

of the Gas Research Institute (GRI) in funding R&D.

The conference will be divided into four parts. The first part will consist of a presentation by GRI describing its current program, including the various sources of funding for the program.

The second part will consist of a panel focusing on whether GRI's current program is appropriate. As a threshold matter, the panel should address the question of what is the appropriate role of joint research and development in today's market environment. The Commission seeks input on (1) whether the program should stay at its current funding level; (2) whether it should be increased and, if so, to what level; or (3) whether it should be decreased to a core program and, if so, what should be included.

The third and fourth parts of the conference will address the matters contained in GRI's January 24, 1997, motion for an expedited technical conference. In that filing GRI proposed a two stage technical conference. GRI said:

GRI proposes that the *first stage* of the requested technical conference be devoted to the following questions: Whether there is an equitable mechanism under FERC auspices that in today's regulatory environment would fund a core gas industry/GRI cooperative R&D program with widely dispersed benefits that are not subject to capture by a single party? And, if so, what would be the fundamental attributes of such a long-term funding mechanism and the appropriate scope and design of such a core R&D program?

GRI further proposes that the *second stage* of the technical conference be devoted to the following question: Whether the currently pending proposal is appropriate for use in transitioning to a long-term funding mechanism or as a basis for developing a long-term funding mechanism?

During this portion of the conference, the Commission seeks input on whether the proposed GRI funding mechanism requires captive customers to shoulder more than their fair share of R&D funding and is thereby unduly discriminatory.

The conference will be convened at 9:30 a.m. at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. The Commission will issue a supplemental notice that will further describe the structure of the conference.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

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[Docket No. RP97-55-003]

Great Lakes Gas Transmission Limited Partnership; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

February 18, 1997.

Take notice that on February 11, 1997, Great Lakes Gas Transmission Limited Partnership (Great Lakes) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, 2nd Sub First Revised Sheet No. 20, to be effective June 1, 1997.

Great Lakes states that the above named tariff sheet is being filed to clarify the Heat Content provision of Section 8.1 of the General Terms and Conditions as proposed in its January 29, 1997 filing to convert its rates and tariff from a volumetric to a thermal basis in compliance with the Commission's Order No. 582 and to convert its Btu measurement from a wet to a dry basis in compliance with the Commission's Order No. 587.

Great Lakes intends that when the heat content of gas received at any point drops below 1013 Btu per cubic foot and it is unable to transport a shipper's scheduled daily delivery due to this drop, Great Lakes will utilize the Curtailment provision of Section 11.4 of the General Terms and Conditions, but only for those shippers from whom gas was received at that point.

Any person desiring to protest said filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed as provided in Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. 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. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Commission's Public Reference Room.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

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[Docket No. CP96-53-004]

NE Hub Partners, L. P. Notice of Amendment

February 18, 1997.

Take notice that on February 13, 1997, NE Hub Partners, L.P. (NE Hub) filed in Docket No. CP96-53-004 an amendment to its pending application filed in Docket No. CP96-53-000

requesting to omit the original request for authorization to provide hub services and firm or interruptible transportation services, all as more fully set forth in the amendment which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said petition to amend should, on or before March 11, 1997, 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 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 but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules. All persons who have heretofore filed need not file again.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-4401 Filed 2-21-97; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. OA97-518-000 and ER97-1477-000]

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Notice of Filing

February 18, 1997.

Take notice that New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc., on January 30, 1997, tendered for filing its FERC Open Access Transmission Tariff, two rate schedules and a petition for waiver from requirements under Part 37 of the Commission's regulations, as promulgated in Order 889.

On January 30, 1997 the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative will complete the payment and retirement of all debts issued by the Rural Utilities Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, and it accordingly will become a Public Utility subject to the general regulatory jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission under Part II of the Federal Power Act. At the present time, the Cooperative provides transmission service to one customer, Goodrich Falls Hydroelectric Company, and it sells its share of the output of Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant Unit No. 1 to the Public Service Company of New Hampshire. Regulatory jurisdiction over these two