

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****[Docket No. ER97-1845-000]****CNG Retail Services Corporation; Notice of Issuance of Order**

April 22, 1997.

CNG Retail Services Corporation (CNG Services) submitted for filing a rate schedule under which CNG Services will engage in wholesale electric power and energy transactions as a marketer. CNG Services also requested waiver of various Commission regulations. In particular, CNG Services requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR Part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability by CNG Services.

On April 1, 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 CNG Services should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 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, CNG Services 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 CNG Services' 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 May 1, 1997. Copies of the full text of the order are available from the Commission's

Public Reference Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

**Lois D. Cashell,**  
*Secretary.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****[Docket No. CP97-342-000]****Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization**

April 21, 1997.

Take notice that on April 14, 1997, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia), 1700 MacCorkle Avenue, SE., Charleston, West Virginia 25314-1599, filed in the above docket, a request pursuant to Sections 157.205, and 157.211 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (N.A.) (18 CFR 157.205, and 157.211) and Columbia's authorization in Docket No. CP83-76-000, for authorization to construct and operate the facilities necessary to establish ten additional points of delivery to existing customers for firm transportation service, all as more fully set forth in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Columbia states that the quantities to be provided through the new delivery point will be within Columbia's authorized level of services. Therefore, there is no impact on Columbia's existing design day and annual obligations to the customers as a result of the construction and operation of the new points of delivery for firm transportation service.

Columbia estimated that the cost to install the new taps to be approximately \$150 per tap and will be treated as an O&M expense. Columbia states that it will comply with all of the environmental requirements of Section 157.206(d) of the Commission's Regulations prior to the construction of any facilities.

Any person or the Commission's staff may, within 45 days after issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention and pursuant to Section 157.205 of the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205) a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed therefor, the proposed activity is deemed to be authorized

effective on the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

**Lois D. Cashell,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-10743 Filed 4-24-97; 8:45 am]  
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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****[Docket No. RP97-331-000]****Decatur Utilities, City of Decatur Alabama, and Huntsville Utilities City of Huntsville, Alabama v. Alabama-Tennessee Natural Gas Company; Notice of Complaint and Petition for Waiver of Tariff Provisions**

April 21, 1997.

Take notice that on April 15, 1997, Decatur Utilities, City of Decatur, Alabama, and Huntsville Utilities, City of Huntsville, Alabama, (Decatur and Huntsville) tendered for filing a complaint against Alabama-Tennessee Natural Gas Company (Alabama-Tennessee) and a motion for expedited injunctive relief, and a petition for waiver of tariff provisions, pursuant to Section 5 of the Natural Gas Act, Order No. 636-A, and Rules 206, 207, and 212 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Decatur and Huntsville submits their complaint against the unlawful abandonment of their firm transportation service with Alabama-Tennessee. Decatur and Huntsville also seek a limited waiver of the right-of-first refusal (ROFR) provisions of Alabama-Tennessee's FERC Gas Tariff. Decatur's and Huntsville's firm transportation contracts with Alabama-Tennessee expire on November 1, 1997, and April 1, 1998, respectively. Under the provisions of Alabama-Tennessee's FERC Gas Tariff, Section 3.14(e), Decatur and Huntsville expect Alabama-Tennessee to commence the ROFR process by posting the capacity under their expiring transportation contracts in May, 1997.

Decatur and Huntsville respectfully request the Commission to: (i) Find the abandonment of their firm transportation service from Alabama-Tennessee is unlawful under the circumstances presented; (ii) order that firm transportation services from Alabama-Tennessee to Decatur and

Huntsville continue for one year past their respective contract expiration dates, or, in the alternative, continue for whatever term the Commission deems appropriate to coincide with the commencement of firm transportation service on Southern; and (iii) grant a limited waiver of the ROFR procedures of Alabama-Tennessee's tariff, such that the right-of-first-refusal process for Decatur's and Huntsville's capacity is postponed until the Commission's final order on the Southern project in docket No. CP96-153 is issued. Decatur and Huntsville further request the Commission to expedite its review of this complaint and motion for relief, and to issue an order as soon as possible.

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 214 and 211 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure 18 CFR 385.214 and 211. All such motions or protests should be filed on or before May 1, 1997. 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. Answers to this complaint shall be due on or before May 1, 1997.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-10746 Filed 4-24-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-341-000]

#### Great Lakes Gas Transmission Limited Partnership; Notice of Application

April 21, 1997.

