

(c) of Title 5, United States Code, specifically subparagraphs (1) and (4) thereof.

For further information, contact the HQ USAF Scientific Advisory Board Secretariat at (703) 697-8404.

Carolyn A. Lunsford,

Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-7299 Filed 3-24-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-05-U

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Solicitation for Financial Assistance for Cooperative Automotive Research for Advanced Technologies (CARAT) Program Solicitation No. DE-PS02-99EE50493

AGENCY: Chicago Operations Office (DOE).

ACTION: Notice inviting financial assistance applications.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) invites applications for federal assistance for research on the Cooperative Automotive Research for Advanced Technologies (CARAT) Program. The purpose of the (CARAT) Program is to provide small businesses and institutions of higher education with an exclusive means to research, develop, and validate advanced automotive technologies that will enable the production of cars and light trucks which are extremely fuel efficient, have low emissions, and/or are fuel flexible. CARAT is intended to channel the creativity and resourcefulness of the small business and academic communities to remove technology barriers blocking the viability of promising technologies.

DATES: Pre-Application information is to be received no later than April 9, 1999. Applications are to be received no later than June 10, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Michael Rafa, Acquisition and Assistance Group, Chicago Operations Office, 9800 South Cass Avenue, Argonne, Illinois 60439, Telephone No. (630) 252-2192, FAX No. (630) 252-5045, Internet—Michael.Rafa@ch.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: There are 15 topics for which the DOE invites Financial Assistance Applications: Oxygen Reduction Catalysts for PEM Fuel Cell, Cooling Systems for PEM Fuel Cells, Direct-Methanol Proton-Exchange Membrane Fuel Cells, Ultralight Sandwich Structures, Processing of Metal Matrix Composites, Low-Cost Carbon Fiber Precursors and Production Methods, High-Volume, High-Rate,

Low-Cost Manufacturing of Structural Thermoplastics Composites, Mass Flow Rate and Chemical Composition Sensor for Engine Intake System, Safe Electrolytes with Improved Operating Temperature Range, Low-Cost Packaging for Lithium-ion Cells, Stabilization of Manganese Spinel for Use as a Low-Cost Cathode Material in Lithium-ion Batteries, Traction Motors, Improved Coolant for Electrical/Electronic EV/HEV Systems and Waste Heat Recovery in Passenger Automobiles.

The solicitation will be available on the Internet to view and download at <http://www.ch.doe.gov/business/ACQ.htm> (It is critical that ACQ be in uppercase and all others are lower case). Printed copies will not be available from this office, therefore, copies must be downloaded from the Internet. Any amendments to this solicitation will be posted on the Internet. Please note that prospective applicants will not be alerted when the solicitation is issued on the Internet or when amendments are posted on the Internet.

Issued in Chicago, Illinois on March 17, 1999.

John D. Greenwood,

Acquisition and Assistance Group Manager Contracting Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-7329 Filed 3-24-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99-241-000]

ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Application

March 19, 1999.

Take notice that on March 8, 1999, as supplemented on March 19, 1999 ANR Pipeline Company (ANR), 500 Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan 48243, filed an application pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and Subpart A of Part 157 of the Commission's regulations for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing ANR to construct, own, and operate an expansion of its mainline facilities located west of its Joliet Compressor Station near Joliet, Illinois, and to its mainline facilities located in eastern Wisconsin (the Wisconsin Expansion Phase II facilities), all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/>

online/rims.htm (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

In order to meet increasing gas requirements in the State of Wisconsin by November 1, 2000, ANR proposes to install certain additional loop pipeline, compression, tie-line, and related facilities on parts of its existing mainline facilities located in Wisconsin and Illinois. ANR states that these facilities will increase its transmission capacity into Wisconsin by up to 194,000 dekatherms per day (194 Mdt/d), thereby enabling ANR to provide additional firm transportation service for shippers from the ANR Joliet Hub to the Wisconsin market area for ANR's system. In order to allow sufficient time for construction of the proposed facilities and to meet the proposed in-service date, ANR requests that the Commission issue a preliminary determination order by August 1, 1999 and a final order by no later than February 1, 2000.

