

[Docket Nos. ER95-1586-000 and EL96-17-000]

Citizens Utilities Company; Notice of Initiation of Proceeding and Refund Effective Date

December 5, 1995.

Take notice that on November 30, 1995, the Commission issued an order in the above-indicated dockets initiating a proceeding in Docket No. EL96-17-000 under section 206 of the Federal Power Act.

The refund effective date in Docket No. EL96-17-000 will be 60 days after publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-29947 Filed 12-7-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. ER95-1838-000]

PacifiCorp; Notice of Filing

December 4, 1995.

Take notice that on November 8, 1995 and November 14, 1995 Black Hills Power & Light Company tendered for filing amendments in the above-referenced docket.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before December 14, 1995. 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. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-29948 Filed 12-7-95; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. CP96-89-000]

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation; Notice of Application

December 4, 1995.

Take notice that on November 30, 1995, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation ("Transco"), P.O. Box 1396, Houston, Texas 77251, filed in the

above an abbreviated application pursuant to Section 7(c) and Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act and the Regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("Commission") for (1) a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing certain Tombigbee River replacement crossings and certain interconnections at that location for downstream delivery of gas to an industrial plant, and (2) an order permitting and approving the abandonment of existing facilities at the same location. For the reasons described herein, Transco requests a certificate and construction clearance by January 8, 1996.

Transco states that it has four pipelines across the Tombigbee River in Alabama 30-inch diameter Main Line A, 30-inch diameter Main Line B, 36-inch diameter Main Line C and 42-inch diameter Main Line D. This river crossing is 29.03 miles east of the location where Transco's system crosses the Mississippi-Alabama state line. At this location, the Tombigbee River forms the boundary between Choctaw and Marengo Counties, Alabama. Transco states that all gas produced onshore and offshore, Texas and Louisiana, onshore Mississippi and the Mobile Bay offshore Alabama area which moves on Transco's system to Transco's markets in the Deep South, Atlantic Seaboard and eastern markets flows through this Tombigbee River crossing.

Transco states that because of chronic mass erosion of the river banks, Main Line C is exposed and subject to potential physical damage from boat and barge traffic. Main Line D is not yet exposed, but Transco is concerned that it will become exposed because of the continuing bank erosion.

Transco states that it cannot perform these replacements pursuant to Section 2.55(b) of the Regulations because of the Commission's clarification of Section 2.55(b) in the order issued on May 12, 1994 in Arkla Energy Resources Company, Docket No. CP91-2069-000 (67 FERC ¶ 61,173) (replacements outside of existing right-of-way cannot be performed pursuant to Section 2.55(b)). Transco states that it is imperative that Transco complete the new crossings soon to ensure that gas from the production areas described above is able to flow to Transco's markets. Transco states that it proposes to install approximately 2,000 feet of new 36-inch diameter Main Line C by horizontal directional drilling under the Tombigbee River, at the location of its existing pipeline crossings of the

Tombigbee River.¹ The alignment of the new Main Line C will parallel Main Line B (installed in 1991 by horizontal directional drilling) with a spacing of approximately 75 feet to the south of Main Line B. Approximately 950 feet of 36-inch diameter pipe will be conventionally installed by trenching from the entrance and exit of the bore and tied in to existing Main Line C.

Transco states that it also proposes to install approximately 2,300 feet of new 42-inch diameter Main Line D by horizontal directional drilling under the Tombigbee River. Approximately 500 feet of 42-inch diameter pipe will be conventionally installed from the entrance and exit of the bore and tied in to existing Main Line D. The alignment of the Main Line D will parallel the new Main Line C with a spacing of approximately 75 feet to the south of Main Line C.

Transco states that the proposed replacements will restore the long-term integrity of Transco's transmission system at the Tombigbee River crossings. Since 36-inch and 42-inch diameter crossings are being replaced by identical 36-inch and 42-inch diameter crossings, system capacity across the Tombigbee River will remain unchanged at 33,639,606 MCFD. The existing shallow, conventionally installed Main Lines C and D at this location will be retired—portions by removal and portions in place.

The cost of installation of new Main Line C is estimated to be \$2,029,007, and the cost of installation of new Main Line D is estimated to be \$2,925,170.

It is stated that Transco needs to replace Main Line C as soon as possible because of its vulnerable condition. Coming quickly thereafter, Transco plans to replace Main Line D beginning in May 1996 because of Transco's concern that its condition could rapidly worsen.

Transco states that issuance of a certificate to Transco and construction clearance by January 8 is justified for two reasons: (1) the above-described need for security of gas service to Transco's market areas, and (2) the de minimis impact on the environment of the crossing project (as described below). With respect to the environment, Transco states that the following are the significant points:

1. On the east side of the river (where the drilling rig will be set up) temporary

¹ Transco states that directionally drilled pipelines under rivers are significantly more secure than the older pipelines which are installed by way of trenching the river bed. The 36-inch and 42-inch pipeline crossings will be at an approximate depth of 45 feet beneath the Tombigbee River navigation channel.