

application for a Blanket Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity under Subpart F Part 157 of the Commission's Regulations requesting authority to engage in the activity described in Section 157.203 of the Commission's Regulations, all as more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said motion should on or before January 20, 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 384.214 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.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-167 Filed 1-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-148-000]

Williams Natural Gas Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

December 30, 1997.

Take notice that on December 19, 1997, Williams Natural Gas Company (WNG), P.O. Box 3288, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101, filed in Docket No. CP98-148-000 a request pursuant to Sections 157.205, 157.212 and 157.216 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.212 and 157.216) for authorization to abandon in place by sale to Western Resources, Inc. (WRI), approximately 3,246 feet of 2-inch lateral pipeline and to relocate and replace the WRI Richmond town border meter setting and appurtenant facilities, located in Franklin County, Kansas, under WNG's blanket certificate issued in Docket Nos. CP82-479-000, 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.

Specifically, WNG seeks authorization to: (1) Abandon in place by sale to WRI approximately 3,246 feet of the Richmond 2-inch lateral pipeline beginning in Section 7, Township 19 South, Range 20 East, Franklin County, Kansas and ending in Section 13, Township 19 South, Range 19 East, Franklin County, Kansas, (2) reclaim the WRI Richmond town border meter setting and appurtenant facilities from Section 13, Township 19 South, Range 19 East, Franklin County, Kansas, and (3) install a new rotary meter setting and high pressure regulator setting at the site of the existing regulator setting in Section 7, Township 19 South, Range 20 East, Franklin County, Kansas.

WNG states that selling the pipeline, replacing and relocating the town border meter setting will allow WRI to receive gas at this location at a higher delivery pressure in order to accommodate a proposed housing subdivision in the area. WNG states that the most recent annual volume through the Richmond town border setting was 27,222 Dth with a peak day volume of 259 Dth and that no significant change in volume is expected immediately. WNG states that the cost to replace and relocate the Richmond town border meter setting is estimated to be \$127,435.

WNG states that the four domestic customers located on the pipeline to be sold to WRI that are currently billed and served by WRI will continue to be served by WRI after the abandonment.

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 § 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.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2100-083]

California Department of Water Resources; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

December 30, 1997.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission's) Regulations, 18 CFR Part 380 (Order 486, 52 F.R. 47897), the Commission's Office of Hydropower Licensing has reviewed an application for a temporary modification in the minimum flow requirement at the Themalito Afterbay Outlet (Outlet) of the Feather River Hydroelectric Project, Project No. 2100-083. The project is located on the Feather River, Butte County, California. Based on an agreement with state and federal resource agencies, the licensee wishes to temporarily reduce flows at the Outlet to 1,500 cfs for a maximum of 75 days, from January 1 through March 15, 1998, to help recover water supply lost due to actions taken in spring 1997 to help fish. The agreement also calls for the licensee to increase flows to the low flow channel of the Feather River from 600 to 900 cfs from October 15, 1997 through February 28, 1998. An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared for the application. The EA finds that approving the application would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Copies of the EA are available for review in the Public Reference Branch, Room 2-A, of the Commission's offices at 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-195 Filed 1-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of New Docket Prefix IC

December 30, 1997.

Notice is hereby given that a new docket prefix IC has been established for notices issued by the Commission on its information collection requirements. These notices announce the Commission's efforts to have public

involvement on the development of its information collection requirements prior to obtaining approval with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

On October 1, 1995, the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) went into effect and expanded the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980. Among the additional agency responsibilities enumerated in the Act were the requirements to plan for the development of new collections of information and the extension of existing collections of information far in advance of sending them forward to OMB for approval. This additional advanced planning is necessary because agencies must develop greater public participation in the development of information collection requirements imposed on the public. To achieve this public participation, the Commission must "provide 60-day notice in the **Federal Register**, and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies" [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. In these notices, the Commission must solicit comments on the need for the information, its practical utility, the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate, and on ways to minimize the burden, including through "the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology."

In addition, the Act continued the requirement that agencies publish a notice in the **Federal Register** stating that the proposed collection of

information has been submitted for OMB review. This is the second notice to appear in the **Federal Register** and provides the public with a second opportunity to comment. OMB must provide at least 30 days for public comment after receipt of the Commission's submission and prior to making a decision. In order for the Commission to obtain public comment and routine OMB review and approval, for both new collections of information and also to extend ongoing collections of information, it has to allow an additional 90 days in the approval process.

In order to properly account for any comments it receives in response to a **Federal Register** notice, it is necessary to establish a new docket prefix for notices concerning the Commission's collections of information. The new docket prefix will help the Commission to manage this type of work and assess its resources applicable to it. The new docket prefix will be ICFY-NNN-NNN, where the FY stands for the fiscal year in which the notice was issued, the first NNN is an identifier for the Commission's collection of information requirement and the second NNN represents either the first or second notice, with 000 to designate a 60 day notice and 001 to designate a 30-day notice. For example, IC98-592-000 would represent the 60-day notice for the Commission information collection FERC-592 during fiscal year 1998.

When an information collection requirement is also the subject of a proposed or final rule, the RM docket number would be used instead of an IC docket number.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-194 Filed 1-5-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Hearings and Appeals

Notice of Cases Filed During the Week of November 24 Through November 28, 1997

During the Week of November 24 through November 28, 1997, the appeals, applications, petitions or other requests listed in this Notice were filed with the Office of Hearings and Appeals of the Department of Energy.

Any person who will be aggrieved by the DOE action sought in any of these cases may file written comments on the application within ten days of publication of this Notice or the date of receipt of actual notice, whichever occurs first. All such comments shall be filed with the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585-0107.

Dated: December 23, 1997.

George B. Breznay,

Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals.

SUBMISSION OF CASES RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Week of November 24 through November 28, 1997]

Date	Name and location of applicant	Case No.	Type of submission
November 25, 1997.	Rural Alliance for Military Accountability, Questa, NM.	VFA-0357	Appeal of an Information Request Denial. If Granted: The Freedom of Information Request Denial issued by Rocky Flats Field Office would be rescinded, and the Rural Alliance for Military Accountability would receive access to certain DOE information.
November 26, 1997.	Dykema Gossett, Washington, D.C.	VFA-0358	Appeal of an Information Request Denial. If Granted: The November 3, 1997 Freedom of Information Request Denial issued by the Oak Ridge Operations Office would be rescinded, and Dykema Gossett would receive access to certain DOE information.
November 25, 1997.	K&M Plastics, Elk Grove Village, IL	VFA-0356	Appeal of an Information Request Denial. If Granted: The Freedom of Information Request Denial issued by Rocky Flats Field Office would be rescinded, and K&M Plastics would receive access to certain DOE information.