

system in order to gain access to increasing reserves of coal-seam gas reserves in the Price area, and to satisfy increased transportation demand. It is asserted that M.L. Nos. 40 and 41 are currently operating near maximum capacity. It is further asserted that the proposed looping and compression will add approximately 272,000 Dt equivalent of incremental capacity to Questar's southern transmission system. In addition to transporting gas from the Price area, Questar explains that it has entered into an agreement with CIG Resources Company to transport volumes delivered to Questar from Colorado Interstate Gas Company's Uinta Basin Lateral at Natural Buttes in Uinta County, Utah.

Questar states that once the proposed project is placed in service, Questar will sell a 50 percent interest to CIG Gas Supply Company (Supply) and then lease back the 50 percent interest to give Questar control over the facilities. It is explained that the sale/leaseback arrangement will enhance both companies' ability to meet market needs most efficiently. Questar explains that it will retain the right to re-purchase Supply's 50 percent interest at net book value.

The cost of the proposed construction is estimated at \$80,850,975, including pipeline looping and compression facilities. Questar requests rolled-in rate treatment for the costs associated with the project, stating that the project is in accordance with the Commission's recent policy statement issued in PL99-3-000.

Questar asserts that it conducted an open season between December 28, 1998, and February 23, 1999, to determine market demand and asserts that the result was that Questar has executed firm transportation service contracts with three customers (CIG Resources Company, Questar Gas Company, and Texaco Natural Gas, Inc.) for a total of 270,000 Dt equivalent of reserved daily capacity with contract terms ranging from 5 to 10 years.

Any questions regarding the application may be directed to Alan K. Allred, Manager, Regulatory Affairs and Gas Supply Services, Questar Regulated Services Company, 180 East 100 South, P.O. Box 43560, Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0360, (801) 324-5768.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before February 8, 2000, 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 the jurisdiction conferred upon the Commission by sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures, 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 and 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 Questar to appear, or be represented, at the hearing.

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-1581 Filed 1-21-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

**[Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation;  
Docket No. CP00-67-000]**

#### Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

January 18, 2000.

Take notice that on January 7, 2000, Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation (Texas Eastern), P.O. Box 1642, Houston, Texas 77251-1642, filed in Docket No. CP00-67-000 a request pursuant to Sections 167.205 and 157.208 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.208) for authorization to construct, own, operate, and maintain certain facilities (Vermillion Lateral) located in Vermillion County, Illinois and Vermillion County, Indiana, to render

interruptible lateral transportation service to Duke Energy Vermillion, LLC (DEV) under Texas Eastern's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-535-000, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act, all as more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

Texas Eastern proposes to construct, own, operate, and maintain: (i) a measurement facility which will consist of one 6-inch and one 10-inch ultrasonic meter run plus associated pipeline, electronic gas measurement equipment and associated instrumentation (M&R Station); and (ii) the Vermillion Lateral, which will consist of approximately 14.03 miles of 16-inch diameter pipeline that will extend from a proposed interconnect with Midwestern Gas Transmission Company (Midwestern), to be located at milepost 2116 - 1+9.93 in Vermillion County, Illinois, to the M&R Station which will be located at the interconnection with the DEV Plant at milepost 14.03 in Vermillion county, Indiana.

Texas Eastern states that the estimated cost of the Vermillion Lateral facilities is approximately \$13 million dollars and that DEV will reimburse Texas Eastern for 100% of the costs and expenses associated with the construction and installation.

Midwestern proposes to construct, own, and operate an interconnect to be located at the intersection of the Vermillion Lateral and Midwestern's 30-inch mainline pipeline (Line No. 2100) located in Vermillion County, Illinois at milepost 2116 - 1+9.93, which will be constructed under Midwestern's Part 157 blanket construction certificate.

After receipt of the authorization requested and installation of the facilities for which authorization is requested herein, Texas Eastern states that it will deliver up to 200 MMcfd of natural gas to DEV at the DEV Plant, pursuant to a service agreement entered into under Texas Eastern's open access interruptible Rate Schedule IT-1. Texas Eastern declares that the transportation service to be rendered will have no effect on their peak day or annual deliveries and submits that its proposal herein will be accomplished without detriment or disadvantage to Texas Eastern's other customers.

