

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 in any proceeding herein 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 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 permission and approval for the proposed abandonment are 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 Northern to appear or to be represented at the hearing.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-17692 Filed 7-7-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GP97-6-000]

Plains Petroleum Company and Plains Petroleum Operating Company; Notice of Request for Summary Ruling

July 1, 1997.

Take notice that on June 11, 1997, Plains Petroleum Company and Plains Petroleum Operating Company, 1515 Arapahoe Street, Tower 3, Suite 1000, Denver, Colorado 80202 (hereafter "Plains"), filed a motion to intervene and request for summary ruling in Docket No. RP97-379-000. Plains' request for summary ruling, as filed in that motion, is hereby assigned Docket No. GP97-6-000. Plains requests that the Commission summarily rule that KN Energy, Inc. (KN) should be required to make any Kansas ad valorem tax refunds that Plains might otherwise be required to make, for the period from

October 1, 1984 through September 13, 1985.

In the associated proceeding, in Docket No. RP97-369-000, Public Service Company of Colorado and Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company filed a request that the Commission issue an order establishing procedures for the payment of refunds of overcharges related to Kansas ad valorem taxes, for the period from October 1983 through June 1988, as required by the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued on August 2, 1996, in *Public Service Co. of Colorado v. FERC*, 91 F.3d 1478 (D.C. Cir. 1996), cert. denied, (May 12, 1997).

In support of the request for summary ruling, Plains explains: (1) That Plains Petroleum Company was a wholly-owned subsidiary of KN until September 30, 1985; (2) that Plains Petroleum Company was the lessee with respect to certain leases within the State of Kansas, from October 1, 1984 through November 30 1986; and (3) that the Kansas leases were transferred to Plains Petroleum Operating Company, effective December 1, 1986. According to Plains, it either did not receive Kansas ad valorem tax reimbursements from KN during the period from October 1, 1984 through September 13, 1985, or returned any ad valorem tax reimbursements it did receive to KN, by means of a \$1,050,000 dividend that was paid to KN on June 30, 1985, and by which KN withdrew virtually all cash from Plains Petroleum Company, leaving Plains Petroleum Company with only \$18,211 in cash as of June 30, 1985. In view of this, Plains asserts that KN was the entity enriched by the reimbursement of Kansas ad valorem taxes, and that it was KN (not Plains) that has had the use of those funds since that time.

In view of this, Plains requests that the Commission summarily rule that any Kansas ad valorem tax refunds that Plains might otherwise be required to make, for the period from October 1, 1984 through September 13, 1985, should be made by KN. In the alternative, Plains requests the Commission to require KN to show that KN did not receive value from Plains—in the form of dividends, or otherwise—for any Kansas ad valorem tax reimbursement payments that KN made to Plains and, therefore, that KN should not be required to bear the burden of any refunds to its customers.

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, N.E., Washington D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections

385.211 and 385.214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All such motions or protests must be filed on or before July 11, 1997.¹ 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 in accordance with the Commission's Rules. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-17694 Filed 7-7-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER97-1847-000]

Valero Power Services Company; Notice of Clarification of Amendment to Notification of Change in Status

July 1, 1997.

Take notice that on June 23, 1997, Valero Power Services Company (Valero Power) filed a clarification of amendment to the notification of a change in its status which was previously filed on February 26, 1997. The Amendment adopts the Standards of Conduct applicable to the relationship between Valero Power and Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of PG&E Corporation, pending and after approval of the proposed merger between PG&E Corporation and Valero Energy Corporation.

Any person desiring to be heard or protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20436, 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 must be filed on or before July 8, 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

¹ KN Interstate Gas Transmission Company (KN Interstate) filed an answer, in opposition to Plains' request for summary ruling on June 26, 1997, in Docket No. RP97-369-000. Accordingly, KN Interstate's June 26 answer will be treated as having been filed in Docket No. GP97-6-000, but does not foreclose KN Interstate from filing further pleadings in that docket.