

blanket authority, issued under Part 284 of the Regulations. It is further stated that the interruptible volumes to be delivered to MRO, will be within MRO's certificated entitlements. Columbia Gas does not anticipate that the interruptible service that it will provide through the proposed delivery facility, will detrimentally impact its existing customers.

Columbia Gas estimates the new delivery facility to cost approximately \$38,398. It is indicated that MRO will reimburse Columbia Gas' total facility cost.

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 If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to Section 7 of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.

Lois D. Cashell,  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-6441 Filed 3-13-97; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. ER94-24-017]

**Enron Power Marketing, Inc.; Notice of Filing**

March 10, 1997.

Take notice that on January 21, 1997, Enron Power Marketing, Inc. tendered for filing a Notification of Change in Status.

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, 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 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before March 20, 1997. 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. 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.

Lois D. Cashell,  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-6442 Filed 3-13-97; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. RP97-8-000]

**Granite State Gas Transmission, Inc.; Notice of Informal Settlement Conference**

March 10, 1997.

Take notice that an informal settlement conference will be convened in this proceeding on Thursday, March 20, 1997, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C., for the purpose of exploring the possible settlement of the above-referenced docket.

Any party, as defined in 18 CFR 385.102(c), or any participant, as defined in 18 CFR 385.102(b), is invited to attend. Persons wishing to become a party must move to intervene and receive intervenor status pursuant to the Commission's regulations, 18 CFR 385.214.

For additional information, contact Donald Williams at (202) 208-0743 or Anja M. Clark at (202) 208-2034.

Lois D. Cashell,  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-6446 Filed 3-13-97; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. ER97-1566-000]

**Southwestern Public Service Company; Notice of Filing**

March 10, 1997.

Take notice that on February 6, 1997, Southwestern Public Service Company (Southwestern) submitted an executed service agreement under its open access transmission tariff with e prime. The service agreement is for umbrella non-firm transmission service.

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, 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 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before March 21, 1997. 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. 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.

Lois D. Cashell,  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-6444 Filed 3-13-97; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP94-161-006]

**Avoca Natural Gas Storage; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Avoca Gas Storage Project Supplement and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues**

March 10, 1997.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) to evaluate the environmental impacts of the construction of about 87.6 miles of various diameter pipeline and related facilities proposed in the Avoca Gas Storage Project Supplement.<sup>1</sup> This EQ will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

**Summary of the Proposed Project**

Avoca Natural Gas Storage (Avoca) received a certificate authorizing the development of gas-storage caverns in an order issued on September 20, 1994. In conjunction with the construction of the storage caverns, Avoca wants to construct facilities to transport brine from the Avoca Storage Field (under development) near Avoca, New York, to two salt recovery facilities, Akzo Nobel Salt Company (Akzo) and Cargill, Inc. (Cargill), near and within Watkins Glen, New York, respectively. The brine would be created during the solution mining (or leaching) of the underground salt caverns that will be used to store natural gas. In that order, Avoca was authorized to use brine injection wells to dispose of the brine created during the cavern leaching process. However, the aquifers into which the brine injection wells were completed do not have the capability to receive the brine at the planned design rate of production. Therefore, Avoca would transport the brine via the proposed brine pipeline to the two salt recovery facilities. Specifically Avoca proposes to construct:

<sup>1</sup> Avoca Natural Gas Storage's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.