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.

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-1580 Filed 1-21-00 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation; Docket No. RP99-291-000 and RP99-291-001]

#### Notice of Technical Conference

January 18, 2000.

Take notice that in the above proceeding concerning Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation's new Part 284 liquefied natural gas (LNG) storage services, a technical conference will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2000 at 10:00 am, in a room to be designated at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426.

All interested parties and Staff are permitted to attend.

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-1582 Filed 1-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Wells Rural Electric Company; Docket No. ER00-611-000 and EL00-19-000 (not consolidated)]

#### Notice of Issuance of Order

**JANUARY 18, 2000.** Wells Rural Electric Company (WREC) is a Nevada rural electric cooperative providing electrical service to approximately 5,300 customers in northeastern Nevada and Tooele County, Utah. On November 19, 1999, in Docket No. EL00-19-000, WREC filed a request for waiver of the requirements of Order Nos. 888 and 889.

In its filing, WREC also requested certain waivers and authorizations. In particular, WREC requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR Part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liabilities by WREC. On January 12, 2000, the Commission issued an Order Granting Request For Waivers of Order Nos. 888 And 889, Addressing Requests For Other Waivers And Accepting Agreements For Filing (Order), in the above-docketed proceedings.

The Commission's January 12, 2000 Order granted the request for blanket approval under Part 34, subject to the conditions found in Ordering Paragraphs (D), (E), and (G):

(D) Within 30 days of the date of this order, any person desiring to be heard or to protest the Commission's blanket approval of issuances of securities or assumptions of liabilities by WREC 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 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214.

(E) Absent a request to be heard within the period set forth in Ordering Paragraph (D) above, WREC is hereby authorized to issue securities and assume obligations and liabilities as guarantor, indorser, surety or otherwise in respect of any security of another person; provided that such issue or assumption is for some lawful object within the corporate purposes of WREC compatible with the public interest, and reasonably necessary or appropriate for such purposes.

(G) The Commission reserves the right to modify this order to require a further showing that neither public nor private interests will be adversely affected by continued Commission approval of WREC's issuances of securities or assumptions of liabilities . . .

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing motions to intervene or protests, as set forth above, is February 11, 2000.

Copies of the full text of the Order are available from the Commission's Public Reference Branch, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. The Order may also be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

**David P. Boergers,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-1584 Filed 1-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER99-2667-002, et al.]

#### Ameren Operating Companies, et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Regulation Filings

January 13, 2000.

Take notice that the following filings have been made with the Commission:

##### 1. Ameren Operating Companies

[Docket No. ER99-2776-002]

Take notice that on December 17, 1999, Ameren Services Company (Ameren), on behalf of the Ameren Operating Companies, made a compliance filing at the direction of the Commission's order issued in the above-captioned proceeding on December 1, 1999.

Copies of the filing have been served on the Illinois Commerce Commission, the Missouri Public Service Commission and all parties to the proceeding.

*Comment date:* January 24, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

##### 2. Maine Public Service Company

[Docket No. ER00-1053-000]

Take notice that on January 11, 2000, Maine Public Service Company (MPS) submitted pursuant to Section 205 of the Federal Power Act and Part 35 of the Commission's regulations, revisions to its Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) to implement retail open access in the state of Maine, to reflect that on March 1, 2000 the Northern Maine Independent System Administrator, Inc. (Northern Maine ISA) will begin operations, to modify its rate formula for the rates charged under the OATT, and to make various other revisions and corrections to its OATT.

MPS proposes that the revised OATT rates, terms and conditions become effective March 1, 2000.

Copies of this filing were served on the current customers under the OATT, participants in Maine Public Utilities Commission Docket No. 99-185, the Northern Maine ISA, and the state commission within whose jurisdiction MPS transmits electricity under the OATT.

*Comment date:* January 31, 2000, in accordance with Standard Paragraph E at the end of this notice.

##### 3. Avista Corporation

[Docket No. ER00-1054-000]

Take notice that on January 11, 2000, Avista Corporation (AVA), tendered for