

Burden Hours: 793.

Abstract: The Planning and Evaluation Service is conducting a three-year study to evaluate the Eisenhower Professional Development Program and to report on the progress of the program with respect to a set of Performance Indiviators established by the Department of Education. The evaluation will provide information on the types of professional development activities supported by the program, the effects of the program participation on classroom teaching, and the quality of program planning and coordination. Clearance is sought for the Longitudinal Study of Teacher Changes, to be conducted in the Spring of the 1998–1999 school year. Respondents will be teachers.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP96–248–009 and CP96–249–009]

Portland Natural Gas Transmission System; Notice of Initial FERC Gas Tariff

December 17, 1998.

Take notice that on December 11, 1998, Portland Natural Gas Transmission System (PNGTS) filed to place into effect its FERC Gas Tariff, Original Volume No. 1, Original Sheet Nos. 1 through 650 (tariff). PNGTS requests that its tariff be made effective on February 11, 1999, which is the expected in-service date for the PNGTS facilities. The tariff will allow PNGTS to provide interstate transportation service in compliance with the Commission orders issued on July 31, 1996, July 31, 1997, September 24, 1997, and April 23, 1998.¹

PNGTS states that complete copies of this filing are being mailed to potential customers and interested state commissions. However, due to the voluminous nature of this filing, copies of the redlined tariff sheets in Appendix B, will not be included in the mailing. PNGTS states that redlined tariff sheets of this filing will be made available upon request, and complete copies of this filing are on file with the Commission.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file with the Federal

Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 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 proceeding.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–33987 Filed 12–22–98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99–75–000]

Northern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed A-Line Abandonment Project and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

December 17, 1998.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the abandonment of four segments totaling about 51 miles of the Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) A-Line pipeline in Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, and Texas.¹ The A-Line pipeline was constructed in the 1930's. Because of the age and condition of the pipeline, Northern has been forced to inactivate or reduce the operating pressure of most of the segments proposed for abandonment. The application for this project and other supplemental filings in this docket are available for viewing on the FERC Internet website (www.ferc.fed.us). Click on the "RIMS" link, select "Docket #" from the RIMS Menu, and follow the instructions.

Similarly, the "CIPS" link on the FERC Internet website provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings. From the FERC Internet website, click on the "CIPS" link, select "Docket #" from the CIPS Menu, and follow the instructions.

This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about the acquisition of additional temporary easement to complete the pipeline removal. The pipeline company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law.

Because the proposed pipeline removal activities would involve some of the same kinds of potential impacts normally associated with pipeline construction, a fact sheet of questions typically asked about pipeline construction, including the use of eminent domain, is attached to this notice as appendix 1.²

Summary of the Proposed Project

Northern requests authorization to:

(1) Abandon approximately 43.9 miles of 26-inch diameter A-Line pipeline beginning at the Macksville Compressor Station in Pawnee County, Kansas, and ending at the Bushton Compressor Station in Rice County, Kansas;

(2) Use the Bushton and Macksville Compressor Station yards for pipe storage and stockpile areas;

(3) Abandon approximately 5.0 miles of 24-inch-diameter A-Line starting in Cass County, Nebraska and ending in Mills County, Iowa;

(4) Abandon approximately 2.4 miles of 20-inch-diameter A-Line in Hancock County, Iowa; and

(5) Abandon approximately 92 feet of the 24-inch-diameter A-Line under Highway 83 in Ochiltree County, Texas.

The majority of the abandoned pipeline would be removed. Sixty farm taps currently occur along the A-Line. Thirty-five of these farm taps would be abandoned and 25 would be relocated to Northern's parallel B, C, D, or E pipelines. The location of the project facilities is shown in appendix 2.

Land Requirements for Construction

Construction activities would affect about 728 acres of primarily agricultural land and would use a 133-acre pipe storage and staging area. Following construction, the construction right-of-way would be restored and allowed to revert to its former use.

² The appendices referenced in this notice are not being printed in the **Federal Register**. Copies are available from the Commission's Public Reference and Files Maintenance Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, or call (202) 208–1371. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail.

¹ See, 76 FERC ¶ 61,123 (July 31, 1996); 80 FERC 61,134 (July 31, 1997); 80 FERC 61,345 (September 24, 1997), and 83 FERC 61,080 (April 23, 1998).

¹ Northern's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.