Take notice that on April 11, 1997, as supplemented on April 15, 1997, Great Lakes Gas Transmission Limited Partnership (Great Lakes), One Woodward Avenue, Suite 1600, Detroit, Michigan 48226, filed in Docket No. CP97-421-000 an application pursuant to Section 7(c) and 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act for a temporary and permanent certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing Great Lakes to construct and operate approximately 1,100 feet of off right-of-way

replacement 10-inch diameter mainline and 12-inch diameter loopline, respectively, in Chippewa County, Michigan, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Great Lakes states that the proposed facilities are necessary to remedy a *force majeure* condition on its system, resulting from soil subsidence along a slope adjacent to the North Branch of the Pine River, in Chippewa County, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. According to Great Lakes, the authorization will allow it to construct the permanent facilities necessary to replace a temporary emergency line which was installed as a bypass, as well as abandon and remove from service the damaged segments of pipeline.

Great Lakes states that on April 7, 1997 it received information that a large section of hillside had subsided in the area of its main and loop lines in Chippewa County, Michigan, and that its lines were partially exposed. Great Lakes states that it immediately sent personnel to the site to investigate and found that an approximate 5 acre plot of land had slid, both laterally and vertically, toward the North Branch of the Pine River (Section 35, T45N, R3W, Chippewa County, Michigan). As a result, approximately 970 feet of main and loop line moved between 45 to 50 feet laterally and 25 to 30 feet vertically. It is stated that the operating pressure of both lines was subsequently lowered and personnel were dispatched to man block valves on either side of the landslide area in the event that the lines ruptured. Great Lakes states that the affected customers, Michigan Consolidated Gas Company and TransCanada PipeLines Limited, were notified on April 8, 1997. Great Lakes further states that the Department of Transportation, Michigan Public Service Commission and pertinent local authorities were also notified of the situation on that date.

Great Lakes contends that upon investigation it appears that the landslide was the result of laterally unstable soils due to a high moisture content and a possible loss of lateral support due to erosion side-cutting a river channel located at the base of the slope. It is stated that the preliminary investigation revealed that the area was not stable and further shifts might occur. Great Lakes states that it began efforts to stabilize the site by directing excess moisture away from the slide area. Great Lakes then commissioned a geotechnical survey to assess soil stability and to assist in locating permanent replacement lines.

Great Lakes states that the replacement 10-inch mainline and 12-inch loopline will be located between its milepost 25.49 and milepost 25.70 in Chippewa County, Michigan. It is stated that the new permanent pipe will be configured in a curved shape, the apex of which will locate the center lines of the new pipe approximately 275 feet east of the centerlines of the original main and loop lines. It is stated that the new right-of-way will be located on the same landowners property where Great Lakes' existing main and loop lines are located.<sup>1</sup> Great Lakes states that there will be no permanent above-ground facilities installed as part of this project. In addition, there will be no stream crossings required in connection with constructing the new facilities.

Great Lakes states that its 10-inch mainline and 12-inch loopline in this area of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan provide the sole transportation source for natural gas supplied to the communities of Rudyard and Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada. Given this, Great Lakes states that it began emergency efforts to maintain transportation through this area of its system. In this regard, on April 13, 1997, Great Lakes placed into service an above-ground, 12-inch diameter emergency by-pass line to isolate the impacted main and loop lines, which were removed from service.

Great Lakes states that its proposed facilities will permanently replace both the damaged main and damaged loop line segments and the emergency by-pass line. It is stated that the proposed facilities will not alter the capacity of Great Lakes' main and loop lines, nor be used to provide service to any new customer. It is stated that these facilities will enable Great Lakes to continue providing natural gas transportation service for communities which are completely reliant on Great Lakes for their upstream natural gas transportation needs. In light of the foregoing, Great Lakes states that the proposed facilities are required by the public convenience and necessity and should be approved for construction and operation.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before May 12, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the

<sup>1</sup> Great Lakes states that the landowner for this property has agreed to Great Lakes' off right-of-way replacement. It is stated that an insignificant number of feet of the proposed lines will be located within Great Lakes' existing right-of-way at the edge of Michigan State forest land.