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David P. Boergers,
Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP98-150-000; CP98-154-000; CP98-155-000 and CP98-156-000]

Millennium Pipeline Company, L.P.; Notice of Applications for Certificates and for a Presidential Permit and Section 3 Authorization

February 3, 1998.

Take notice that on December 22, 1997, Millennium Pipeline Company, L.P. (Millennium), P.O. Box 10146, Fairfax, Virginia 22030-0146, filed applications pursuant to Sections 3 and 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act. In Docket No. CP98-150-000, Millennium seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to (1) Construct, acquire, and operate a natural gas pipeline, to (2) transport up to 700,000 dt of natural gas per day for nine shippers, and (3) to authorize a capacity lease and exchange

arrangement with Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia). Millennium seeks in Docket No. CP98-134-000 a blanket certificate pursuant to Subpart G of Part 284 to provide self-implementing transportation authority. In addition, Millennium also requests in Docket No. CP98-155-000 a blanket certificate pursuant to Subpart F of Part 157 to provide certain routine activities. Finally, in Docket No. CP98-156-000 Millennium requests a Presidential Permit and Section 3 authorization under Section 153 of the Commission's Regulations, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Millennium states that it will be a limited partnership organized under the laws of the State of Delaware by Columbia, MCN Investment Corporation, TransCanada Pipelines Limited and Westcoast Energy (US) Inc.

In Docket No. CP98-150-000, Millennium proposes to construct approximately 376.4 miles of 36-inch diameter pipeline extending from an interconnection with facilities to be constructed by TransCanada at a United States-Canada border at a point in Lake Erie to a point in Ramapo, New York; approximately 39.3 miles of 24-inch pipeline from Buena Vista, New York to

a point in Mount Vernon, New York; and metering and regulating facilities and related facilities. In addition, Millennium proposes to acquire from Columbia approximately 6.7 miles of 24-inch pipeline from Ramapo to Buena Vista; approximately 10.5 miles of 10- and 14-inch pipeline from a point in Orange County, New York to a point in Pike County, Pennsylvania; the Milford Compressor Station in Pike County, Pennsylvania; 9.6 miles of short pipeline segments in various counties in Pennsylvania and New York and metering and regulating facilities. It is stated that about 86 percent of the route will utilize existing Columbia easements or pipeline corridors. Millennium estimates the cost of the facilities to be constructed and acquired, exclusive of AFUDC, is \$677.8 million which would be financed through equity contributions and project-financed debt. To eliminate duplicate facilities, Columbia has agreed to abandon facilities in place, by removal or by conveyance to Millennium. It is indicated that Columbia would remove certain segments of pipeline and Millennium would later place its pipeline in the same trench.

Millennium proposes to provide firm service for the following shippers:

| Shipper | Maximum daily quantity (Mtdh/day) | Term of service (Years) |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| CoEnergy Trading Co | 65.0 | 20 |
| Columbia Energy Serv | 78.4 | 15 |
| Duke Energy Trading and Marketing L.L.P. | 23.5 | 15 |
| El Paso Energy Marketing Canada, Inc | 15.7 | 10 |
| Engage Energy (U.S.), L.P | 235.1 | 10 |
| PanCanadian Petroleum Company | 19.6 | 10 |
| Renaissance Energy (US) Inc | 19.6 | 10 |
| Stand Energy Corp. | 8.0 | 20 |
| TransCanada Gas Serv., A Division of TransCanada Energy Ltd | 235.1 | 10 |

It is stated that capacity was contracted following a publicly-announced open season and that each of the shippers has executed an exclusive, binding precedent agreement for the firm service to be provided by Millennium.

Millennium proposes to provide firm service under Rate Schedule FTS and interruptible service under Rate Schedule ITS, under rates, terms and conditions provided in a *pro forma* tariff submitted with the application.

