

unnecessary for Atmos to appear or to be represented at the hearing.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-24357 Filed 9-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. TM98-1-43-000]

#### Williams Natural Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

September 9, 1997.

Take notice that on September 3, 1997, Williams Natural Gas Company (WNG) tendered for filing to become part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, Twenty Second Revised Sheet No. 6A. The proposed effective date of this tariff sheet is October 1, 1997.

WNG states that pursuant to Article 26 of the General Terms and Conditions of its FERC Gas Tariff, and FERC Annual Charges Billing under 18 CFR Part 382, dated August 1, 1997, WNG is filing to reflect an increase in the FERC Annual Charge Adjustment from \$.0020 to \$.0022 per Dth for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1997. The unit charge factor of \$.0020 per Dth, approved by the Commission, is adjusted by the debit amount related to the previous fiscal year to arrive at a total ACA unit charge factor of \$.0022.

WNG states that a copy of its filing was served on all jurisdictional customers and interested state commissions.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed as provided in Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. 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 proceedings. 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 in the Public Reference Room.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-24368 Filed 9-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Western Area Power Administration

#### Transmission and Ancillary Services Rates, Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin, Eastern Division

**AGENCY:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rate adjustments.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Area Power Administration (Western) is proposing transmission service and ancillary service rate adjustments for Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, Eastern Division (P-SMBP-ED). The proposed formula rates will provide sufficient revenue to repay all annual costs and assigned investment within the allowable time periods. The proposed formula rates are scheduled to go into effect May 1, 1998. This **Federal Register** notice continues the procedure for public participation in the transmission and ancillary service rate adjustments, which began with Western's Advance Announcement dated March 28, 1997.

**DATES:** The consultation and comment period for the proposed transmission service and ancillary service rates will end November 14, 1997. Written comments should be received by Western by the end of the comment period to be assured consideration. Western will present a detailed explanation of the proposed rate at the public information forums which will be held at the following dates and times:

1. October 16, 1997—9 a.m. MDT, Billings, Montana.

2. October 17, 1997—9 a.m. CDT, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Western will receive written and oral comments at the public comment forums which will be held at the following times:

3. November 13, 1997—9 a.m. MST, Billings, Montana.

4. November 14, 1997—9 a.m. CST, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

**ADDRESSES:** Western's public information forums will be held at the following places:

1. Radisson Northern Hotel, Broadway & 1st Avenue North, Billings, Montana.

2. Howard Johnson, 3300 West Russell Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Western's public comment forums will be held at the following places:

3. Radisson Northern Hotel, Broadway & 1st Avenue North, Billings, Montana.

4. Howard Johnson, 3300 West Russell Street, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Written comments should be sent to: Gerald C. Wegner, Regional Manager, Upper Great Plains Region, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 35800, Billings, MT 59107-5800.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert F. Riehl, Rates Manager, Upper Great Plains Region (UGPR), Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 35800, Billings, MT 59107-5800, (406) 247-7388. E-mail riehl@wapa.gov or visit UGPR's home page at <http://www.wapa.gov/ugp/>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Table of Contents

- I. Introduction/Background
- II. Western's Proposal
- III. Proposed Rates
- IV. Cost Shifting
- V. Other Options
- VI. Authorities

#### I. Introduction/Background

Western initiated a public process to establish long-term open access transmission and ancillary service rates for the P-SMBP-ED with its advance announcement of March 28, 1997. Several options were identified and comments and ideas were solicited on these options. Forty-five letters were received as a result of the solicitation. The letters commented on fourteen issues. The most constant and consistent message received from the comments was that Western should choose a proposal that would have the least impact upon the P-SMBP-ED firm power rate. This **Federal Register** notice continues that process.

#### II. Western's Proposal

##### 1. Honor Existing Contract Arrangements

Western presently has the following transmission and related services contract agreements. Western intends to abide by the terms of these agreements and sustain the benefits incurred from these agreements.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin Electric) has a bilateral Contract, 90-BAO-415, with Western for Joint Transmission System services. The Contract became effective on the first day of the first full billing period following the date of its execution, January 5, 1995, and remains in effect