

Columbia has informed Texas Eastern that it desires to build a new interconnect to deliver gas from its system into Texas Eastern's system. Columbia says it will build the interconnect pursuant to Section 157.208(a) of the Commission regulations. Texas Eastern and Columbia have determined that the most efficient and least environmentally intrusive manner for Columbia to construct the new interconnect is to utilize the existing site on which the delivery point to be abandoned is located.

Texas Eastern also requests authorization to add the new interconnect as a point of receipt on Columbia's existing Rate Schedule CTS service agreement pursuant to which Texas Eastern would receive gas quantities from Columbia on an interruptible basis. Texas Eastern relates that the new Columbia interconnect will provide an additional point of interconnection between Texas Eastern's and Columbia's systems and will be available for use by shippers on both pipeline systems.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before October 14, 1998, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 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 and 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. The Commission's rules require that protestors provide copies of their protests to the party or parties directly involved. Any person wishing to become a party in any proceeding herein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's rules.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-790-000]

Western Gas Interstate Company; Notice of Application

September 29, 1998.

Take notice that on September 18, 1998, Western Gas Interstate Company (Western Gas) 211 North Colorado, Midland, Texas 79701, filed in Docket No. CP98-790-000 an application pursuant to Sections 7(b) and 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act, for permission and approval to abandon a portion of its 4-inch and 6-inch main line, to operate certain pipeline facilities previously constructed under Natural Gas Policy Act (NGPA) Section 311 authority, and to abandon service to a customer located on the segment of the pipeline to be abandoned, all as more fully set forth in the application on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Western Gas states that this application is prompted by a highway construction project that will require Western Gas to abandon approximately 7.5 miles of its 4- and 6-inch main line in Texas County, Oklahoma. Western Gas indicates that rather than constructing replacement facilities, Western Gas is requesting certificate authority to operate, as part of its main line, certain existing pipeline facilities previously constructed and used strictly for service under NGPA Section 311. Western Gas claims that these facilities consist of approximately 15.5 miles of 6-inch and 8-inch diameter pipeline and were built to provide service on behalf of the City of Guymon, Oklahoma. Western Gas asserts that to integrate the existing Section 311 facilities with its main line, it will need to install three new proposed taps.

Western Gas also requests authorization to abandon service at an existing tap located on the 4-inch line proposed to be abandoned. Western Gas states that it currently delivers very small volumes of gas (a total of approximately 425 Mcf per year) at this point to West Texas Gas, Inc., (WTG) an Oklahoma local distribution company regulated by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission. Western Gas claims that WTG in turn delivers and sells the gas to four rural customers. Western Gas asserts that to mitigate the impact of this abandonment of service, it has offered to furnish and install, at its expense, the facilities needed to convert WTG's four customers to propane. Western Gas also

states that, in the alternative, if requested by WTG, it has offered to install a side valve and tap for a new delivery point to WTG at the same point where it will be cutting the line to be abandoned. Western Gas further states that as part of this application, it requests the Commission to authorize this new delivery point, if the new point is requested by WTG.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before October 20, 1998, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 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 jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulation 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, and permission and approval for the proposed abandonment, are 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 Western Gas to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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