[Docket No. CP97–241–000]

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

February 20, 1997.

Take notice that on February 11, 1997, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco), Post Office Box 1396, Houston, Texas 77251, filed in Docket No. CP97–241–000 a request pursuant to Sections 157.205 and 157.211 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.211) for authorization to construct, own, and operate a new sales tap, located in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, to Tosco Refining Company (Tosco), a refiner of crude oil products, under Transco's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82–426–000, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Transco proposes to construct, own, and operate a sales tap to Tosco consisting of a 6-inch valve assembly, a meter station with two 6-inch meter runs, and other appurtenant facilities, located in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Transco states Tosco will construct, or cause to be constructed, appurtenant facilities to enable it to receive gas from Transco at such point and move the gas to Tosco's refinery facilities.

Transco asserts the new sales will be used by Tosco to receive up to 24,000 Mcf of gas per day from Transco on a capacity release, secondary firm or interruptible basis. Transco declares upon completion of the sales tap, they will commence transportation service to Tosco or its suppliers pursuant to Transco's Rate Schedules FT, FT–R, or IT and Part 284(G) of the Commission's Regulations. Transco states the addition of the sales tap will have no significant impact on their peak day or annual deliveries, and is not prohibited by Transco's FERC Gas Tariff.

Transco states the estimated total cost of their proposed facilities to be approximately $375,000, which Tosco will reimburse Transco for all costs associated with such 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 Section 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.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97–4672 Filed 2–25–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

[Docket No. RP92–236–0073]

Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company; Notice of Interim Refund

February 20, 1997.

Take notice that on November 1, 1996, Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Company (Williston Basin) filed its Report of the Interim refund and the amount of the refund broken out to show principal and interest.

Williston Basin states that the total refund amount distributed to customers is $6,038,687.05.

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 18 CFR 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests should be filed on or before February 27, 1997. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the public reference room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97–4675 Filed 2–25–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

[Project No. 2009–000–NC]

North Carolina Power; Notice of Scoping Meetings Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

February 20, 1997.

Virginia Electric and Power Company operating in Virginia as Virginia Power and in North Carolina as North Carolina Power (NCP) is the licensee for the Roanoke Rapids and Gaston Project, FERC No. 2009. The license for the project expires on January 31, 2001.

On May 23, 1995, NCP held the first stage consultation meeting for the project. The purpose of the meeting was to identify resource issues to be addressed during the relicensing process. Studies were initiated in January 1996 and are currently ongoing.

During 1996, NCP determined that an Applicant Prepared Environmental Assessment (APEA) would facilitate the relicensing process, which was generally supported by the resource agencies and interested parties. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approval to conduct the APEA process was granted on December 13, 1996. As part of the APEA process, NCP has prepared a Scoping Document I (SDI), which provides information on the scoping process, APEA schedule, background information, environmental issues, and proposed project alternatives. The issues contained in SDI are based on agency and public comments at the May 23, 1995, and other meetings.

The purpose of this notice is to: (1) advise all parties as to the proposed scope of the environmental analysis, including cumulative effects, and to seek additional information pertinent to this analysis; and (2) advise all parties of their opportunity for comment.

Scoping Process

The Commission's scoping objectives are to:

- identify significant environmental issues;
- determine the depth of analysis appropriate to each issue;
- identify the resource issues not requiring detailed analysis; and
- identify reasonable project alternatives.

The purpose of the scoping process is to identify significant issues related to the proposed action and to determine what issues should be addressed in the APEA document to be prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The document, SDI, will be circulated to enable appropriate federal, state, and local resource agencies, developers, Indian tribes, nongovernmental organizations (NGO's), and other interested parties to effectively participate in and contribute to the scoping process. SDI provides a brief description of the proposed action, project alternatives, the geographic and temporal scope of a cumulative effects analysis, and a list of preliminary issues.

Scoping Meetings

NCP and FERC staff will conduct two scoping meetings. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are invited to attend and assist in

identifying the scope of environmental issues that should be analyzed in the APEA NEPA document.

The public scoping meeting will be held on March 13, 1997, from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Kirkwood F. Adams Community Center, 1100 Hamilton St. Roanoke Raids, NC.

The agency scoping meeting will be held on March 13, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the offices of North Carolina Power, 1040 Roanoke Avenue, Roanoke Rapids, NC. For more details, interested parties should contact Ken Baker, (804) 273–3257, prior to the meeting date.

