

Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-26812 Filed 10-13-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PR00-1-000]

ONEOK Field Services Company; Notice of Petition for Rate Approval

October 7, 1999.

Take notice that on October 1, 1999, ONEOK Field Service Company (OFSC) filed pursuant to section 284.123(b)(2) of the Commission's regulations, a petition for rate approval requesting that the Commission approve as fair and equitable a cost-justified rate, not to exceed \$0.016 per MMBtu for interruptible transportation service performed under section 311(a)(2) of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

Pursuant to Section 284.123(b)(2), if the Commission does not act within 150 days of the filing date, the proposed rates will be deemed fair and equitable and not in excess of an amount which interstate pipelines would be permitted to charge for similar transportation service. The Commission may, prior to the expiration of the 150-day period, extend the time for action or institute a proceeding to afford parties an opportunity for written comments and for the oral presentations of views, data, and arguments.

Any person desiring to participate in this rate proceeding must file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). All motions must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission on or before October 22, 1999. The petition for rate approval is on file with the Commission and is available for 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).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-52-000]

Williams Gas Pipelines-Central, Inc.; Notice of Offer of Settlement

October 7, 1999.

Take notice that on October 1, 1999, the Missouri Public Service Commission (MoPSC), Williams Gas Pipelines-Central, Inc., formerly Williams Natural Gas Company (Williams) and Missouri Gas Energy, a division of Southern Union Company (collectively called Sponsoring Parties) filed an Offer of Settlement under Rule 602 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure in the captioned docket. Sponsoring Parties filed the Offer of Settlement to facilitate and expedite the Commission's implementation of the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in *Public Service Company of Colorado*.¹ The Sponsoring Parties state the Offer of Settlement is intended to provide relief to small producers from their *ad valorem* tax refund liability and to reduce the administrative burdens on the Commission, its staff, first sellers and numerous interest owners and intervenors associated with the various proceedings pending at the Commission relating to such tax liability. A copy of the Offer of Settlement is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room. The Offer of Settlement may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

To achieve these objectives, the Offer of Settlement provides a \$50,000 credit towards the *ad valorem* tax refund liability of the first sellers listed in the Statement of Refunds Due filed by Williams on November 18, 1997, as adjusted in Exhibit A to the Offer of Settlement to reflect subsequent corrections. Any first seller with a refund obligation of \$50,000 or less for principal and interest will have its *ad valorem* tax refund waived in its entirety. First sellers with refund liabilities of \$50,000 or less are not required to give up any rights or provide any other consideration as a condition to receiving the benefits. Sponsoring Parties state the Offer of Settlement would eliminate the entire refund

obligation of 40 of the 75 first sellers on the Williams system.

Any first seller with a refund liability in excess of \$50,000 as listed in the Statement of Refunds Due filed by Williams on November 18, 1997, as adjusted in Exhibit A to reflect subsequent corrections, is eligible to have its refund obligation reduced by \$50,000. In order to be eligible for the \$50,000 credit, such first sellers must pay the remaining refund liability (after deducting the \$50,000), plus additional accrued interest through date of payment, and agree to withdraw all interventions, protests and court appeals related to the *ad valorem* tax refund. First sellers who accept the terms for partial waiver under the Offer of Settlement will be responsible for negotiating with their underlying interest owners the amount of the waiver relief applicable to their interest owners.

The Offer of Settlement also provides that any first seller listed in Williams' Statement of Refunds Due with a refund liability of \$50,000 or less for principal and interest who has refunded to Williams amounts which would be waived under Article II will receive a refund from Williams of such amounts, plus additional accrued interest through date of payment by Williams. In addition, Article III provides that if Williams has previously received refunds directly from an interest owner whose obligation was incurred under a first seller whose entire refund obligation is waived pursuant to the agreement, Williams will refund such payments to the interest owner within 60 days of the effective date of the settlement. If jurisdictional refunds exceed the amount of undisbursed Kansas *ad valorem* tax refunds held by Williams, Williams will maintain a credit balance for the jurisdictional refunds. Any subsequent Kansas *ad valorem* tax refunds received by Williams will be used to reduce any credit balance before any disbursement is made to customers. One hundred twenty days after the effective date of the Offer of Settlement, Williams shall be permitted to direct bill any remaining credit amounts.

In accordance with section 385.602(f), initial comments on the Offer of Settlement are due on October 21, 1999 and any reply comments are due November 1, 1999.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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¹ *Public Service Co. of Colorado, et al.*, 80 FERC ¶61,264 (1997), *reh'g denied*, 82 FERC ¶61,058 (1998). Appeal pending, *Anadarko Petroleum Corporation v. FERC*, Case No. 98-1227 *et al.*