

Final Environmental Impact Statement for disposal of reactor plants from U.S. Navy nuclear-powered cruisers, OHIO Class submarines and LOS ANGELES Class submarines. The Department of Energy has participated as a cooperating agency and has adopted the Environmental Impact Statement to fulfill its environmental review obligations under NEPA.

Requests for copies of the document and requests for further information should be directed to Mr. John Gordon (Code 1160), Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, 1400 Farragut Avenue, Bremerton, Washington 98314-5001, telephone (360)476-7111.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final Environmental Impact Statement analyzes the alternative ways for disposing of decommissioned, defueled, reactor compartments from U.S. Navy nuclear-powered cruisers (BAINBRIDGE, TRUXTUN, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA Class and VIRGINIA Class) and submarines (LOS ANGELES Class and OHIO Class). A disposal method for the defueled reactor compartments is needed when the cost of continued operation is not justified by the ship's military capability or when the ships are no longer needed. After a determination is made that a nuclear-powered ship is no longer needed, the ship can be: (1) placed in protective storage for an extended period followed by permanent disposal or recycling; or (2) prepared for permanent disposal or recycling.

The alternatives examined in detail in the Final Environmental Impact Statement are the preferred alternative—land burial of the entire reactor compartment at the Department of Energy Low-Level Waste Burial Grounds at Hanford, Washington; the no action alternative—protective waterborne storage for an indefinite period; disposal and reuse of subdivided portions of the reactor compartments; and indefinite storage above ground at Hanford.

Several other alternatives are also examined in limited detail. These alternatives include sea disposal; land disposal of entire reactor compartments at other sites and permanent above ground disposal of entire reactor compartments at Hanford.

Navy reactor plants constructed prior to the USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688) (referred to as pre-LOS ANGELES Class submarines) share many common design characteristics with reactor plants from cruisers, OHIO Class submarines and LOS ANGELES Class submarines. Pre-LOS ANGELES Class submarines are currently being disposed

of at the Department of Energy Hanford Site in Eastern Washington by Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton Washington, consistent with the Secretary of the Navy's 1984 Record of Decision on disposal of decommissioned, defueled Naval submarine reactor plants. Because of the negligible environmental impact, land burial of the reactor compartment at the Hanford Site is the preferred alternative for disposal of reactor compartments from cruisers, OHIO Class submarines and LOS ANGELES Class submarines.

No new legislation would be required to implement any of these alternatives. In all of the alternatives considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement there would be no spent nuclear fuel left in the reactor compartments. All the radioactive nuclear fuel would be removed before disposal. Management of the spent nuclear fuel is addressed in a separate Department of Energy Environmental Impact Statement, though there would be some other radioactive materials left within the reactor compartments. Therefore, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement evaluates disposal of the reactor compartments after all the spent nuclear fuel has been removed. Types of U.S. Navy nuclear-powered ships that are expected to be decommissioned more than 20 years in the future (e.g., aircraft carriers and SEAWOLF Class submarines) are not included in this Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The Navy held public hearings on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in Bremerton, Richland, and Seattle, Washington; and Portland, Oregon. Comments from 20 individuals and agencies were received either in oral or written statements at the hearings or in comment letters. These comments and the Navy responses are included in an appendix to the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement has been distributed to various federal, state, and local government agencies, tribes, elected officials, and special interest groups. Requests for copies of the Final Environmental Impact Statement should be directed to the address listed above. In addition, copies of the Final Environmental Impact Statement are also available for public inspection in the following libraries: Kitsap County Public Library, Main Branch, 1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton, Washington, phone (360)377-7601; Public Reading Room for U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office, Washington State University, Tri-Cities, 100 Sprout

Road, Room 130 West, Richland, Washington, phone (509)376-8583; Suzallo Library, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, phone (206)543-9158; Multnomah County Library, 801 Southwest 10th Avenue (Due to renovation work, temporarily relocated to 1407 SW 4th Avenue), Portland, Oregon, phone (503)248-5234.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John Gordon as noted above.

Dated April 24, 1996.

M.A. Waters,
LCDR, JAGC, USN, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ES96-23-000]

Boston Edison Company; Notice of Application

May 2, 1996.

Take notice that on April 26, 1996, Boston Edison Company filed an application, under § 204 of the Federal Power Act, seeking authorization to issue short-term debt, from time to time, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$350 million, outstanding at any one time, on or before December 31, 1998, with final maturities no later than December 31, 1999.

