scientific data and analysis available by September 30, 1998, describing the probable behavior of the repository in the Yucca Mountain geological setting relative to the overall system performance standards;

(3) a plan and cost estimate for the remaining work required to complete a license application; and

(4) an estimate of the costs to construct and operate the repository in accordance with the design concept.'' (Public Law 104–206-September 30, 1996)

The Viability Assessment is presented in five volumes. Volume 1 provides an introduction to the assessment and a description of site characteristics. This includes the purpose and scope of the assessment; a description of the radioactive waste forms destined for geologic disposal; discussion of the technical challenges posed by permanent geologic disposal; a historical perspective of the disposal program; and, a description of the site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

Volume 2 presents a preliminary design concept for the repository and waste package. The discussion and descriptions include: design process and design bases; the preliminary design concept for repository surface and subsurface facilities, and the waste package with associated engineered barriers; concepts for construction, operation, monitoring, and closure of a repository; design flexibility considerations; and, major design alternatives.

Volume 3 is a total system performance assessment of a repository at Yucca Mountain. The analyses and discussion include: a definition of total system performance assessment; the objectives, approach, methodology and base case results of the performance assessment; description of the development of the components of the technical model used; and, sensitivity analyses of the components of the performance assessment.

Volume 4 is the license application plan and cost for licensing a repository at Yucca Mountain. This includes: a rationale for the technical work needed to complete the license application; a description of technical work plans for further site investigations, design and performance assessment analyses; and, a discussion of statutory, regulatory and support activities needed to complete a license application process. In addition, the costs and schedule to complete the work are described.

Volume 5 is a description of the costs to construct and operate a repository at Yucca Mountain. This volume includes discussion and tables on: cost elements; project phases; major assumptions; and an integrated cost summary.

An Overview will accompany the Viability Assessment. The Overview is intended to summarize the over 1,400 pages of material contained in the Viability Assessment in a less technical format.

All five volumes contain citations to references used to prepare the document. These references, or supporting documents, may be found through the following Internet address <http://www.ymp.gov/va.htm. Documents which are DOE products are available electronically on the Internet home page. Other reference documents are listed with information intended to assist researchers in finding the documents through a public library.

Based on the results of the Viability Assessment, the Department believes that scientific and technical work at Yucca Mountain should proceed. The Viability Assessment is not a decision on Yucca Mountain. It will, however, provide a road map for future work necessary to support a decision in 2001 on whether to recommend the site to the President for development as a repository.

Issued in Washington, D.C. December 21, 1998.

Lake H. Barrett,

Acting Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management.

[FR Doc. 99–88 Filed 1–4–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products; Representative Average Unit Costs of Energy

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this notice, the Department of Energy (DOE or Department) is forecasting the representative average unit costs of five residential energy sources for the year 1999. The five sources are electricity, natural gas, No. 2 heating oil, propane, and kerosene. The representative unit costs of these energy sources are used in the Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products established by Part B of Title III of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, 42 U.S.C. 6291–6309 (EPCA).

EFFECTIVE DATE: The representative average unit costs of energy contained in this notice will become effective February 4, 1999 and will remain in effect until further notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dr. Barry P. Berlin, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Forrestal Building, Mail Station EE–43, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585–0121, (202) 586–9127

Eugene Margolis, Esq., U.S. Department of Energy, Office of General Counsel, Forrestal Building, Mail Station GC–72, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585–0103, (202) 586–9507

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 323 of the EPCA (Act)[1] requires that DOE prescribe test procedures for the determination of the estimated annual operating costs or other measures of energy consumption for certain consumer products specified in the Act. These test procedures are found in 10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B.

Section 323(b) of the Act requires that the estimated annual operating costs of a covered product be computed from measurements of energy use in a representative average-use cycle and from representative average unit costs of energy needed to operate such product during such cycle. The section further requires DOE to provide information regarding the representative average unit costs of energy for use wherever such costs are needed to perform calculations in accordance with the test procedures. Most notably, these costs are used under the Federal Trade Commission's appliance labeling program, established by section 324 of the Act, and in connection with advertisements of appliance energy use and energy costs, which are covered by section 323(c) of the Act.

The Department last published representative average unit costs of residential energy for use in the Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products Other Than Automobiles on December 8, 1997 (62 FR 64574). Effective February 4, 1999, the cost figures published on December 8, 1997, will be superseded by the cost figures set forth in this notice.

