

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. CP97-313-000]

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Petition for Declaratory Order and Request for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

April 11, 1997.

Take notice that on April 3, 1997, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia), 1700 MacCorkle Avenue, S.E., Charleston, West Virginia 25314-1599, filed in Docket No. CP97-313-000 a petition pursuant to Section 16 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and Rule 207(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.207(a)(2)), for a declaratory order requesting that an existing facility, located in Indiana County, Pennsylvania, be refunctionalized from gathering to transmission. Further, Columbia, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the NGA, requests authorization that this facility refunctionalized to transmission be certificated as a jurisdictional transmission facility, all as more fully set forth in the petition which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Columbia states that as a result of a detailed facility review completed in association with preparation of its spin-off application filed in Docket No. CP97-127-000, Columbia determined that its Line 12206, an existing facility which is presently functionalized as gathering, serves a transmission function. Columbia states that Line 12206, consisting of approximately 6,041 feet of 8-inch-diameter pipeline, is located between facilities to be sold to Somerset Exploration Corporation and Columbia's transmission facilities.

Columbia states that it noted in its application filed in Docket No. CP97-127-000, that it would spin-off certain of its gathering facilities to various purchasers by public auction, and that it would be filing the instant petition to refunctionalize gathering facilities to transmission.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said petition should on or before May 2, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 384.214 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 the 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 a grant of the certificate 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 Columbia to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-9896 Filed 4-16-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Docket No. CP97-326-000]

El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Application

April 11, 1997.

Take notice that on April 4, 1997, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso), Post Office Box 1492, El Paso, Texas, 79978, filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission), in Docket No. CP97-326-000, under Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) and Section 157.5, et seq., of the Commission's Regulations, for permission and approval to abandon in place a minor segment of mainline pipeline located in Eddy County, New Mexico, and the related natural gas service from its interstate transmission pipeline system, all as more fully described in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

El Paso states that it has determined that a short segment of the Jal-El Paso "A" Line, approximately 1,290 feet in length, is no longer required in the operation of its interstate transmission system. El Paso further states that this segment abuts the length of pipeline abandoned by sale to Leapartners, L. P. El Paso asserts that by keeping this segment of pipeline in service, El Paso would retain a redundant facility and continue to incur unnecessary operating and maintenance expenses.

Any person desiring to be heard or make protest with reference to said application should, on or before May 2, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C., 20426, a protest or motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rule 211 or 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 or 385.214) 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 the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Section 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 the requested abandonment 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 El Paso to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,*Acting Secretary.*

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