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Issued in Washington, DC on May 29, 1998 by the Commission.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

17 CFR Part 10

Rules of Practice; Proposed Amendments

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On April 3, 1998, the Commission published in the **Federal Register** a notice requesting comments on proposed amendments to its Rules of Practice, which govern most adjudicatory proceedings brought under the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended, except for reparations actions. The original comment period expires on June 2, 1998. 63 FR 16453 (April 3, 1998). In a letter dated May 28, 1998, the Committee on Commodities and Futures Law of the New York State Bar Association requested an extension of the comment period. To assure that an adequate opportunity is provided for the submission of meaningful comments, the Commission has determined to extend the comment period by an additional thirty (30) days.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 2, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed amendments should be sent to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Center, 1155 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20581. Comments may be sent by electronic mail to secretary@cftc.gov. Reference should be made to "Proposed Amendments to the Rules of Practice."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen Mihans, Office of Chief Counsel, Division of Enforcement, at (202) 418-5399 or David Merrill, Office of Chief Counsel, at (202) 5120, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20581.

Issued at Washington, DC, on this 1st day of June, 1998, by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 98-14961 Filed 6-2-98; 2:33 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

18 CFR Ch. I

[Docket No. RM98-8-000]

Alternative Methods for Regulating Natural Gas Pipeline Facilities and Services on the Outer Continental Shelf; June 1, 1998

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of inquiry.

SUMMARY: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is initiating an inquiry into alternatives to the Commission's recent methods of exercising its jurisdiction over natural gas pipeline facilities and services on the Outer Continental Shelf.

The goal of the notice of inquiry is to generate public comment that will assist the Commission in exploring possible alternatives to the application of the existing "primary function" test to offshore pipeline facilities—as well as possible complimentary and/or alternative modes of regulation under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act.

The notice of inquiry invites all interested persons to participate in the inquiry and to submit answers to several specific questions.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before July 16, 1998; an original and 14 copies should be filed.

ADDRESSES: All comments should refer to Docket No. RM98-8-000 and should be addressed to: Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Wolfe, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 208-2098.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission also provides all interested persons an opportunity to inspect or copy the contents of this document during normal business hours in the Public Reference Room at 888

First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426.

The Commission Issuance Posting System (CIPS) provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission. CIPS can be accessed via Internet through FERC's Homepage (<http://www.ferc.fed.us>) using the CIPS Link or the Energy Information Online icon. The full text of this document will be available on CIPS in ASCII and WordPerfect 6.1 format. CIPS is also available through the Commission's electronic bulletin board service at no charge to the user and may be accessed using a personal computer with a modem by dialing 202-208-1397, if dialing locally, or 1-800-856-3920, if dialing long distance. To access CIPS, set your communications software to 19200, 14400, 12000, 9600, 7200, 4800, 2400, or 1200 bps, full duplex, no parity, 8 data bits and 1 stop bit. User assistance is available at 202-208-2474 or by E-mail to CipsMaster@FERC.fed.us.

This document is also available through the Commission's Records and Information Management System (RIMS), an electronic storage and retrieval system of documents submitted to and issued by the Commission after November 16, 1981. Documents from November 1995 to the present can be viewed and printed. RIMS is available in the Public Reference Room or remotely via Internet through FERC's Homepage using the RIMS link or the Energy Information Online icon. User assistance is available at 202-208-2222, or by E-mail to RimsMaster@FERC.fed.us.

Finally, the complete text on diskette in WordPerfect format may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, La Dorn System Corporation. La Dorn Systems Corporation is located in the Public Reference Room at 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

I. Introduction

In 1995, in response to heightened interest in Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) exploration and development, the Commission undertook a review of its OCS gathering policy through a notice of inquiry in Docket No. RM96-5-000. On February 28, 1996, the Commission issued a statement of policy respecting pipeline facilities on the OCS.¹ The policy statement concluded that facilities located in deep water (a depth of 200 meters or more) would be

¹ Gas Pipeline Facilities and Services on the Outer Continental Shelf—Issues related to the Commission's Jurisdiction Under the Natural Gas Act and the Outer Continental Shelf Land's Act (Policy Statement), 74 FERC ¶ 61,222 (Feb. 26, 1996).