

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 If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to Section 7 of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

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-110-000]

#### Northern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Application for Abandonment by Sale

December 9, 1997.

Take notice that on December 2, 1997, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern), 1111 South 103rd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68124-1000, filed in Docket No. CP98-110-000, an application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), as amended, and Sections 157.7 and 157.18 of the Commission's Regulations requesting permission and approval to abandon by sale to Samedan Oil Corporation (Samedan), certain non-contiguous pipeline facilities, with appurtenances, which are known as the Grand Isle 83 and the Grand Isle 83 Compressor (GI 83 facilities) and located in the Grand Isle Area, Offshore Louisiana. Northern also requests approval to abandon certain services, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Northern states that its role in the marketplace has changed from a merchant of natural gas to a transporter of natural gas and that the GI 83 facilities are non-contiguous to its traditional transmission pipeline system and are no longer needed by Northern. Northern further states that the GI 83 facilities, which are owned by Northern and operated by Trunkline Gas

Company (Trunkline), were declared non-jurisdictional gathering facilities pursuant to an order issued February 13, 1995 in Trunkline's Docket No. CP92-498-005. Northern proposes to transfer the GI 83 facilities to Samedan who will assume all current and future service obligations, and operational and economic responsibilities for these facilities.

Northern states that it entered into a Transportation and Sales Agreement dated October 30, 1980, as amended, (X-99 Agreement), with Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company (Panhandle) and Trunkline, which provides for the transportation of Northern's Grand Isle Block 83 gas and, as partial consideration of such transport service, Panhandle had the option to purchase up to 20 percent of such gas. The Commission granted a certificate to Northern authorizing the sale of natural gas to Panhandle in a July 31, 1981 order in Docket No. CP81-256. Northern states that it filed the X-99 Agreement as Rate Schedule X-99 in its FERC Gas Tariff, Original Volume No. 2. Northern seeks abandonment, in this instant proceeding, for the X-99 Agreement which was authorized in Docket No. CP81-256. Northern states that it has entered into an Assignment and Bill of Sale Agreement (Agreement) with Samedan dated October 23, 1997 covering the sale of the GI 83 facilities, which will be transferred to Samedan pursuant to the Agreement.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before December 30, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., 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 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the NGA (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 NGA 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 Northern to appear to be represented at the hearing.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary*

[FR Doc. 97-32596 Filed 12-12-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2100-067]

#### California Department of Water Resources; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

December 9, 1997.

A final environmental assessment (FEA) is available for public review. The FEA was prepared for California Department of Water Resources' (licensee) application to expand the Feather River Fish Hatchery.

In summary, the FEA examines the environmental impacts of three alternatives for expanding the hatchery: (1) licensee's proposed action: 600 feet of new raceways with hatching and incubation facilities; (2) proposed alternative: 1,600 feet of raceways; and (3) no-action. These alternatives are described in detail on pages two and three of the FEA.

The FEA recommends the licensee construct 600 feet of new raceways at the Feather River Fish Hatchery in accordance with licensee's proposed action alternative. The FEA concludes that implementation of this alternative would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

This FEA was written by staff in the Office of Hydropower Licensing (OHL). Copies of the FEA can be obtained by contacting the Commission's Public Reference Room at (202) 208-1371.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

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