

the number of required copies, are found at 18 CFR 46.6 and 131.31.

The Commission has used the information filed in FERC Form 561 for the identification of: (1) Possible interlocking positions where the relationship is employed for the director's own benefit or profit, or for the benefit or profit of any other person or persons and to the detriment of the utility's, or the public interest; (2) the possible existence of control over a large

number and geographically widespread public utilities by a small group of individuals; (3) the lack of arm's length dealings between public utilities and organizations furnishing financial services to consumers; and (4) the evasion by means of common control of competition resulting in higher costs and poorer services to consumers.

FERC Form 561 is available in an Excel spreadsheet and requires only updating of the prior year's information.

One signed original hard copy and one photocopy are the required submission to the Commission; the electronic file is an optional submission.

*Action:* The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current expiration date, with no changes to the existing collection of information.

*Burden Statement:* Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents annually	Number of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total annual burden hours
(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)×(2)×(3)
1,600 .....	1	0.25	400

The estimated total cost to respondents is \$22,508. (400 hours divided by 2,088 hours per year per employee times \$117,041 per year per average employee=\$22,508). The cost per respondent is \$14.

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including: (1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information,

including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

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BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PR01-1-000]

#### Associated Natural Gas Company; Notice of Offer of Settlement

May 2, 2001.

Take notice that on April 18, 2001, Associated Natural Gas Company (ANG) tendered for filing a Stipulation and Agreement in the above referenced proceeding. The proposed Settlement established a firm reservation charge of \$1.04146 per MMBtu, a maximum usage charge of \$0.00273 per MMBtu and a maximum interruptible transportation rate of \$0.03697 per MMBtu., effective November 1, 2000.

The Settlement also provides that ANG shall file on or before November 1, 2003 either (1) a new petition for rate approval under Section 284.123(b)(2) or (2) a cost-and revenue study that complies with Section 154.313 of the Commission's regulations.

Initial comments on ANG's filing are due on or before May 8, 2001 and reply comments are due on or before May 18, 2001. Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-147-000]

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

May 2, 2001.

Take notice that on April 6, 2001 Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern), 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124-1000, filed in Docket No. CP01-147-000, a request pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), as amended, and the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission), requesting permission and approval to abandon service under an individually certificated agreement, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission, and open to public inspection. The application may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims/htm> (Call 202-208-2222 for assistance.)

Specifically, Northern proposes to abandon service to El Paso Natural Gas

Company (El Paso) under Rate Schedule T-2, contained in its FERC Gas Tariff, Original Volume No. 2. Northern further states that the underlying contract has not provided service to several years and has been terminated in accordance with the contract terms.

Any questions regarding this application should be directed to Keith L. Petersen, Director, Certificates and Reporting for Northern, 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124, at (402) 398-7421 or Bret Fritch, Senior Regulatory Analyst, at (402) 398-7140.

Any person desiring to be heard or make any protest with reference to said application should on or before May 23, 2001, file with the Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR Sections 385.211 and 385.214) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR Section 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 proceedings. Any person wishing to become party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a petition 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 Procedures, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission on this application if no protest or motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein. At that time, the Commission, on its own review of the matter, will determine whether granting the Abandonment is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a petition 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. Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be

unnecessary for Northern to appear or be represented at the hearing.

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 01-11478 Filed 5-4-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP01-160-000]

#### Northwest Alaskan Pipeline Company; Notice of Application for Permission and Approval To Abandon Sale of Natural Gas

May 2, 2001.

Take notice that Northwest Alaskan Pipeline Company (Northwest Alaskan) on April 17 2001 filed an application pursuant to section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act, 15 U.S.C. 717f(b); section 9 of the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Act (ANGTA), 15 U.S.C. 719g; and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations, 18 CFR part 157, seeking the Commission's permission and approval to abandon Northwest Alaskan's jurisdictional sales of up to 800,000 Mcf per day of natural gas to Pan-Alberta Gas (U.S.) Inc. (PAGUS). Northwest Alaskan states that it presently sells Canadian gas to PAGUS at the United States-Canada border under three gas purchase agreements that Northwest Alaskan executed as part of the contractual arrangements for construction of the Eastern Leg "prebuild" of the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System (ANGTS) and which, with the Commission's approval, were assigned to PAGUS in 1989, 1992 and 1993.

Northwest Alaskan further states that Northwest Alaskan and PAGUS have entered into agreements to terminate their gas purchase agreements, subject to receipt of all necessary regulatory approvals. Northwest Alaskan also states that implementation of the overall transaction will require approval of the proposed abandonment, termination of Northwest Alaskan's tariff, certain consents from third parties and execution of certain additional documents. To accommodate these arrangements, Northwest Alaskan requests that the Commission authorize the requested abandonment to be effective on the day after the day on which the parties close their transaction. Northwest Alaskan states that the parties anticipate closing the transaction on or before May 15, 2001, and that Northwest Alaskan will notify

the Commission when the closing has occurred.

Northwest Alaskan states that it is serving copies of the instant application on its affected customers. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Any questions regarding the application should be directed to Michael Thompson at (202) 393-20005, Northwest Alaskan Pipeline Company c/o Wright & Talisman, P.C. 1200 G Street, N.W. Suite 600 Washington, D.C. 20005.

There are two ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project. First, any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this project should, on or before May 22, 2001, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene 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 157.10). A person obtaining party 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 all other parties. A party must submit 14 copies of filings made with the Commission and must mail a copy to the applicant and to every other party in the proceeding.

Only parties to the proceeding can ask for court review of Commission orders in the proceeding. However, a person does not have to intervene in order to have comments considered. The second way to participate is by filing with the Secretary of the Commission, as soon as possible, an original and two copies of comments in support of or in opposition to this project. The Commission will consider these comments in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but the filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project provide copies of their protests only to the party or parties directly involved in the protest.

Also, comments protests, and interventions may be filed electronically via the internet in lieu of paper. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's web site at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/efi/doorbell.htm>.

If the Commission decides to set the application for a formal hearing before an Administrative Law Judge, the