

Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426 and reference Docket No. ER96-1663-000. All written comments will be placed in the Commission's Public files and will be available for inspection or copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room during normal business hours. The Commission also will make all comments available to the public on its electronic bulletin board (EBB).

Broadcast of Technical Conference

If there is sufficient interest, the Capitol Connection will broadcast the technical conference on January 17, 1997, to interested persons. Persons interested in receiving the broadcast for a fee should contact Julia Morelli at the Capitol Connection (703-993-3100) no later than January 14, 1997.

In addition, National Narrowcast Network's Hearings-On-the-Line service covers all Commission meetings live by telephone so that anyone can listen without special equipment. Call 202-966-2211 for details. Billing is based on time on-line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David E. Mead, Office of Economic Policy, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-1024.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

Attachment—Panels, WEPEX Market Power Conference, January 17, 1997

Panel 1: Structural Mitigation Options

A number of options have been proposed which alter the market structure or create incentives to reduce market power. Issues associated with these options include:

- Divestiture: are the current divestiture proposals adequate to mitigate market power so that the Commission can approve market-based rates?
- Consumer access: how much do retail competition and real-time pricing mitigate horizontal market power?
- Existing entry barriers (generation and transmission): what are they and how can they be remedied? Who has the authority to remove any such barriers?
- Call contracts: how do call contracts mitigate market power for energy, capacity and ancillary services? What are the details that should be included in the contracts? How should the call contract prices be determined? Which units should be subject to call contracts?
- Transmission constraints: how do transmission constraints affect market power? How do transmission rights mitigate market power?

- Bidding trusts: what is needed to mitigate market power? Should bidding trusts be made a permanent mitigation measure?

Panelists

Paul Joskow, Elizabeth and James Killian Professor of Economics and Management; Head, Department of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Representative, Sacramento Municipal Utility District
Jan Smutney-Jones, Executive Director, Independent Energy Producers Association
Jim Macias, Vice President and General Manager, Transmission Business Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Representative, California Public Utilities Commission
Jeffrey D. Watkiss, Coalition for a Competitive Electric Market

Panel 2: Mitigation—Institutional

When structural options are unavailable or inappropriate, a number of other options are available which remove the incentive or ability of entities to exercise market power. These options could be applied to all market participants and serve to ensure that market power is mitigated or applied to individual entities if the exercise of market power is detected.

- Bidding rules: what are appropriate bidding rules? In competitive markets, generators would be expected to bid their running costs.
- Bidding incentives: what is the effect of the CTC (e.g., as a revenue cap for the California IOUs)?
- Ancillary services: how may ancillary services interact with other services to encourage market power? How should ancillary services be procured to create competition and mitigate market power?

Panelists

William Hieronymous, Putnam Hayes and Bartlett, on behalf of San Diego Gas and Electric Company
W. Kent Palmerton, Manager of Industry Restructuring Programs, Northern California Power Agency
John Jurewitz, Manager of Regulatory Policy, Southern California Edison Company
Barbara Barkovitch, California Large Energy Consumers Association, or Keith McRae, Attorney for California Manufacturers Association
Eric Woychik, Utility Consumers Action Network and Toward Utility Rate Normalization

Panel 3: Monitoring for Market Power

- Information: what is the effect of widely available information on the

ability to detect market power? What information should be collected and how will market power be identified?

- How do the physical properties of the network change market power analysis?
- How should capacity availability and withholding be identified and examined?
- Who should be responsible for monitoring? What are the appropriate roles for the ISO and the PX? What should the Commission do to monitor market power?

Panelists

Larry Ruff, Managing Director, Putnam, Hayes and Bartlett (invited)
Michael Florio, Toward Utility Rate Normalization
Representative, California Energy Commission
Joe D. Pace, Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Representative, Electricity Consumers Resource Counsel

[FR Doc. 97-914 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP97-179-000]

Questar Pipeline Company; Notice of Application

January 9, 1997.

Take notice that on January 2, 1997 Questar Pipeline Company (Questar) 79 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, filed in Docket No. CP97-179-000 an application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act, for permission and approval to abandon, by removal, the above ground Drunkard's Wash No. 1 Measuring and Regulating Station located in Carbon County, Utah that serves as a jurisdictional receipt point on Questar's interstate transmission system, all as more fully set forth in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

It is stated that the Drunkard's Wash No. 1 measuring and regulating station consist of a 4-inch Daniel senior meter run, a 3-inch Rockwell valve, telemetry and appurtenances housed in a 4-foot by 6-foot skid mounted meter building. Questar explains that the Drunkard's Wash No. 1 station was established as a temporary facility to receive natural gas volumes produced solely by River Gas Corporation (River Gas) into Questar's interstate transmission

system. Questar states that the Drunkard's Wash No. 1 station is no longer utilized as a receipt point, declaring that instead the natural gas produced by River Gas is now delivered at an alternate, larger capacity receipt point, known as the Drunkard's Wash No. 2 station, which is located approximately one mile south of the facility proposed to be abandoned.

Questar is not proposing to abandon any service.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before January 21, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 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. 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.

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 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 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 Questar to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-911 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP97-180-000]

Questar Pipeline Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

January 9, 1997.

Take notice that on January 2, 1997, Questar Pipeline Company (Questar Pipeline), 79 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, filed in Docket No. CP97-180-000 a request pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.216 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.216) for authorization to abandon an inactive delivery point historically used to provided service to Geokinetics under Questar Pipeline's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-491-000 pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Questar Pipeline states that the delivery point is located in Uintah County, Utah and that the as-constructed Geokinetics delivery point consisted of skid-mounted measuring and regulating facilities, a heater/separator and associated piping. These facilities were temporarily moved to Questar Pipeline's Vernal, Utah storage yard for safe keeping when Geokinetics went out of business. Questar Pipeline believes that the inactive delivery point should be formally abandoned since Geokinetics has been out of business for more than 10 years. Questar Pipeline states that Geokinetics was the only customer served at this location.

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 Procedural Rules (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 shall be deemed to be authorized effective 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.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-912 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP97-175-000]

Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

January 9, 1997.

Take notice that on December 30, 1996, Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company (Williston Basin), 200 North Third Street, Bismark, North Dakota 58501 filed in Docket No. CP97-175-000 a request pursuant to Sections 157.205, and 157.216 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205 and 157.216) for approval and permission to abandon a farm tap located in Dawson County, Montana, under the blanket certificate issued in Docket Nos. CP82-487-000, *et al.*, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), all as more fully set forth in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Williston Basin asserts that Montana-Dakota Utilities Company (Montana-Dakota), a local distribution company, has extended its distribution system to serve the load previously served through the tap which Williston now proposes to abandon. Williston Basin also asserts that removal of the tap will eliminate the possibility of ice damage to the tap's riser from the flooding of a nearby river.

Any person or the Commission's Staff may, within 45 days after the 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 § 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 activities shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn 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.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-910 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. ER96-2926-000]

Wisconsin Power & Light Company; Notice of Filing

January 10, 1997.

Take notice that on November 22, 1996, Wisconsin Power & Light