

County, Ohio and Clarion County, Pennsylvania. Independence states it will be an open access pipeline. Independence's facilities are designed to provide a capacity of 943,300 Mcf per day (Mcf/d) during the winter season and 838,000 Mcf/d during the summer season. Independence estimates that the project will cost \$629.6 million and intends to use project financing to fund the project.

Independence proposes to use cost based rates. It anticipates an underlying capital structure consisting of 70 percent debt and 30 percent equity and intends to use the straight fixed variable methodology for cost classification, allocation, and rate design.

Independence requests a preliminary determination by November 1, 1997, and a final certificate by July 1, 1998, in order to meet a target in-service date of November 1, 1999.

Independence is conducting an open season from April 2, 1997 through May 30, 1997 to solicit market interest in the project. Independence intends to make the proposed expansion capacity available on a non-discriminatory basis to any shipper that has executed a transportation service agreement with Independence.

ANR has submitted a draft Request for Proposal (RFP) for the subject project and the companion ANR expansion project in Docket No. CP97-319-000 to hire a third-party contractor to assist staff in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

With the exception of the RFP process, which may proceed, the Commission staff will defer all other processing of Independence's application until Independence advises the Commission of the results of the open season and demonstrates contract commitments in support of the project.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before April 30, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene or a 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.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that approval for the proposed application is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Independence to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-126-000]

Iroquois Gas Transmission System, L.P.; Notice of Informal Settlement Conference

April 9, 1997.

Take notice that an informal settlement conference will be convened in this proceeding on Wednesday, April 16, 1997, at 10:00 a.m., in accordance with the procedural schedule established by the Presiding Judge. The conference will be held at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC.

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

For additional information, please contact Paul B. Mohler at (202) 208-1240, or Carmen Gastilo at (202) 208-2182.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER97-1514-000]

New York Electric & Gas Corporation; Notice of Filing

April 9, 1997.

Take notice that on March 26, 1997, the New York Electric & Gas Corporation tendered for filing an amendment in the above-referenced docket.

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 April 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. 97-9615 Filed 4-14-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. OA97-261-000 and ER97-1082-000]

Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland Interconnection; Notice of Technical Conference and Potential Broadcast of Technical Conference

April 9, 1997.

As previously announced in the Commission's order issued on February 28, 1997, *MidContinent Area Power Pool, et al.*, 78 FERC ¶ 61,203 (1997), the Commission will convene a technical conference concerning the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland Interconnection (PJM) congestion pricing proposals filed in the captioned proceedings. The technical conference will be held on May 9, 1997, at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. The technical conference will commence at 10:00 a.m.