

Tucson Electric Power Company, WestConnect RTO, LLC.

Take notice that a technical conference will be held on February 19, 2002, to discuss the allocation of regional transmission organization (RTO) characteristics and functions between separate organizations within an RTO region.¹ Participants also may address the allocation of responsibility for performing other wholesale market functions (e.g. administration of a balancing market and security coordination) at the conference.² Members of the Commission may attend and participate in the discussions. All interested persons may attend.

The conference will be held from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC, in the Commission Meeting Room on the second floor. The Commission is inviting selected panelists on these topics to participate in this conference; it is not at this time entertaining requests to make presentations. There will be an opportunity for non-panelists to submit comments in the above dockets.

The Capitol Connection broadcasts all open and special Commission meetings held at the Commission's headquarters live over the Internet, as well as via telephone. For a fee, you can receive these meetings in your office, at home, or anywhere in the world. To find out more about the Capitol Connection's live Internet, phone bridge, or satellite coverage, contact David Reininger or Julia Morelli at (703) 993-3100, or visit www.capitolconnection.gmu.edu. The Capitol Connection also offers FERC open meetings through its Washington, DC-area television service.

Those interested in obtaining transcripts of the conference will need to contact Ace Federal Reporters at (202) 347-3700 or (800) 336-6646.

Further details about the agenda and organization of the conference, the panelists and submission of comments

¹ The RTO characteristics are: (1) Independence; (2) scope and regional configuration; (3) operational authority; and (4) short-term reliability. RTO functions include: (1) tariff administration and design; (2) congestion management; (3) parallel path flow; (4) ancillary services; (5) OASIS, total transmission capacity and available transmission capacity; (6) market monitoring; (7) planning and expansion; and (8) interregional coordination. See Regional Transmission Organizations, Order No. 2000, FERC Stats. And Regs. 31,089 (1999), *order on reh'g*, Order No. 2000-A, FERC Stats. And Regs. 31,092 (2000), *aff'd*, Public Utility District No. 1 of Snohomish County, Washington v. FERC, 272 F.3d 607 (D.C. Cir. 2001).

² See Order Providing Guidance on Continued Processing of RTO Filings, 97 FERC ¶ 61,146 at 61,633 (2001).

will be specified in a subsequent notice. Other questions about the conference program should be directed to: Diane Bernier, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of Markets, Tariffs and Rates, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 219-2886.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP02-1-000]

Southern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Site Visit

February 6, 2002.

On February 11, 12, 13, and 14, 2002, the staff of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP) will conduct a pre-certification site visit of Southern Natural Gas Company's (Southern) South System Expansion II Project in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana; Clarke, Lauderdale, and Jefferson David Counties, Mississippi; Sumter, Marengo, Hale, Perry, Autauga, Elmore, Tallapoosa, and Lee Counties, Alabama; and Harris, Talbot, Monroe, Bibb, Jones, Baldwin, Washington, Jefferson, Richmond, Upson, Effingham, and Chatham Counties, Georgia. The project area will be inspected by automobile and on foot, as appropriate. Representatives of Southern will accompany the OEP staff.

All interested parties may attend. Those planning to attend must provide their own transportation. For additional information, contact the Commission's Office of External Affairs at (202) 208-1088.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-3325 Filed 2-11-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. RP01-245-000 and RP01-253-000]

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation; Notice of Informal Settlement Conference

February 6, 2002.

Take notice that an informal settlement conference will be convened in this proceeding commencing at 10:00

am on Wednesday, February 13, 2002 at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426, for the purpose of exploring the possible settlement of the above-referenced dockets.

Any party, as defined by 18 CFR 385.102(c), or any participant as defined by 18 CFR 385.102(b), is invited to attend. Persons wishing to become a party must move to intervene and receive intervenor status pursuant to the Commission's regulations (18 CFR 385.214).

For additional information, please contact Bill Collins at (202) 208-0248 or Irene Szopo at (202) 208-1602.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-3332 Filed 2-11-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM98-1-000]

Regulations Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice

February 6, 2002.

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(h), of the receipt of exempt off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive an exempt or a prohibited off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested on-the-record proceeding, to deliver a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication, to the Secretary. In addition, on November 9, 2001, the Commission issued an Order, 97 FERC ¶ 61,182, Announcing the Establishment of State-Federal Regional Panels to Address RTO Issues, Modifying the Application of Rule 2201 in the Captioned Dockets, and Clarifying Order No. 607, wherein the Commission declared that it would treat, as exempt, State-Federal regional panel discussions between the Commission staff and state agencies which are parties to certain proceedings listed below. The order requires that the meetings of the panels be transcribed and placed in the decisional record. The order reiterated the standard requirement that the OSEC publish notice of the exempt communications and noted that the parties then have an opportunity to