The Department's Energy Information Administration (EIA) has developed the 1999 representative average unit after-tax costs of electricity, natural gas, No. 2 heating oil, propane and kerosene prices found in this notice. The cost projections for heating oil, electricity, and natural gas are found in the fourth quarter, 1998, EIA *Short-Term Energy*

[1] References to the ''Act'' refer to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended. 42 U.S.C. §§ 6291–6309.

Outlook, DOE/EIA–0226 (98/4Q) and reflect the mid-price scenario. Projections for residential propane and kerosene prices are derived from their relative prices to that of heating oil, based on 1997 averages for these three fuels. The source for these price data is the September 1998 *Monthly Energy Review* (DOE/EIA–0035(97/09). The *Short-Term Energy Outlook* and the *Monthly Energy Review* are available at the National Energy Information Center, Forrestal Building, Room 1F–048, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586–8800.

The 1999 representative average unit costs stated in Table 1 are provided pursuant to Section 323(b)(4) of the Act and will become effective February 4, 1999. They will remain in effect until further notice.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 1, 1998.

Dan W. Reicher,

Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

TABLE 1.—REPRESENTATIVE AVERAGE UNIT COSTS OF ENERGY FOR FIVE RESIDENTIAL ENERGY SOURCES

[1999]

Type of energy	Per million Btu [1]	In commonly used terms	As required by test procedure
Electricity	$24.09	8.22¢/kWh [2 3]	$.0822/kWh
Natural gas	6.88	68.8¢/therm [4] or $7.07/MCF [5 6]	.00000688/Btu
No. 2 Heating Oil	6.42	89¢/gallon [7]	.00000642/Btu
Propane	8.43	77¢/gallon [8]	.00000843/Btu
Kerosene	7.70	$1.04/gallon [9]	.00000770/Btu

[1] Btu stands for British thermal units.
[2] kWh stands for kilowatt hour.
[3] 1 kWh=3,412 Btu.
[4] 1 therm=100,000 Btu. Natural gas prices include taxes.
[5] MCF stands for 1,000 cubic feet.
[6] For the purposes of this table, one cubic foot of natural gas has an energy equivalence of 1,027 Btu.
[7] For the purposes of this table, one gallon of No. 2 heating oil has an energy equivalence of 138,690 Btu.
[8] For the purposes of this table, one gallon of liquid propane has an energy equivalence of 91,333 Btu.
[9] For the purposes of this table, one gallon of kerosene has an energy equivalence of 135,000 Btu.

[FR Doc. 99–89 Filed 1–4–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP99–113–000]

Algonquin LNG, Inc.; Notice of Application

December 29, 1998.

Take notice that on December 14, 1998, Algonquin LNG, Inc. (Algonquin LNG), 5400 Westheimer Court, Houston, Texas 77251–1642, filed in Docket No. CP99–113–000 an application pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, and the Commission's Rules and Regulations for a certificate of public convenience and necessity and abandonment authority in order to modernize its Providence, Rhode Island LNG Plant by the replacement and modification of various facilities in order to more efficiently provide its certificated services. The details of Algonquin LNG's proposal are more fully set forth in its application which is on file at the Commission and available for public inspection.

Specifically, Algonquin LNG seek authority to:

(1) Replace its existing low pressure vaporization system;

(2) Abandon the existing vaporization system and other related facilities;

(3) Construct, own and operate a boll-off handling system and ancillary facilities;

(4) Abandon its existing Rate Schedule X–4 service for The Providence Gas Company (Providence Gas);

(5) Enter into an agreement under which Providence Gas would provide firm displacement service for Algonquin LNG on behalf of Algonquin LNG's other customers;

(6) Modify Rate Schedule FST–LG to provide for an incremental reservation surcharge in order to recover the cost of the redelivery service across Providence Gas's system; and,

(7) Any other authorization which may be deemed necessary for implementation of the proposal contained herein.

To ensure an in-service date by the start of the 1999–2000 winter heating season, Algonquin LNG requested a final certificate by May 1, 1999.

Algonquin LNG included in its application long-term Rate Schedule FST–LG service agreements with Providence Gas, Boston Gas Company (Boston Gas) and Consolidated Edison Company of New York (ConEd) as follows:

Customer	Contract storage quantity (Dth)	Maximum daily withdrawal quantity (Dth/d)	Contract term
Providence Gas	600,000	95,000	10 years.
Boston Gas	1,159,664	35,000	8 years.
ConEd	500,000	20,000	10 years.
Totals	2,259,664	150,000	

Algonquin LNG states that all of the storage capacity of the Algonquin LNG Plant has been fully subscribed by the above customers.

Algonquin LNG proposes to enter into a single displacement agreement with