Specifically, ANR seeks authority to construct: (1) approximately 3.0 miles of 42-inch diameter loop pipeline between milepost 801 and milepost 804 along ANR's existing Michigan Leg South in Kendall County, Illinois; (2) two 10,000 horsepower (hp) turbine compressor units to be located at ANR's existing Woodstock Compressor Station in McHenry County, Illinois; (3) one 1,500 hp turbine compressor unit to be located at ANR's existing Weyauwega Compressor Station in Waupaca County, Wisconsin; (4) 0.11 mile of 16-mile diameter pipeline traversing from the Weyauwega Compressor Station to the Marinette Junction tap site on ANR's existing 24-inch mainline; (5) one 1,500 hp reciprocating compressor unit to be located at ANR's existing Janesville Compressor Station in Rock County, Wisconsin; and (6) minor related facilities. ANR states that these facilities are estimated to cost \$37,516,622.

ANR states that the proposed 3.0 miles of 42-inch loopline along the Michigan Leg South comprise an extension of a 15.9 mile segment of certain Michigan Leg South loopline facilities that are currently pending approval in Docket No. CP97-319-000 (ANR's "SupplyLink" project). ANR contends that, although the design for the facilities proposed herein includes this pending 15.9 mile loopline segment, the facilities proposed here are required to serve different market needs in Wisconsin, and are not part of Docket No. CP97-319-000. ANR presumes that the SupplyLink facilities will be in service by the time ANR places the

facilities proposed herein in service.¹ In the event that the SupplyLink loopline facilities are not available in the proposed time frame, ANR states that it will be required to seek appropriate authorizations from the Commission in this Docket to accommodate any such delays.

ANR proposes to charge the subscribing shippers rates that do not exceed its currently effective Mainline Area rates under the provisions of its rate schedules for firm service under its existing Second Revised Volume No. 1 to its FERC Gas Tariff.

ANR states that it recently conducted an open season. As a result, a number of shippers expressed an interest in receiving firm transportation service on ANR. According to ANR, these shippers desired service from various existing and proposed pipeline interconnecting points located near or within the vicinity of the ANR Joliet Hub near Chicago, to markets located within the State of Wisconsin. ANR states that those non-affiliated shippers have entered into executed precedent agreements with ANR for new services that will utilize 94 Mdt/d of the new capacity proposed herein. ANR is also proposing to construct as part of this project 100 Mdt/d of presently uncommitted capacity that will be used to serve, on a timely basis, the projected near term demand growth in Wisconsin.

According to ANR, a report recently published by the Wisconsin energy Bureau, entitled Wisconsin Energy Statistics 1998, indicates that, from 1987-1997, natural gas demand in Wisconsin grew at an annual rate of approximately 2.6 percent. ANR states that it currently serves firm peak day entitlements of approximately 2,200 Mdt/d, which equates to an annual growth in peak day requirements on the ANR system of approximately 57 Mdt per year. ANR contends that when this proposed project is placed in service approximately two years from now, normal growth patterns indicate that the 100 Mdt/d of additional capacity will be required in Wisconsin.

ANR submits that its proposal to build additional facilities to meet projected growth in demand is in the overall public interest, and is consistent with Commission precedent. According to ANR, additional unsubscribed capacity for future growth as required has been previously approved as part of an application to replace mainline facilities.² ANR further states that

building all the necessary facilities as part of one single project will also reduce the potential for repeated environmental disturbance that might occur in the same location if the facilities were constructed on a piecemeal basis as part of two different projects.³

ANR argues that its expansion at the level proposed is justified, given that during the last two winter heating seasons ANR has experienced peak day throughout levels at or near capacity, despite the fact that both winters were warmer than normal. ANR states that its capacity expansion is an appropriate response to existing increased demands on its system, and the 100 Mdt/d of additional capacity represents only approximately four percent of ANR's current capacity into the State of Wisconsin.

ANR also states that it has also contacted shippers whose capacity, if reduced or released permanently, would reduce the need for the proposed new construction, in order to ensure that the new facilities are appropriately sized. ANR states that no shipper offered to reduce or release its capacity on a permanent basis.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said amendment should on or before April 9, 1999, 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 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. The Commission's rules require that protestors provide copies of their protests to the party or parties directly involved. 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 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 filing it makes with the Commission to every other intervenor in the proceeding, as well as 14 copies with the Commission.

A person does not have to intervene, however, in order to have 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 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 with further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, or if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed certificate 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 ANR to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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¹ In Docket No. CP97-319-000, ANR proposed to place the SupplyLink facilities in service by November 1, 1999.

² ANR cites Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, 72 FERC ¶ 61,018 (1995).

³ ANR cites Pacific Gas Transmission Company, 70 FERC ¶ 61,016 at 61,043 (1995).