

### § 161.3

### 18 CFR Ch. I (4-1-00 Edition)

means a sale of natural gas to any person or entity by a seller that is not an interstate pipeline, except when:

(1) The seller is selling gas solely from its own production;

(2) The seller is selling gas solely from its own gathering or processing facilities; or

(3) The seller is an intrastate natural gas pipeline or a local distribution company making an on-system sale.

(d) *Potential shippers*, as used in this part and §250.16 of this chapter, means all current transportation and sales customers of an interstate natural gas pipeline, and all persons who have pending requests for transportation service or for information regarding transportation service on that pipeline.

(e) *Transportation*, as used in this part and §250.16 of this chapter, includes storage, exchange, backhaul, displacement, or other methods of transportation.

[Order 566, 59 FR 32897, June 27, 1994, as amended at Order 566-A, 59 FR 52904, Oct. 20, 1994]

#### § 161.3 Standards of conduct.

An interstate natural gas pipeline must conduct its business to conform to the following standards:

(a) It must apply a tariff provision relating to transportation in the same manner to the same or similarly situated persons if there is discretion in the application of the provision.

(b) It must strictly enforce a tariff provision for which there is no discretion in the application of the provision.

(c) It may not, through a tariff provision or otherwise, give its marketing affiliate preference over nonaffiliated customers in matters relating to part 284 transportation including, but not limited to, scheduling, balancing, transportation, storage, or curtailment priority.

(d) It must process all similar requests for transportation in the same manner and within the same period of time.

(e) It may not disclose to its marketing affiliate any information the pipeline receives from a nonaffiliated shipper or potential nonaffiliated shipper.

(f) To the extent it provides to a marketing affiliate information related to

transportation of natural gas, it must provide that information contemporaneously to all potential shippers, affiliated and nonaffiliated, on its system.

(g) To the maximum extent practicable its operating employees and the operating employees of its marketing affiliate must function independently of each other.

(h)(1) If a pipeline offers a transportation discount to an affiliated marketer, or offers a transportation discount for a transaction in which an affiliated marketer is involved, the pipeline must make a comparable discount contemporaneously available to all similarly situated non-affiliated shippers.

(2) Within 24 hours of the time at which gas first flows under a transportation transaction in which an affiliated marketer receives a discounted rate or a transportation transaction at a discounted rate in which an affiliated marketer is involved, the pipeline must post a notice on its Internet web site operated complying with §284.12 of this chapter, providing the name of the affiliate involved in the discounted transportation transaction, the rate charged, the maximum rate, the time period for which the discount applies, the quantity of gas scheduled to be moved, the delivery points under the transaction, any conditions or requirements applicable to the discount, and the procedures by which a non-affiliated shipper can request a comparable offer. The posting must remain on the Internet web site for 30 days from the date of posting. The posting must conform with the requirements of §284.12 of this chapter and the pipeline's tariff requirements relating to Internet web sites. Access to the information must be provided using the same protocols and procedures used for the pipeline's Internet web site.

(i) It must file with the Commission procedures that will enable shippers and the Commission to determine how the pipeline is complying with the standards in this section.

(j) A pipeline must maintain its books of account and records (as prescribed under part 201) separately from those of its affiliate.

(k) A pipeline must maintain a written log of waivers that the pipeline

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grants with respect to tariff provisions that provide for such discretionary waivers and provide the log to any person requesting it within 24 hours of the request.

(1)(1) A pipeline must post the names and addresses of its marketing affiliates on its web site on the public Internet and update the information within three business days of any change. A pipeline must also state the date the information was last updated. Postings must conform with the requirements of §284.12 of this chapter.

(2) A pipeline must post the following information on its Internet web site complying with §284.12 of this chapter and update the information within three business days of any change, posting the date on which the information was updated:

(i) A complete list of the names of operating personnel and facilities shared by the pipeline and its marketing affiliates; and

(ii) Comprehensive organizational charts showing:

(A) The organizational structure of the parent corporation with the relative position in the corporate structure of the pipeline and all marketing affiliates;

(B) For the pipeline, the business units, job titles and descriptions, and chain of command for all positions, including officers and directors, with the exception of clerical, maintenance, and field positions. The job titles and descriptions must include the employee's title, the employee's duties, whether the employee is involved in transportation or gas sales, and the name of supervisory employees who manage non-clerical employees involved in transportation or gas sales.

(C) For all employees shared by the pipeline and a marketing affiliate, the business unit within the marketing affiliate organizational structure in which the employee is located, the employee's name, job title and job description in the marketing affiliate, and the employees position within the chain of command of the marketing affiliate.

[Order 497, 53 FR 22161, June 14, 1988; 53 FR 25240, July 5, 1988; Order 497-A, 54 FR 52792, Dec. 22, 1989; Order 497-D, 57 FR 58982, Dec. 14, 1992; Order 497-E, 59 FR 255, Jan. 4, 1994; Order 566, 59 FR 32898, June 27, 1994; Order 566-A, 59 FR 52904, Oct. 20, 1994; 61 FR 39068, July 26, 1996; Order 599, 63 FR 43079, Aug. 12, 1998; Order 637, 65 FR 10219, Feb. 25, 2000]