Objectives

At the scoping meetings, the NCP and FERC staff will: (1) summarize the environmental issues tentatively identified for analysis in the NEPA document; (2) solicit from the meeting participants all available information, especially quantified data, on the resources at issue, and (3) encourage statements from experts and the public on issues that should be analyzed in the NEPA document. Individuals, organizations, and agencies with environmental expertise and concerns are encouraged to attend the meetings and to assist the staff in defining and clarifying the issues to be addressed.

Meeting Procedures

The meetings will be recorded by a stenographer and become a part of the formal record of the Commission proceeding on the Roanoke Raids Project. Individuals presenting statements at the meetings will be asked to identify themselves for the record.

Concerned parties are encouraged to offer verbal guidance during public meetings. Speaking time allowed for individuals will be determined before each meeting, based on the number of persons wishing to speak and the approximate amount of time available for the session, but all speakers will be provided at least 5 minutes to present their views.

All those attending the meeting are urged to refrain from making any communications concerning the merits of the project to any member of the Commission staff outside of the established process for developing the record as stated in the record of the proceeding.

Persons choosing not to speak but wishing to express an opinion, as well as speakers unable to summarize their positions within their allotted time, may submit written statements for inclusion in the public record no later than April 14, 1997.

All filings should contain an original and 8 copies. Failure to file an original and 8 copies may result in appropriate staff not receiving the benefit of your comments in a timely manner. See 18 CFR 4.34(h). In addition, commenters *may* submit a copy of their comments on a 3½-inch diskette formatted for MS–DOS based computers. In light of our ability to translate MS–DOS based materials, the text need only be submitted in the format and version that it was generated (i.e., MS Word, WordPerfect 5.1/5.2, ASCII, etc.). It is not necessary to reformat word processor generated text to ASCII. For Macintosh users, it would be helpful to save the documents in Macintosh word processor format and then write them to files on a diskette formatted for MS–DOS machines. All comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, and should clearly show the following captions on the first page: Roanoke Rapids Project, FERC No. 2009.

Further, interested persons are reminded of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures, requiring parties or interceders (as defined in 18 CFR 385.2010) to file documents on each person whose name is on the official service list for this proceeding. See 18 CFR 4.34(b).

Based on all written comments and a Scoping Document II (SDII) may be issued. SDII will include a revised list of issues, based on the scoping sessions.

For further information regarding the APEA scoping process, please contact Ed Crouse, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of Hydropower Licensing, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20426 at (202) 219–2794.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97–4674 Filed 2–25–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

Western Area Power Administration

Proposal To Extend Electric Power Resource Commitments to Contractors of the Salt Lake City Area Integrated Projects by Application of the Energy Planning and Management Program Power Marketing Initiative

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of proposal.

SUMMARY: In 1995, the Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration (Western) completed an environmental impact statement (EIS), DOE/EIS–0182, on its Energy Planning and Management Program (Program). Western published a Final Rule adopting the Program on October 20, 1995 (10 CFR Part 905). The Program has two major components: a requirement that all long-term, firm electrical power contractors prepare integrated resource plans (IRP) or small customer plans; and a Power Marketing Initiative (PMI) in which these contractors will receive an extension of a major portion of the resources available at the time the contracts expire. The Record of Decision (ROD) stated that Western would implement the requirements for customers to prepare IRPs and small customer plans immediately, but that application of the PMI would be done on a project-specific basis. Western now proposes to apply the PMI to the long-term, firm power contracts of the Salt Lake City Area Integrated Projects (SLCA/IP).

DATES: Western will accept written comments on or before May 27, 1997. The times and locations of four information/comment meetings will be announced in a subsequent notice in the Federal Register.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to: Mr. David Sabo, Western Area Power Administration, Colorado River Storage Project Manager, P.O. Box 11606, Salt Lake City, UT 84147–0606.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Western first proposed the Program on April 19, 1991 (56 FR 16093). The goals of the Program were to encourage efficient energy use by Western's long-term, firm power customers by requiring integrated resource planning and to extend Western's firm power resource commitments as contracts expire. Western published its notice of intent to prepare an EIS on the Program in the Federal Register on May 1, 1991 (56 FR 19995).

President Bush signed the Energy Policy Act (EPAct) into law on October 24, 1992. Section 114 of EPAct amended Title II of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 to require the preparation of IRPs by Western's customers. Western adjusted its proposed Program to fully incorporate the provisions of this law.

A notice of proposed rulemaking for the Program was published in the Federal Register on August 9, 1994 (59 FR 40543), with seven public information/comment forums held at various locations during September 1994. In the August 9 Notice, Western estimated that initially 98 percent of SLCA/IP resources available at the end of the term of existing contracts would be extended.