

unduly discriminatory or preferential. Section 311 of the Act authorizes the Commission to conduct investigations regarding the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electric energy however produced, throughout the United States in order to collect information that will serve as a basis for recommending legislation. The information collected by the Commission will be the basis of a report to be used in part at Congressional hearings scheduled for late September 1998.

Information Collection Statement

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3507, and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) implementing regulations at 5 CFR 1320.10 require OMB to approve certain reporting and recordkeeping requirements (collections of information) imposed by a federal agency. Upon approval of a collection of information, OMB will assign an OMB control number and an expiration date.

The proposed information collection request will be done under a temporary data collection, FERC-718, "Sales and Purchase Information during Midwest Price Spike" (OMB Control No. To be assigned). The respondents will be public utilities, power marketers and members of a nonprofit utility organization. Responses to the information collection request will be voluntary.

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)x(2)x(3)
80	1	16	1,280

Estimated cost burdens to respondents: The Commission estimates that it will cost each respondent \$800.00 to respond to this information collection request for a total of \$64,000 (80 x \$800).

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 professionals 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; and (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. The proposed collection of information is being submitted to OMB for review. Because the Commission needs to present its finding before Congressional hearings, the Commission has requested responses to this proposed information collection request by early September 1998. Accordingly, the Commission has requested OMB to provide for emergency processing of this proposed information collection by August 26, 1998. Comments on the collection of information, therefore should be filed with OMB as soon as possible to provide OMB with sufficient time for its review. For copies of the OMB submission, contact Michael Miller at (202) 208-1415. Interested persons may send comments regarding the burden estimates or any other aspect on the proposed information collection, including suggestions for reductions of burden, to the Desk Officer FERC, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10202 NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, phone (202) 395-3087 or via the Internet at

Erik_K_Godwin@omb.eop.gov. A copy of any comments filed with OMB should also be sent to Michael Miller, Office of the Chief Information Officer,

CI-1, 888 First Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. Michael Miller may also be reached by fax at (202) 273-0873, and by e-mail at michael.miller@ferc.fed.us.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-717-000]

El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Application

August 20, 1998.

Take notice that on August 10, 1998, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso), Post Office Box 1492, El Paso, Texas, 79978, filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) at Docket No. CP98-717-000, under Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act and Section 157.5, *et seq.*, of the Commission's Regulations, for permission and approval to abandon from jurisdictional interstate transmission service approximately 49.16 miles of the 12 3/4" O.D. El Paso-Douglas Loop Line, with appurtenances, (Line No. 1005) located in Dona Ana and Luna Counties, New Mexico and the related natural gas service, all as more fully described in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

El Paso states that changing circumstances have eliminated the continued operational need in interstate transmission service of certain segments

of Line No. 1005. With the installation by El Paso of the larger diameter, high pressure pipelines for interstate mainline transmission service, lines like Line No. 1005, have been relegated to gas services that operationally support service on the mainline. More specifically, lines such as Line No. 1005 are utilized by El Paso to move gas at lesser volumes to either more optimally load the mainline or to provide gas as fuel for the operation of the mainline system. Such is the case for Line No. 1005.

El Paso states that based upon the age and condition of certain segments of Line No. 1005 and the reduced need and operational necessity for some segments of Line No. 1005, El Paso has determined that three segments of Line No. 1005 are no longer required in the operation of El Paso's interstate transmission pipeline system. El Paso proposes to abandon the three segments by removal, to the extent practicable.

Accordingly, El Paso proposes to abandon three segments of Line No. 1005 totaling 49.16 miles of pipeline, with appurtenances, and the related natural gas service rendered through such segments. El Paso indicates that eight sections of Segment 2 totaling 536.16 feet already have been removed. These sections were located in Dona Ana County.

El Paso further states there will be no adverse environmental effects from the proposed abandonment. Based upon El Paso's environmental review, there have been and will be no adverse environmental impacts from cutting and capping the pipeline segments and the proposed abandonment by removal, to the extent practicable. Abandonment by removal will be accomplished within existing previously disturbed right-of-way by trenching, cutting the pipe, removing the pipe, and filling the trench. The disturbed areas are returned to their natural state.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before September 10, 1998, 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 385.211 and 385.214) 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. The Commission's Rules require that protestors provide

copies of their protests to the party or parties against whom the protests are directed. 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.

A person obtaining intervenor 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 every one of the intervenors. An intervenor can file for rehearing of any Commission order and can petition for court review of any such order. However, an intervenor must submit copies of comments or any other filings it makes with the Commission to every other intervenor in the proceeding, as well as an original and 14 copies with the Commission.

A person does not have to intervene, however, in order to have environmental comments considered. A person, instead, may submit two copies of comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of environmental documents and will be able to participate in meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission and will not have the right to seek rehearing or appeal the Commission's final order to a federal court.

The Commission will consider all comments and concerns equally, whether filed by commenters or those requesting intervenor status.

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 the requested abandonment is 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 El Paso to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-349-001]

Midwestern Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Compliance Filing

August 18, 1998.

Take notice that on August 12, 1998, Midwestern Gas Transmission Company (Midwestern), P.O. Box 2511, Houston, Texas 77252, filed Sub Fourth Revised Sheet No. 110A for inclusion in Midwestern's FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1. Midwestern requests that this revised tariff sheet be deemed effective August 1, 1998.

Midwestern states that Sub Fourth Revised Sheet No. 110A is filed in compliance with the Commission's July 28, 1998 Letter Order issued in the above-referenced docket and incorporates by reference the Gas Industry Standards Board Dataset 2.4.6 into Midwestern's tariff.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this 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 18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or 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 this 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 available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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