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**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**  
Deputy Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96-359-011]

#### Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation; Notice of Negotiated Rate

October 30, 2002.

Take notice that on October 24, 2002, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation (Transco) tendered for filing with the Commission a copy of an amendment to an executed service agreement between Transco and Williams Energy Marketing & Trading Company that contains a negotiated rate under Rate Schedule FT applicable to the Leidy East Expansion Project. Transco states that the purpose of the instant filing is to comply with requirements specified in the Commission's October 25, 2001, "Order Issuing Certificate," in Docket No. CP01-389 which required Transco, among other things, to file, not less than 30 days prior to the commencement of service of the Leidy East Expansion Project, the negotiated rate agreements or tariff sheets reflecting the essential elements of its negotiated rate agreements. The proposed effective date of the amendment submitted herein is November 1, 2002, the anticipated in-service date of the Leidy East project.

Transco states that copies of the filing are being mailed to its affected customers and interested State Commissions. 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, NE., Washington, DC 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. This filing is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "FERRIS" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. Comments, protests and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See, 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**  
Deputy Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP02-436-000]

#### Northern Natural Gas Company; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Project Max and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues

October 30, 2002.

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that will discuss the environmental impacts of Project MAX involving construction and operation of facilities by Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) in several counties of Minnesota.<sup>1</sup> These facilities would consist of about 4.6 miles of 8-inch-diameter pipeline, a new compressor station, and modifications to 10 different town border stations. This EA will be used by the Commission in its decision-making process to determine whether the project is in the public convenience and necessity.

If you are a landowner receiving this notice, you may be contacted by a pipeline company representative about

<sup>1</sup> Northern's application was filed with the Commission under Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations.

the acquisition of an easement to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities. The pipeline company would seek to negotiate a mutually acceptable agreement. However, if the project is approved by the Commission, that approval conveys with it the right of eminent domain. Therefore, if easement negotiations fail to produce an agreement, the pipeline company could initiate condemnation proceedings in accordance with state law.

A fact sheet prepared by the FERC entitled "An Interstate Natural Gas Facility On My Land? What Do I Need To Know?" was attached to the project notice Northern provided to landowners. This fact sheet addresses a number of typically asked questions, including the use of eminent domain and how to participate in the Commission's proceedings. It is available for viewing on the FERC Internet Web site ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)).

#### Summary of the Proposed Project

The incremental capacity attained by the proposed facilities (summarized below) would be utilized to serve high priority residential, commercial, and industrial customer market growth in Northern's Market Area. The construction of the proposed facilities would increase the peak day capacity on Northern's Market Area mainline by approximately 16,200 million cubic feet per day. These facilities are required to meet shipper requests for firm capacity that Northern received during its open season. Northern's proposed facilities are as follows:

- (1) Construct 4.6 miles of 8-inch-diameter loop on its Alexandria Branchline in Morrison County, Minnesota;
- (2) Relocate existing tie-over and blowdown valves from the end of the existing Alexandria Branchline Loop to the end of the proposed branchline loop in Morrison County Minnesota;
- (3) Construct a new electric compressor station on its Minnesota Interconnecting Line MNB 77501 near Popple Creek, in Benton County, Minnesota;
- (4) Install a new regulator and valve at its Farmington Compressor Station in Dakota County, Minnesota;
- (5) Upgrade 10 existing town border stations (TBS) in Douglas, Wright, Stearns, Dakota, Sherburne and Pope counties of Minnesota; and
- (6) Install a valve operator on the existing C to B tie-over valve located at the St. Paul TBS #1T in Washington County, Minnesota.