

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****[FE Docket No. PP-241]****Application for Presidential Permit, Enron North America Corp.****AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.**ACTION:** Notice of application.

**SUMMARY:** Enron North America Corp. (Enron) has applied for a Presidential permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect an electric transmission line across the U.S. border with Mexico.

**DATES:** Comments, protests, or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before July 27, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments, protests, or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Coal & Power Import and Export (FE-27), Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-0350.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ellen Russell (Program Office) 202-586-9624 or Michael T. Skinker (Program Attorney) 202-586-2793.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The construction, operation, maintenance, and connection of facilities at the international border of the United States for the transmission of electric energy between the United States and a foreign country is prohibited in the absence of a Presidential permit issued pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 10485, as amended by EO 12038.

On May 4, 2001, Enron filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) for a Presidential permit. Enron proposes to construct two 300-megawatt (MW) converter stations in the vicinity of Brownsville, Texas, and a double-circuit 230,000 volt (230-kV) alternating current (AC) transmission line across the U.S. border to connect with similar facilities of the Comision Federal de Electricidad, the national electric utility of Mexico, in the vicinity of Matamoros, Mexico. The first converter station would convert 138-kV AC power from the City of Brownsville Public Utility Board's Loma Alta Substation to 150-kV DC power. A 150-kV DC transmission line would connect the first converter station with the second which would then convert the DC power to 230-kV AC power. The 230-kV transmission line proposed to cross the U.S.-Mexican border would extend from the second converter station. Depending on the configuration of the two converters (co-located at one site or constructed at separate sites) total length of the DC and AC transmission lines within the US would be between 5.7 and 8.7 miles.

Since restructuring of the electric power industry began, resulting in the introduction of different types of competitive entities into the marketplace, DOE has consistently expressed its policy that cross-border trade in electric energy should be subject to the same principles of comparable open access and non-discrimination that apply to transmission in interstate commerce. DOE has stated that policy in export authorizations granted to entities requesting authority to export over international transmission facilities. Specifically, DOE expects transmitting utilities owning border facilities to provide access across the border in accordance with the principles of comparable open access and non-discrimination contained in the FPA and articulated in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Order No. 888 (Promotion Wholesale Competition Through Open Access Non-Discriminatory Transmission Services by Public Utilities; FERC Stats. & Regs. ¶ 31,036 (1996)), as amended. In furtherance of this policy, on July 27, 1999, (64 FR 40586) DOE initiated a proceeding in which it noticed its intention to condition existing and future Presidential permits, appropriate for third party transmission, on compliance with a requirement to provide non-discriminatory open access transmission service. That proceeding is not yet complete. However, in this docket DOE specifically requests comment on the appropriateness of applying the open access requirement on Enron's proposed facilities.

**Procedural Matters**

Any person desiring to become a party to this proceeding or to be heard by filing comments or protests to this application should file a petition to intervene, comment or protest at the address provided above in accordance with §§ 385.211 or 385.214 of the FERC's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Fifteen copies of each petition and protest should be filed with the DOE on or before the date listed above.

Additional copies of such petitions to intervene or protests also should be filed directly with: Robert Frank, Director, Government Affairs, Enron Corp., 1400 Smith Street, Houston, TX 77002 AND Jeffrey D. Watkiss/Andrea M. Settanni, Bracewell & Patterson, L.L.P., 2000 K Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20006.

Before a Presidential permit may be issued or amended, the DOE must determine that the proposed action will not adversely impact on the reliability

of the U.S. electric power supply system. In addition, DOE must consider the environmental impacts of the proposed action (i.e., granting the Presidential permit, with any conditions and limitations, or denying the permit) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. DOE also must obtain the concurrence of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense before taking final action on a Presidential permit application.

Copies of this application will be made available, upon request, for public inspection and copying at the address provided above. In addition, the application may be reviewed or downloaded from the Fossil Energy Home Page at: <http://www.FE.DOE.GOV>. Upon reaching the Fossil Energy Home page, select "Electricity" from the options menu, and then "Pending Proceedings."

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 21, 2001.

**Anthony J. Como,**

*Deputy Director, Electric Power Regulation, Office of Coal & Power Systems, Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex Office of Fossil Energy.*

[FR Doc. 01-16112 Filed 6-26-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P****DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY****Federal Energy Regulatory Commission****[Docket No. RP99-466-005]****Great Lakes Gas Transmission Limited Partnership; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff**

June 21, 2001.

Take notice that on June 15, 2001, Great Lakes Gas Transmission Limited Partnership (Great Lakes) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, Substitute First Revised Sheet No. 29A and Substitute First Revised Sheet No. 50D.

Great Lakes states that these changes are proposed to be effective October 1, 1999 and January 1, 2001, respectively.

Great Lakes states that these tariff sheets are being filed to correct pagination errors that occurred when reserving a range of sheets for future use in earlier tariff filings. As a result of those errors, the electronic Great Lakes tariff includes the reserved sheets as currently effective, with outdated text. The instant filing will resolve any inconsistencies in Great Lakes' electronic tariff, and it will conform the affected sheets to the Commission's pagination requirements.