

As a Potential User

A. Can you use data at the levels of detail indicated on the forms?

B. For what purposes would you use the data? Be specific.

C. Are there alternate sources of data and do you use them? If so, what are their deficiencies and/or strengths?

D. For the most part, information is published by EIA in U.S. customary units, e.g., cubic feet of natural gas. Would you prefer to see EIA publish more information in metric units, e.g., cubic meters? If yes, please specify what information (e.g., natural gas consumption), the metric unit(s) of measurement preferred, and in which EIA publication(s) you would like to see such information.

Specific Issues

EIA is seeking comments on the following specific issues related to the forms covered by this Notice:

Confidentiality of Data on the EIA-191

EIA has received numerous requests for company-level information filed on the EIA-191. Since these data were collected under a pledge of confidentiality, those requests have been denied. However, in light of the fact that many respondents routinely provide their data to the trade press and others, this issue is being reexamined.

A. Should EIA continue to preserve the confidentiality of EIA-191 data?

B. What would be the impact on your company of the release of its filings of the EIA-191?

C. What would be the impact on your company if the EIA were to aggregate your filings from the field level to the company level and release only the company-level aggregate data?

D. How are field-level or company-level natural gas storage data useful to you?

Tax Revenue Information Reported on the EIA-176 and EIA-857

Currently taxes are included in the revenues collected on the EIA-176 and EIA-857. Can your company provide separate data, either as a rate or in dollars, on the taxes collected from its deliveries of natural gas to consumers?

Firm and Interruptible Deliveries (EIA-176)

EIA has been collecting information on EIA-176 on deliveries of natural gas to end users divided into the categories "firm" and "interruptible". Because natural gas purchases and contracting practices have changed significantly since the advent of Order 636, we are requesting your comments on the

desirability of continuing to collect these data at this level of detail.

A. For Responding Companies: Is your company able to provide reliable data in response to these data items?

B. For Data Users: Are the data on firm and interruptible deliveries of natural gas to end users useful to you?

Deliveries of Natural Gas to Nonutility Power Producers (Forms EIA-176 and EIA-857)

A. For Data Providers: Is your company able to provide reliable data on deliveries to nonutility power producers?

B. For Data Providers and Users: Are the data on deliveries of natural gas to nonutility power producers useful?

Gas Used for Agriculture (Forms EIA-176 and EIA-857)

Natural gas consumed in agriculture operations has always been classified as part of the commercial sector. For all other fuels on which EIA collects data, agriculture use is considered part of the industrial sector.

A. For Respondent Companies: Is your company able to separate natural gas deliveries to agricultural users and report them as part of the industrial sector?

B. For Data Users: Transferring agricultural use to the industrial sector would allow more meaningful comparisons with other fuels. It would also mean a break in series because EIA has no precise measure of agricultural use with which to adjust previously published data. Should EIA request this change of sector definition?

Electronic or Other Filing Options

EIA is continually seeking ways to improve the convenience of reporting for respondents. Electronic methods of filing EIA forms provide respondents with options that many find easier and less time-consuming than the traditional paper forms. Also, because some editing is performed as data are entered, filing electronically often produces higher quality reports and respondents are subject to fewer follow-up contacts from EIA staff to resolve questions. Electronic filing is preferred by EIA but is not mandatory. Currently the EIA-176 offers an electronic filing option provided on a personal computer diskette programmed with software that can be used on most IBM compatible computers. The EIA-191 offers an electronic filing option which allows users to transmit data directly to the EIA mainframe computer.

A. Does your company have any questions or concerns about the electronic filing options offered by EIA?

B. What other electronic filing options could be offered that your company would like to use?

Revenue Data on the EIA-176 and EIA-857

A. Can respondent companies provide the revenue data for gas transported for the account of others requested on the EIA-176 and the EIA-857?

B. What revenues are included in the data that respondents are asked to provide in response to these new data items?

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of the form. They also will become a matter of public record.

Statutory Authority: Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13).

Issued in Washington, D.C., May 13, 1996.

Yvonne M. Bishop,

Director, Office of Statistical Standards,
Energy Information Administration.

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Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP96-500-000]

Northwest Pipeline Corporation; Notice of Application for Authorization To Abandon and Replace Facilities

May 14, 1996.

