

311 of the Federal Power Act, as amended (49 Stat. 838; 16 U.S.C. 791a-825r).

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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[Docket Nos. CP96-178-000, CP96-178-002, CP96-248-000, CP96-248-003, CP96-249-000, and CP96-249-003]

Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, L.L.C. and Portland Natural Gas Transmission System; Notice of Meeting

January 9, 1997.

On January 17, 1997, the Commission staff will meet with Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline, L.L.C. (Maritimes) and Portland Natural Gas Transmission System (PNGTS). The meeting is in response to Maritimes' and PNGTS's Joint Request, filed January 3, 1997, for a pre-filing conference to discuss a joint application proposed to be filed by January 27, 1997. The proposed filing concerns a 30-inch diameter pipeline from Westbrook, Maine to Dracut, Massachusetts that will be jointly owned by Maritimes and PNGTS. In addition, other environmental and scheduling issues will be discussed. The meeting will occur at 9:30 AM, in a room to be designated at the Commission's headquarters, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC.

Subsequent to the filing of the joint application, the Commission staff will issue a notice to convene a technical conference to be held at a location near the proposed joint project area. The exact time and location will be provided in that notice.

For additional information of a procedural nature, contact Jeff Wright at (202) 208-2239.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER97-399-000 and Docket No. ER97-449-000]

MP Energy, Inc. and Montana Power Company; Notice of Issuance of Order

January 8, 1997.

On November 7, 1996, MP Energy, Inc. (MP Energy) filed an application for

authorization to sell power at market-based rates, and for certain waivers and authorizations. In particular, MP Energy requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR Part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liabilities by MP Energy. On January 6, 1997, the Commission issued an Order Conditionally Accepting For Filing Proposed Market-Based Rates (Order), in the above-docketed proceedings.

The Commission's January 7, 1997 Order granted the request for blanket approval under Part 34, subject to the conditions found in Ordering Paragraphs (E), (F), and (H):

(E) Within 30 days of the date of this order, any person desiring to be heard or to protest the Commission's blanket approval of issuances of securities or assumptions of liabilities by MP Energy should file a motion to intervene or 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 (1996).

(F) Absent a request to be heard within the period set forth in Ordering Paragraph (E) above, MP Energy is hereby authorized to issue securities and assume obligations and liabilities as guarantor, endorser, surety or otherwise in respect of any security of another person; provided that such issue or assumption is for some lawful object within the corporate purposes of the MP Energy, compatible with the public interest, and reasonably necessary or appropriate for such purposes.

(H) The Commission reserves the right to modify this order to require a further showing that neither public nor private interests will be adversely affected by continued Commission approval of MP Energy's issuances of securities or assumptions of liabilities. * * *

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing motions to intervene or protests, as set forth above, is February 5, 1997.

Copies of the full text of the Order are available from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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[Docket No. PR97-3-000]

Olympic Pipeline Company; Notice of Petition for Rate Approval

January 10, 1997.

Take notice that on December 12, 1996, Olympic Pipeline Company (Olympic), 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 firm transportation reservation charge of \$3.22 per MMBtu and a 100 percent load factor interruptible transportation charge of \$0.1060 per MMBtu for transportation services performed by Olympic through its West Chalkley System under Section 311(a)(2) of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 (NGPA).

Olympic states that it is an intrastate pipeline within the meaning of Section 2(16) of the NGPA and it owns and operates an intrastate pipeline system in the State of Louisiana. Olympic proposes an effective date of December 12, 1996.

Pursuant to Section 284.123(b)(2)(ii), if the Commission does not act within 150 days of the filing date, the rate will be deemed to be 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 presentation of views, data, and arguments.

Any person desiring to participate in this rate proceeding must file a motion to intervene in accordance with Sections 385.211 and 385.214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures. All motions must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission on or before January 31, 1997. The petition for rate approval is on file with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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