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 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before May 28, 1996. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make the 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.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-11427 Filed 5-7-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP87-39-004]**Granite State Gas Transmission, Inc.;
Notice of Amendment**

May 2, 1996.

Take notice that on April 29, 1996, Granite State Gas Transmission, Inc. (Granite State), 300 Friberg Parkway, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581, filed an application with the Commission, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations, requesting an extension of its limited-term certificate to operate an interstate pipeline facility leased from Portland Pipe Line Corporation (Portland) from March 31, 1997 to April 30, 1998, with pregranted abandonment as of the latter date, consistent with a recently negotiated agreement between Granite State and Portland to extend the lease of the pipeline facility, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

According to Granite State, it has leased from Portland an 18-inch pipeline extending approximately 166 miles from a connection with its pipeline near Portland, Maine, to the U.S.-Canadian border in the Township of North Troy, Vermont, opposite Highwater, Quebec. The pipeline was originally built and operated as a crude oil pipeline; Granite State converted the pipeline for natural gas service in 1987 and currently operates the pipeline pursuant to an amended lease with Portland and a limited-term certificate issued by the Commission expiring March 31, 1997 (69 FERC ¶ 61,186). Granite State further says that it has negotiated an agreement with Portland to extend the lease for 13 months, from March 31, 1997 to April 30, 1998. According to Granite State, no new facilities are required in connection with the extension of the limited-term certificate, and no new services utilizing the leased pipeline are proposed.

Granite State further requests that, in extending the limited-term certificate, the Commission confirm the ruling it has previously made that the leasing arrangement will not subject Portland to jurisdiction under the Natural Gas Act and that the revenues received by Portland under the lease will not be considered in determining its rates for oil transportation service.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before May 23, 1996, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the

requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken on the request for a permanent certificate but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to the proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on the application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time requested herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Granite State to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-11425 Filed 5-7-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP96-358-000]**MidAmerican Energy Company v.
Natural Gas Pipeline Company of
America; Notice of Complaint**

May 2, 1996.

Take notice that on April 26, 1996, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican), P.O. Box 778, Sioux City, Iowa 51102, filed with the Commission in Docket CP96-358-000 a complaint against Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America (Natural), 701 East Lombard Street, Lombard, Illinois 60148-5072. MidAmerican states that its complaint is based on Natural's violation of Section 4 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and the Commission's orders thereunder in refusing to return approximately \$5,000,000 worth of base (cushion) gas previously supplied by MidAmerican to support Rate Schedule LS-3 firm storage service (LS-3), all as

more fully set forth in the complaint which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

MidAmerican states that Natural terminated such LS-3 service for its own use in order to replace it with new open access storage service, Delivered Storage Service (DSS), which MidAmerican converted to and under which Natural is obligated to provide all cushion gas volumes. MidAmerican asserts that Natural is required to return MidAmerican's LS-3 cushion gas volumes, and that its failure to do so violates the NGA, Natural's tariff sheets governing the transition from LS-3 to DSS service, and the certificate order authorizing LS-3 to DSS service, and the certificate order authorizing LS-3 service. MidAmerican asserts that Natural is claiming that it is entitled to retain a "non-recoverable" amount equal to approximately 75% of that cushion gas total, and MidAmerican maintains that it is entitled to the return of the entire amount of that cushion gas. MidAmerican alleges that Natural is thereby misappropriating the cushion gas supplied by MidAmerican for Natural's own use to support its new DSS service using the same storage field which supported LS-3 service, and is creating a discriminatory and anti-competitive economic barrier to its open-access storage service because MidAmerican in effect bears an entry fee of \$5,000,000 which other DSS customers do not bear.

MidAmerican requests that the Commission issue an order directing that Natural immediately return all cushion gas previously provided by MidAmerican to Natural pursuant to Natural's LS-3 storage service, and that if the Commission does not issue such an order, that the Commission issue an order requiring Natural to show cause why it is not in violation of the Natural Gas Act, Commission orders, and the express terms of its tariff for its failure to return such cushion gas to MidAmerican.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make a protest with reference to MidAmerican's complaint should file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or protest in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 or 385.214). All such motions, together with the answer of Respondents to the complaint and motions, should be filed on or before May 23, 1996. Any person desiring to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing