

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, of 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 National Rule to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-158-002]

NorAm Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Technical Conference

May 28, 1998.

In the Commission's order issued on May 7, 1998, the Commission directed that a technical conference be held to address issues raised by filing.

Take notice that the technical conference will be held on Thursday, June 11, 1998, at 10:00 a.m., in a room to be designated at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426.

All interested parties and Staff are permitted to attend.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-14633 Filed 6-2-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-554-000]

Northwest Pipeline Corporation; Notice of Application

May 28, 1998.

Take notice that on May 15, 1998, Northwest Pipeline Corporation, (Northwest) 295 Chipeta Way, Salt Lake City, Utah 84158, filed in Docket No. CP98-554-000 an application pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act for authorization to construct and operate new, upgraded or modified facilities at four existing compressor stations on its mainline in the Columbia River Gorge

area of Klickitat, Skamania, and Clark Counties, Washington, in order to expand its capacity to provide incremental firm transportation service, all as more fully set forth in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, Northwest proposes to include a new turbine-driven centrifugal compressor unit at the Roosevelt Compressor Station, turbine upgrades and compressor restages for two units at the Willard Compressor Station, turbine upgrades for two units and a compressor restage for one of those units at the Goldendale Compressor Station, and new cylinder unloader pockets on the reciprocating compressor unit at the Washougal Compressor Station.

Northwest also states that the proposed compression facilities will add a total of 10,870 horsepower (ISO rated) to its system and will increase its mainline transmission capacity by 50,000 Dth per day from the Stanfield Meter Station near Stanfield, Oregon to the SIPI Meter Station near Sumas, Washington. Northwest estimates the cost of this Columbia Gorge Expansion Project to be 17 million dollars.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before June 18, 1998, 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 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 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 Northwest to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-14630 Filed 6-2-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PR98-14-000]

Sonat Intrastate-Alabama Inc.; Notice of Petition for Rate Approval

May 28, 1998.

Take notice that on May 20, 1998, Sonat Intrastate-Alabama Inc. (SIA) filed in the captioned docket a petition pursuant to Section 284.123(b)(2) of the Commission's regulations under the Natural Gas Policy Act for approval of a maximum system wide rate for transporting natural gas pursuant to Section 311(a)(2) of the NGPA, all as more fully set forth in the petition.

SIA files this petition pursuant to the Commission's Letter Order, issued in Docket No. PR95-12, requiring SIA to file a Section 284.123(b)(2) application on or before May 20, 1998 to justify SIA's current system wide rate or a revised system wide rate. SIA proposes to retain its current maximum, system wide transportation rate of 29.4 cents per MMBtu. SIA requests that the Commission approve this rate as fair and equitable and not in excess of an amount that is comparable to the rates that interstate pipelines would be permitted to charge for providing similar service.

Pursuant to Section 284.123(b)(2)(ii), if the Commission does not act within 150 days of the filing date, SIA's proposed rates will be deemed to be fair and equitable. The Commission may, prior to the expiration of the 150 day period, extend the time for action or institute a proceeding to afford parties an opportunity for written comments and for oral presentation of views, data and arguments.

Any person desiring to participate in this proceeding must file a motion to intervene in accordance with Section 385.211 and 385.214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All motions must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission on or before June 12, 1998. The petition for rate approval is on file with the