Take notice that, on May 6, 1996, Northwest Pipeline Corporation (Northwest), 295 Chipeta Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108, filed an abbreviated application in Docket No. CP96-500-000: (1) for authorization, pursuant to section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act, to abandon and remove approximately 200 feet of existing 22-inch pipeline on Northwest's Ignacio to Sumas mainline at a railroad crossing near Soda Springs, in Caribou County, Idaho; and (2) for authorization, pursuant to section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and part 157 of the Commission's regulations, to replace that 200-foot segment with new 22-inch replacement pipeline and appurtenances, all as more fully set forth in the application, which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Northwest states that the cathodic protection system for the existing 22-inch pipeline segment has been compromised, leading to the potential for future pipeline damage. Northwest asserts that the proposed replacement is required by the present and future public convenience and necessity

because the replacement is needed to maintain the integrity of its mainline transmission system and reduce the risk of pipeline failure and service interruptions to its shippers.

Northwest states that the replacement will occur entirely within Northwest's existing permanent right-of-way, at milepost 539.1 on Northwest's mainline in Caribou County, ID, and that the estimated cost of the proposed project is approximately \$870,000—\$770,000 to construct the replacement pipeline segment and \$100,000 to remove the existing pipeline segment.

Northwest states that: (1) the 22-inch pipeline to be replaced was originally constructed by Northwest's predecessor, Pacific Northwest Pipeline, pursuant to a certificate authorization in Docket No. G-1429 (13 FPC 221); (2) several areas of new temporary construction workspace and a new access road (which may not have been included in the scope of the original construction certificate authorization) will be required to accommodate the construction techniques Northwest needs to employ to remove the existing pipeline from the casing and to install the new replacement pipeline, either in the existing casing or in a new bored, uncased railroad crossing in the existing permanent right-of-way; and (3) Northwest is seeking the subject abandonment and certificate approvals because the contemplated use of temporary construction workspace areas and a new access road do not meet the guidelines for a facilities replacement project under 18 CFR 2.55(b), as clarified in the Commission's March 15, 1995 letter to Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company in Docket No. CP95-198-000.

Northwest also states that, to avoid service disruptions to its customers receiving service at the Soda Springs Meter Station during construction, Northwest will install a temporary 2-inch (above-ground) pipeline, extending approximately 4,120 feet from upstream of the closed block valve to that delivery point.

Any person desiring to be heard, or to make any protest with reference to said application should, on or before June 4, 1996, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or 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.

Any person wishing to become a party to the 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 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, or 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 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 Northwest to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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[Docket No. ER96-1663-000]

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Edison Co., Notice of Filing

May 14, 1996.

Take notice that Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Edison Company ("the Companies"), on April 29, 1996, tendered for filing a Joint Application for Authority To Sell Electric Energy at Market-Based Rates Using a Power Exchange. The application describes the way prices will be determined for sales through the Power Exchange ("PX") and the structure and governance of the PX. The Companies propose to supplement the market power showing in the application on May 29, 1996. The Commission anticipates that it will issue an additional notice for the supplemental filing, with a new comment date, at that time.

In addition, the application sets forth recommended time frames for actions by the Companies, the Commission, and the participants in this proceeding. The Commission invites comments on these procedural proposals in addition to comments on the substantive proposal.

Copies of the filing were served upon the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California and other interested parties.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest such application should file a petition to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 214 and 211 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18, CFR 385.214 and 385.211. All petitions or protests should be filed on or before June 13, 1996. 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 petition to intervene. Copies of this application are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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[Docket No. EL96-48-000]

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Edison Co., Notice of Filing

May 14, 1996.

Take notice that Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Edison Company ("the Companies"), on April 29, 1996, tendered for filing a Petition for a Declaratory Order. This petition requests that the Commission confirm the delineation of certain facilities as "local distribution" (subject to state regulation) and certain other facilities as "transmission" (subject to Commission jurisdiction) based upon their existing uses.

In addition, the application sets forth recommended time frames for actions by the Companies, the Commission, and the participants in this proceeding. The Commission invites comments on these procedural proposals in addition to comments on the substantive proposals.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest such application should file a petition to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 214 and 211 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.214 and 385.211. All petitions or protests should be filed on or before June 13, 1996. Protests will be considered by the