

DC 20585. Ms. Borgstrom may be contacted by calling (202) 586-4600 or by leaving a message at (800) 472-2756.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality (Council) regulation for implementing NEPA under emergency circumstances (40 CFR 1506.11) and DOE's corresponding NEPA implementing regulation (10 CFR 1021.343), DOE consulted with the Council regarding alternative NEPA compliance arrangements for emergency actions having potentially significant environmental impacts. As a result of the consultations, DOE prepared this SEA of impacts related to the emergency fire suppression, soil erosion and flood control actions by DOE starting in early May 2000 at the time of the Cerro Grande Fire and extending through November 2000. A notice of emergency DOE actions was published in the **Federal Register** on June 21, 2000, which included a brief description of contemplated actions, and their potential impacts, as both were understood at that time. The **Federal Register** notice also served as the Public Notice and Statement of Findings regarding DOE's intention to take action involving construction and other actions within floodplains and wetlands pursuant to DOE's regulations for Compliance with Floodplain/Wetlands Environmental Review Requirements (10 CFR Part 1022). DOE announced the preparation of the SEA at regular public and stakeholder meetings regarding the status of DOE's emergency actions being taken. These status meetings were held weekly in Los Alamos beginning on June 30 and extending through August 11, 2000. The meetings are now being held on a monthly basis, with the first monthly meeting held on September 15, 2000.

DOE is providing copies of the SEA to LANL stakeholders, including tribes and members of the public who have identified themselves as interested parties. DOE has also made the SEA publicly available through the Internet and by placing it in DOE and LANL reading rooms and local public libraries in: Los Alamos, Santa Fe, Espanola, and Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The actions covered in this SEA encompass a wide range of activities, including felling trees, igniting back fires, applying fire-retardants, removing and stabilizing contaminants, and controlling erosion and storm water. In general, DOE actions had localized or limited individual adverse impacts and were designed to protect life and property from the effects of the fire and subsequent soil erosion and surface

water runoff caused by seasonally heavy rainfalls. In this respect, the actions had a significant positive cumulative impact at LANL and within the regions of influence for most resources. However, individual projects had some adverse effects, such as loss of habitat for wildlife, primarily resulting from soil and vegetation removal. The SEA does not include an analysis of the impacts that resulted from the Cerro Grande Fire itself. The fire impacts at LANL will be captured in other reports, and specifically, the Annual SWEIS Yearbook will detail the cumulative impacts of the wildfire.

#### Subsequent Document Preparation

Results of monitoring the mitigation effectiveness and the environmental effects of the emergency actions will be made available to the public through an annual mitigation tracking report. The first annual tracking report will be issued in January 2002 for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2000, and ending on September 30, 2001. DOE will consider any comments received on the SEA and the subsequent documents in pursuing adaptive mitigation measures. Comments should be sent to Ms. Withers as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** section above.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 5, 2000.

#### Henry Garson,

*NEPA Compliance Officer, Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration.*

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### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

#### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP01-26-000]

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

October 6, 2000.

Take notice that on October 3, 2000, El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) tendered for filing to its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1-A, the following tariff sheets, with an effective date of November 3, 2000:

First Revised Sheet No. 309A  
First Revised Sheet No. 445

El Paso states that the tariff sheets delete El Paso's pro forma Trading Partner Agreement and implement the use of the Gas Industry Standards Board's Model Trading Partner Agreement.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said 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 or 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with 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. This filing may be viewed on the web at <http://www.ferc.fed.us/online/rims.htm> (call 202-208-2222 for assistance).

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

#### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP00-340-000]

#### Koch Gateway Pipeline Company; Notice of Technical Conference

October 6, 2000.

On June 15, 2000, Koch Gateway Pipeline Company (Koch Gateway) filed in compliance with Order No. 637. A technical conference to discuss the various issues raised by Koch's filing was held on Wednesday, September 20, 2000.

Take notice that a second technical conference to discuss the issue of segmentation on Koch's system will be held Wednesday, October 25, 2000, at 9:00 am, in a room to be designated at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

All interested persons and Staff are permitted to attend.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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