

incurred and (b) the total quantities retained from all Buyers for transportation service in accordance with the applicable FRP. For every such month the foregoing difference is multiplied by the applicable monthly GRO Index Price. The resulting product is recorded in a Deferred GRO Account and interest is computed on the balance in the manner prescribed in Section 154.305(h) of the Commission's regulations. The actual Deferred GRO Account balance at the end of each twelve (12) month period ending March 31 is incorporated in Eastern Shore's Refund of "Cash Out" Revenues in Excess of Costs as contained in Section 35 of the GT & C of Eastern Shore's Tariff.

Lastly, Eastern Shore states that copies of its filing is available for inspection at its office at 417 Bank Lane, Dover, Delaware; and has been mailed to all firm customers, interruptible customers, and affected 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.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. GT98-45-000]

El Paso Natural Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

June 2, 1998.

Take notice that on May 27, 1998, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) tendered for filing two firm Transportation Service Agreements (TSAs) between El Paso and Pemex Gas

y Petroquimica Basica (Pemex) and Eighth Revised Sheet No. 1 to its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1-A.

El Paso states that it is submitting the TSAs for Commission approval since the TSAs contain payment provisions which differ from El Paso's Volume No. 1-A General Terms and Conditions. The tariff sheet, which references the TSAs, is proposed to become effective on June 26, 1998.

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.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-235-000]

Gas Research Institute; Notice of Annual Application

June 2, 1998.

Take notice that on May 22, 1998, Gas Research Institute (GRI) filed an application requesting advance approval of its 1999-2003 Five-Year Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) Plan and 1999 RD&D Program, and the funding of its RD&D activities for 1999, pursuant to the Natural Gas Act, Section 154.401(b) of the Commission's Regulations, and the Order Approving Settlement issued by the Commission on April 29, 1998 [83 FERC ¶ 61,093 (1998)]. GRI's application seeks to collect funds to support its 1999 RD&D Program through jurisdictional rates and charges during the twelve months ending December 31, 1999.

In its application, GRI proposes to incur contract obligations of \$132

million in 1999, which GRI states is consistent with the April 29 Order. This amount comprises \$114.5 in RD&D obligations and \$17.5 million in Administrative and General (operating) obligations. GRI states that \$77.1 of the 1999 contract obligations will be for Core Projects and \$54.9 for Non-Core Projects.

Also consistent with the Commission's April 29 Order Approving Settlement, GRI proposes to fund the 1999 RD&D program by the use of the following surcharges: (1) a demand/reservation surcharge of 23 cents per Dth per month for "high load factor customers"; (2) a demand/reservation surcharge of 14.2 cents per Dth per month for "low load factor customers"; (3) a volumetric commodity/usage surcharge of .75 cents; and (4) a special "small customer" surcharge of 1.8 cents per Dth.

In addition, GRI plans to make a series of one-time charges against its cash balance in 1998 and 1999 to fund expenses associated with its required transition to a fully voluntary funding system. GRI estimates these charges to be \$2.7 million in 1998 and \$1.2 million in 1999.

The Commission Staff will analyze GRI's application and prepare a Commission Staff Report. This Staff Report will be served on all parties and filed with the Commission as a public document by August 7, 1998. Comments on the Staff Report by all parties, except GRI, must be filed with the Commission on or before August 21, 1998. GRI's reply comments must be filed on or before August 28, 1998.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest GRI's application, except for GRI members and state regulatory commissions, who are automatically permitted to participate in the instant proceedings as intervenors, 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 Rules 214 and 211 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and procedure, 18 CFR 385.214 and 385.211. All protests, motions to intervene and comments should be filed on or before June 16, 1998. All comments and protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to this proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party, other than a GRI member or a state regulatory commission, must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this application are on file with the