

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.

David P. Boergers,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-7536 Filed 3-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. RP98-8-005 and RP96-199-014]

Mississippi River Transmission Corporation; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

March 18, 1998.

Take notice that on March 13, 1998, Mississippi River Transmission Corporation (MRT) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Third Revised Volume No. 1, the following revised tariff sheets to be effective January 1, 1998:

Third Substitute Twenty-Seventh Revised Sheet No. 5
Third Substitute Twenty-Eighth Revised Sheet No. 5
Third Substitute Twenty-Seventh Revised Sheet No. 6
Third Substitute Twenty-Eighth Revised Sheet No. 6
Third Substitute Twenty-Fourth Revised Sheet No. 7
Second Substitute Twenty-Fifth Revised Sheet No. 7

An addition, MRT tendered for filing the following revised tariff sheets to be effective February 12, 1998:

Second Substitute Twenty-Ninth Revised Sheet No. 5
Second Substitute Twenty-Ninth Revised Sheet No. 6
Second Substitute Twenty-Sixth Revised Sheet No. 7

MRT states that the purpose of this filing is to amend its March 2, 1998 filing to correct surcharge column headings and to identify the GRI surcharge for the authorized overrun rate on the SCT and IT rate schedules.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. 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 proceedings. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

David P. Boergers,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-7533 Filed 3-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-392-002]

National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation; Notice of Proposed changes in FERC Gas Tariff

March 18, 1998.

Take notice that on March 13, 1997 National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation (National) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Fourth Revised Volume No. 1, Second Revised Sheet No. 10, to proposed to become effective March 31, 1998.

On August 11, 1997, National filed in compliance with a July 10, 1997 Order, a tariff sheet proposing a revised title transfer fee applicable to in-place storage title transfers. National states that this filing is made in compliance with the Commission's order of February 27, 1998 rejecting National's suspended August 11, 1997 compliance filing. The proposed tariff sheet reflects the Commission recommended in-place storage title transfer rate of \$3.86 per party per transaction (\$7.72 total).

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. 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 proceedings. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

David P. Boergers,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-7532 Filed 3-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-121-001]

Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company; Notice of Compliance Filing

March 18, 1998.

Take notice that on March 13, 1998, Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company (Panhandle) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, First Revised Volume No. 1, the following tariff sheets proposed to be effective March 1, 1998:

Sub Second Revised Sheet No. 102
Original Sheet No. 102A
Sub First Revised Sheet No. 103
Sub First Revised Sheet No. 104

Panhandle states that the purpose of this filing is to comply with the Commission's order issued February 26, 1998 in Docket No. RP98-121-000, 82 FERC ¶ 61,188 (1998).

Panhandle states that copies of this filing are being served on all affected customers, applicable state regulatory agencies and all parties to this proceeding.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. 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 proceedings. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

David P. Boergers,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-7534 Filed 3-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. SA98-33-000]

Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc.; Notice of Petition for Adjustment

March 18, 1998.

Take notice that on March 9, 1998, Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc. (Pioneer) filed a petition for adjustment under section 502(c) of the Natural Gas

Policy Act of 1978 (NGPA),¹ requesting that the Commission grant a procedural adjustment in connection with its potential refund liability for reimbursement of Kansas ad valorem taxes otherwise required by the Commission's September 10, 1997 order in Docket Nos. GP97-3-000, GP97-4-000, GP97-5-000, and RP97-369-000.² Pioneer's petition is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

The Commission's September 10 order on remand from the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals³ directed first sellers under the NGPA to make Kansas ad valorem tax refunds, with interests, for the period from 1983 to 1988. The Commission clarified the refund procedures in its "Order Clarifying Procedures" in Northern Natural Gas Company, *et al.*,⁴ stating therein that it would grant extension of the refund due date for royalty refunds if a producer requests such an extension. In addition, the Commission indicated in the January 28 order that it would consider adjustment requests as to the refund amounts and the refund procedures.

Pioneer requests authorization to defer payment to Northern Natural Gas Company, Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company, ANR Pipeline Company, Williams Natural Gas Company, KN Interstate Gas Transmission Co., and Colorado Interstate Gas Company (Pipelines) of principal and interest refunds attributable to royalties for one year until March 9, 1999. In addition, Pioneer requests that it be allowed to place into an escrow account certain portions of the remaining refunds allegedly due to Pipelines. Pioneer argues that it seeks to establish these procedures to ensure: (a) that it pays only that which is legitimately owed; and (b) that if it is subsequently determined that its refund liability was less than that originally claimed by Pipelines, it can recover the overpayment.

