

Test Method for Measuring the Energy Consumption of Vented Home Heating Equipment for gas appliance models included in this request. Below are excerpts from Vermont Castings Inc.'s letter to The Honorable Christine Ervin dated July 7, 1995—explaining in detail the particulars regarding the waivers requested above.

Waiver Request No. 1

This request refers to section 3.1.1—Gas fueled vented home heating equipment and section 4.2.4—Weighted average steady state efficiency. These sections state that for manually controlled heaters with various input rates the weighted average steady state efficiency is measured at a fuel rate input rate of plus or minus 5 percent of 50 percent of the maximum fuel input rate. All the gas appliance models included in this request utilize a combination gas control which has a variable pressure regulator set point which allows the user to easily vary the manifold pressure of the appliance within a fixed range of pressures. Specifically the range of manifold pressure adjustment for Natural Gas is 3.5" w.c. to 1.7" w.c. and for Propane Gas from 10.0" w.c. to 4.9" w.c. These pressure ranges allow the user to vary the fuel input rates on all models included in this request from maximum input to minimum input which is 70% of maximum input and it is therefore not possible to obtain a rate of 50% of the maximum input when the heater is operated according to Manufacturer's Installation Operating Manual. Since the 50% rate specified in the Regulations can not be normally achieved on these products we request that this requirement be waived for the gas appliances included in this request.

CFM Majestic Inc. requests to utilize the test procedure proposed by DOE on August 23, 1993—58 FR 44538. Accordingly, we request to calculate the weighted average steady state efficiency using the minimum obtainable fuel input rate provided this rate is no greater than $\frac{2}{3}$ the maximum input rate of the heater. Specifically, the models included in this request will be tested at $\frac{2}{3}$ of maximum fuel input rate.

The current test procedure does not credit CFM Majestic Inc. for the additional energy savings that occur when the minimum fuel input rate is limited to 70% of maximum input rate. Test data shows a significant increase in the actual overall AFUE when compared to results obtained at a rate of 50% of maximum fuel input rate. Copies of confidential test data confirming the energy savings will be forwarded to you upon request.

Waiver Request No. 2

This request refers to section 3.5—Pilot Light Measurement and section 4.2.6—Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE). These sections require the measurement of energy input to the pilot light (Q_p) and the use of this data in the calculation of AFUE for the energy consumed by the pilot light when the heater is not in operation.

All gas appliance models included in this request are designed with a transient pilot

which is to be turned off by the user when the heater is not in use. The control knob on the combination gas control in these heaters has three positions—"OFF", "PILOT" and "ON". Gas flow to the pilot is obtained by rotating the control knob from "OFF" to "PILOT", depressing the knob, holding in, and pressing the piezo ignitor. When the pilot heats a thermocouple element, sufficient voltage is supplied to the combination gas control for the pilot to remain lit when the knob is released and turned to the "ON" position. The main burner can then be ignited by moving an "ON/OFF" switch to the "ON" position. Since the current test procedure does not credit CFM Majestic Inc. for the additional savings that occur when the pilot is turned off, we request the requirement to include energy input to the pilot light in AFUE calculation be waived for these appliances.

CFM Majestic Inc. requests to utilize the test procedure proposed by DOE on August 23, 1993—58 FR44538. Specifically, we request the term involving the pilot light energy consumption be deleted from the calculation of AFUE for all gas appliance models included in this request. This results in an AFUE which is equal to the heating seasonal efficiency.

Test data shows a significant increase in the actual overall AFUE when compared to results obtained when energy input to the pilot is included in the overall AFUE. Copies of confidential test data confirming the energy savings will be forwarded to you upon request.

CFM Majestic Inc. is confident that both of these waivers will be granted, as similar waivers have been granted in the past to Vermont Casting Inc., CFM International Inc. and other U.S. manufacturers. Also, the revisions to the test procedures which we request have been published by DOE as proposed changes on August 23, 1993—58 FR 44538.

Any question regarding this subject, please contact me at the above address. Your help is highly appreciated. Thank you.

Yours Truly,

Ferdinand M. Francisco,

Lab. Manager, CFM Majestic Inc.

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Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-158-000]

Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

December 30, 1996.

Take notice that on December 17, 1996, Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company (Panhandle), Post Office Box 1642, Houston, Texas 77251-1642, filed in Docket No. CP97-158-000 a request pursuant to §§ 157.205 and 157.211 of

the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205 and 157.211) for authorization to upgrade the Indiana Gas Company, Inc.'s (Indiana Gas) Bloomingdale Meter and Regulation Station, an existing delivery point located in Parke County, Indiana. Panhandle makes such request under its blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP83-83-000 pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Panhandle proposes to replace certain inefficient and undersized facilities with more efficient upgraded facilities so as to allow increased pressure at this delivery point. The proposed facility upgrade is classified as minor, above ground modifications, which will include the upgrade of internal components of the regulators, such as removing the current 500 psi maximum spring in the pilot of each of the four 3-inch Mooney regulators and replacing it with a 400-900 psi range spring. It is stated that such facility upgrade is proposed to increase the maximum capacity of the Bloomingdale meter station to approximately 23,700 Mcf per day, and increase the operating pressure from 275 psig to 500 psig. Panhandle indicates that the increased service availability will be provided within Indiana Gas' existing entitlements.

The estimated cost of upgrading the proposed facilities is \$5,000. Panhandle states that Indiana Gas will reimburse the cost of the facilities.

Any person or the Commission's staff may, within 45 days after issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Procedural Rules (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention and pursuant to § 157.205 of the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205) a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed therefor, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for filing a protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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