deferred GRO Account balance at the end of each twelve (12) month period ending March 31 is incorporated in Eastern Shore's Refund of "Cash Out" Revenues in Excess of Costs as contained in Section 35 of the GT & C of Eastern Shore's Tariff.

Lastly, Eastern Shore states that copies of its filing is available for inspection at its office at 417 Bank Lane, Dover, Delaware; and has been mailed to all firm customers, interruptible customers, and affected state commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this 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 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed as provided in 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.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-15093 Filed 6-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GT98-45-000]

El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

June 2, 1998.

Take notice that on May 27, 1998, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) tendered for filing two firm Transportation Service Agreements (TSAs) between El Paso and Pemex Gas

y Petroquimica Basica (Pemex) and Eighth Revised Sheet No. 1 to its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1-A.

El Paso states that it is submitting the TSAs for Commission approval since the TSAs contain payment provisions which differ from El Paso's Volume No. 1-A General Terms and Conditions. The tariff sheet, which references the TSAs, is proposed to become effective on June 26, 1998.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this 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 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed as provided in 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.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-15109 Filed 6-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-235-000]

Gas Research Institute; Notice of Annual Application

June 2, 1998.

Take notice that on May 22, 1998, Gas Research Institute (GRI) filed an application requesting advance approval of its 1999-2003 Five-Year Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) Plan and 1999 RD&D Program, and the funding of its RD&D activities for 1999, pursuant to the Natural Gas Act, Section 154.401(b) of the Commission's Regulations, and the Order Approving Settlement issued by the Commission on April 29, 1998 [83 FERC ¶ 61,093 (1998)]. GRI's application seeks to collect funds to support its 1999 RD&D Program through jurisdictional rates and charges during the twelve months ending December 31, 1999.

In its application, GRI proposes to incur contract obligations of \$132

million in 1999, which GRI states is consistent with the April 29 Order. This amount comprises \$114.5 in RD&D obligations and \$17.5 million in Administrative and General (operating) obligations. GRI states that \$77.1 of the 1999 contract obligations will be for Core Projects and \$54.9 for Non-Core Projects.

Also consistent with the Commission's April 29 Order Approving Settlement, GRI proposes to fund the 1999 RD&D program by the use of the following surcharges: (1) a demand/reservation surcharge of 23 cents per Dth per month for "high load factor customers"; (2) a demand/reservation surcharge of 14.2 cents per Dth per month for "low load factor customers"; (3) a volumetric commodity/usage surcharge of .75 cents; and (4) a special "small customer" surcharge of 1.8 cents per Dth.

In addition, GRI plans to make a series of one-time charges against its cash balance in 1998 and 1999 to fund expenses associated with its required transition to a fully voluntary funding system. GRI estimates these charges to be \$2.7 million in 1998 and \$1.2 million in 1999.

The Commission Staff will analyze GRI's application and prepare a Commission Staff Report. This Staff Report will be served on all parties and filed with the Commission as a public document by August 7, 1998. Comments on the Staff Report by all parties, except GRI, must be filed with the Commission on or before August 21, 1998. GRI's reply comments must be filed on or before August 28, 1998.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest GRI's application, except for GRI members and state regulatory commissions, who are automatically permitted to participate in the instant proceedings as intervenors, 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 214 and 211 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and procedure, 18 CFR 385.214 and 385.211. All protests, motions to intervene and comments should be filed on or before June 16, 1998. All comments and protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to this proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party, other than a GRI member or a state regulatory commission, must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this application are on file with the