Pioneer states that a one-year deferral in the obligation to make royalty refunds is necessary in order to allow it to confirm the appropriate refund amounts due, to attempt to locate the prior royalty owners, and to seek recovery of such amounts from the proper royalty owners. On or before March 9, 1999, Pioneer proposes to file

with the Commission documentation of those royalties which were not collectible and disburse to Pipelines those royalty refunds which were recovered (principal only), except for refunds attributable to pre-October 3, 1983, production (which is covered below). At that time, Pioneer proposes to place the interest from royalty refunds which was recovered in its escrow account to protect the royalty owners. In addition, Pioneer argues that its proposal for an escrow account is necessary to protect its property and that of its royalty owners. Pioneer also proposes to place the following amounts into that escrow account: (a) the principal amount of refunds and interest thereon attributable to royalty refunds [during the one-year deferral period]; (b) the principal and interest amount of refunds attributable to production prior to October 3, 1983 (excluding royalties attributable thereto during the one-year deferral period); and (c) the interest due on principal refunds other than royalty refunds (during the one-year deferral period) and pre-October 3, 1983, production refunds. Pioneer requests the one-year deferral and the authorization to place such monies into an escrow account pursuant to the Commission's January 28, 1998, Order Clarifying Procedures.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said petition should on or before 15 days after the date of publication in the **Federal Register** of this notice, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, 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, 385.211, 385.1105, and 385.1106). 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.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-7542 Filed 3-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. SA98-18-000]

Riviera Drilling & Exploration Company; Notice of Petition for Adjustment

March 18, 1998.

Take notice that on March 6, 1998, Riviera Drilling & Exploration Company (Riviera) filed a petition for adjustment under section 502(c) of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 (NGPA),¹ requesting to be relieved of its obligation to pay Kansas ad valorem tax refunds, as required by the Commission's September 10, 1997, order in Docket Nos. GP97-3-000, GP97-4-000, GP97-5-000 and RP97-369-000.² Riviera's petition is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

The Commission's September 10 order on remand from the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals³ directed first sellers under the NGPA to make Kansas ad valorem tax refunds, with interest, for the period from 1983 to 1988. The Commission's September 10 order also provided that first sellers could, with the Commission's prior approval, amortize their Kansas ad valorem tax refunds over a 5-year period, although interests would continue to accrue on any outstanding balance.

Riviera states that in the early 1980's, its became and continues to be the operator of the Pope Haxelton #1-21 and Pope Adamson #1-16 wells, located in the State of Kansas. Riviera states that these wells were determined to be Section 103 natural gas category wells in late 1982. Riviera further states that in 1983, the working interest on these two wells was owned by R.H. Zwicky (90%), R&P Investment (5%) and Lavon Arbogast (5%). In 1984, the working interest was owned by R.H. Zwicky (67.50%), tomar, Inc. (22.50%), R&P Investment (5%) and Lavon Arbogast (5%). Riviera maintains that it merely remained the operator of the two wells and, as operator, acted as agent for all of the working interest and royalty interest owners. Riviera states that as operator, Riviera received ad valorem checks from Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) on behalf of the working interest and royalty interest

¹ 15 U.S.C. 3142(C)(1982).

² See 80 FERC ¶ 61,264 (1997); order denying reh'g issued January 28, 1998, 82 FERC ¶ 61,058 (1998).

³ *Public Service Company of Colorado v. FERC*, 91 F.3d 1478 (D.C. 1996), cert. denied, Nos. 96-954 and 96-1230 (65 U.S.L.W. 3751 and 3754, May 12, 1997) (Public Service).

⁴ 82 FERC ¶ 61,059 (1998).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 3142(c) (1982).

² See 80 FERC ¶ 61,264 (1997); order denying reh'g issued January 28, 1998, 82 FERC ¶ 61,058 (1998).

³ *Public Service Company of Colorado v. FERC*, 91 F.3d 1478 (D.C. 1996), cert. denied, Nos. 96-954 and 96-1230 (65 U.S.L.W. 3751 and 3754, May 12, 1997) (Public Service).