Millennium proposes to recover all costs associated with the transportation service through a reservation charge, with lower rates proposed for longer term contracts. Millennium proposes 100 percent load factor rates of \$0.5353

for 10-year contracts, \$0.4989 for 15-year contracts, and \$0.4745 for 20-year contracts.

It is indicated that the 10-year rate is based upon a conventional cost of service in the first year of operation. It is also indicated that, in order to recognize the benefits created by longer term commitments from the shippers, Millennium proposes to derive rates for the 15 and 20-year contracts at lower levelized rates. It is stated that the 15-year rate is based on a levelized cost of service over the initial 10 years of the 15-year contracts and the 20-year rate is based on a levelized cost of service over the initial 15 years of the 20-year contracts. It is also indicated that shippers under 10-year contracts and

new shippers that obtain firm service after the project's in-service date will pay a non-levelized rate. Millennium also will offer interruptible transportation service at the 100 percent load factor derivative of the maximum non-levelized firm rate.

Millennium proposes to depreciate its facilities over a 20-year period, with depreciation rates consistent with the levelized cost of service associated with 15 and 20-year contracts, and straight-line depreciation for the 10-year contracts. Millennium also proposes that it be accorded regulatory asset treatment for the difference between its straight-line and levelized depreciation expense. Millennium proposes a return on equity of 14 percent, while the cost

of debt capital is estimated to be 7.5 percent, with an overall rate of return of 9.775 percent, based on a 65 percent debt-35 percent equity capital structure.

Millennium requests issuance of blanket certificates pursuant to Subpart G of Part 284 of the Commission's Regulations to provide open-access transportation service and a blanket certificate pursuant to Subpart F of Part 157 of the Commission's Regulations to construct minor facilities and provide routine operations. Millennium also seeks authority under Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act and a Presidential Permit to construct and operate border facilities to attach its facilities to those of TransCanada.

Any person desiring to participate in the hearing process or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before February 24, 1998, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., 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 385.214 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 protestants parties to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that protestors provide copies of their protests to the party or parties directly involved. 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 filing 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 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 Federal Energy Regulatory 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 a grant of the certificate is 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 Millennium to appear or be represented at the hearing.

David P. Boergers,
Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96-200-030]

NorAm Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

February 3, 1998.

Take notice that on January 30, 1998, NorAm Gas Transmission Company (NGT) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Fourth Revised Volume No. 1, the following revised tariff sheet to be effective February 1, 1998:

Sixth Revised Sheet No. 7C

NGT states that the purpose of this filing is to report modifications to an existing negotiated rate term.

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 of Practice and Procedure. All such 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 proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-3142 Filed 2-6-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96-367-008]

Northwest Pipeline Corporation; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

February 3, 1998.

Take notice that on January 29, 1998, Northwest Pipeline Corporation (Northwest) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, the following tariff sheets to become effective March 1, 1998:

Third Revised Volume No. 1

Thirteenth Revised Sheet No. 5
Tenth Revised Sheet No. 5-A
Sixth Revised Sheet No. 6
Seventh Revised Sheet No. 7
Eleventh Revised Sheet No. 8
Sixth Revised Sheet No. 8.1
Fourth Revised Sheet No. 19
Third Revised Sheet No. 21
Fourth Revised Sheet No. 31
Second Revised Sheet No. 106
Second Revised Sheet No. 232-E
Third Revised Sheet No. 237-A
Third Revised Sheet No. 262
Second Revised Sheet No. 270
Second Revised Sheet No. 277
Second Revised Sheet No. 303-A

Original Volume No. 2

Twenty-Fourth Revised Sheet No. 2
Twenty-Second Revised Sheet No. 2.1
Twenty-Third Revised Sheet No. 2.2
Twenty-Fourth Revised Sheet No. 2-A

Northwest states that the purpose of this filing is to place into effect an interim rate reduction of \$1,000,000 during the pendency of the Commission's consideration of a request for rehearing of the Commission's November 25, 1997 Order Approving Settlement in the captioned proceeding.