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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### 18 CFR Part 157

[Docket No. RM81-19-000]

#### Natural Gas Pipelines; Project Cost and Annual Limits

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Energy.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the authority delegated by the Commission's regulations, the Director of the Office of Energy Projects (OEP) computes and publishes the project cost and annual limits for natural gas pipelines blanket construction certificates for each calendar year.

**DATES:** This final rule is effective February 3, 2017 and establishes cost limits applicable from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marsha K. Palazzi, Chief, Certificates Branch 2, Division of Pipeline Certificates, (202) 502-6785.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 157.208(d) of the Commission's Regulations provides for project cost limits applicable to construction, acquisition, operation and miscellaneous rearrangement of facilities (Table I) authorized under the blanket certificate procedure (Order No. 234, 19 FERC ¶ 61,216). Section 157.215(a) specifies the calendar year dollar limit which may be expended on underground storage testing and development (Table II) authorized under the blanket certificate. Section 157.208(d) requires that the "limits specified in Tables I and II shall be adjusted each calendar year to reflect the 'GDP implicit price deflator' published by the Department of

Commerce for the previous calendar year."

Pursuant to § 375.308(x)(1) of the Commission's Regulations, the authority for the publication of such cost limits, as adjusted for inflation, is delegated to the Director of the Office of Energy Projects. The cost limits for calendar year 2017, as published in Table I of § 157.208(d) and Table II of 157.215(a), are hereby issued.

#### Effective Date

This final rule is effective February 3, 2017. The provisions of 5 U.S.C. 804 regarding Congressional review of Final Rules does not apply to the Final Rule because the rule concerns agency procedure and practice and will not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties. The Final Rule merely updates amounts published in the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect the Department of Commerce's latest annual determination of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) implicit price deflator, a mathematical updating required by the Commission's existing regulations.

#### List of Subjects in 18 CFR Part 157

Administrative practice and procedure, Natural Gas, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

#### Ann Miles,

Director, Office of Energy Projects.

Accordingly, 18 CFR part 157 is amended as follows:

#### PART 157—[AMENDED]

■ 1. The authority citation for part 157 is revised to read as follows:

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 717-717w, 3301-3432; 42 U.S.C. 7101-7352.

■ 2. Table I in § 157.208(d) is revised to read as follows:

**§ 157.208 Construction, acquisition, operation, replacement, and miscellaneous rearrangement of facilities.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) \* \* \*

TABLE I

Year	Limit	
	Auto. proj. cost limit (Col. 1)	Prior notice proj. cost limit (Col. 2)
1982	\$4,200,000	\$12,000,000
1983	4,500,000	12,800,000
1984	4,700,000	13,300,000
1985	4,900,000	13,800,000
1986	5,100,000	14,300,000
1987	5,200,000	14,700,000
1988	5,400,000	15,100,000
1989	5,600,000	15,600,000
1990	5,800,000	16,000,000
1991	6,000,000	16,700,000
1992	6,200,000	17,300,000
1993	6,400,000	17,700,000
1994	6,600,000	18,100,000
1995	6,700,000	18,400,000
1996	6,900,000	18,800,000
1997	7,000,000	19,200,000
1998	7,100,000	19,600,000
1999	7,200,000	19,800,000
2000	7,300,000	20,200,000
2001	7,400,000	20,600,000
2002	7,500,000	21,000,000
2003	7,600,000	21,200,000
2004	7,800,000	21,600,000
2005	8,000,000	22,000,000
2006	9,600,000	27,400,000
2007	9,900,000	28,200,000
2008	10,200,000	29,000,000
2009	10,400,000	29,600,000
2010	10,500,000	29,900,000
2011	10,600,000	30,200,000
2012	10,800,000	30,800,000
2013	11,000,000	31,400,000
2014	11,200,000	31,900,000
2015	11,400,000	32,300,000
2016	11,600,000	32,800,000
2017	11,800,000	33,200,000

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 3. Table II in § 157.215(a)(5) is revised to read as follows:

#### § 157.215 Underground storage testing and development.

(a) \* \* \*  
(5) \* \* \*

TABLE II

Year	Limit
1982	\$2,700,000
1983	2,900,000
1984	3,000,000
1985	3,100,000
1986	3,200,000
1987	3,300,000
1988	3,400,000
1989	3,500,000
1990	3,600,000
1991	3,800,000

TABLE II—Continued

Year	Limit
1992	3,900,000
1993	4,000,000
1994	4,100,000
1995	4,200,000
1996	4,300,000
1997	4,400,000
1998	4,500,000
1999	4,550,000
2000	4,650,000
2001	4,750,000
2002	4,850,000
2003	4,900,000
2004	5,000,000
2005	5,100,000
2006	5,250,000
2007	5,400,000
2008	5,550,000
2009	5,600,000
2010	5,700,000
2011	5,750,000
2012	5,850,000
2013	6,000,000
2014	6,100,000
2015	6,200,000
2016	6,300,000
2017	6,400,000

\* \* \* \* \*

[FR Doc. 2017-02309 Filed 2-2-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

**18 CFR Part 381**

[Docket No. RM17-6-000]

**Annual Update of Filing Fees**

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Final rule; annual update of Commission filing fees.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Commission regulations, the Commission issues this update of its filing fees. This document provides the yearly update using data in the Commission's Financial System to calculate the new fees. The purpose of updating is to adjust the fees on the basis of the Commission's costs for Fiscal Year 2016.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* March 6, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Raymond D. Johnson Jr., Office of the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Room 42-66, Washington, DC 20426, 202-502-8402.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** *Document Availability:* In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the Internet through FERC's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov>) and in FERC's Public Reference Room during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time) at 888 First Street NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426.

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**Annual Update of Filing Fees (January 11, 2017)**

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is issuing this document to update filing fees that the Commission assesses for specific services and benefits provided to identifiable beneficiaries. Pursuant to 18 CFR 381.104, the Commission is establishing updated fees on the basis of the Commission's Fiscal Year 2016 costs. The adjusted fees announced in this document are effective March 6, 2017. The Commission has determined, with the concurrence of the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget, that this final rule is not a major rule within the meaning of section 251 of Subtitle E of Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act, 5 U.S.C. 804(2). The Commission is submitting this final rule to both houses of the United States Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States.

The new fee schedule is as follows:

<b>Fees Applicable to the Natural Gas Policy Act</b>	
1. Petitions for rate approval pursuant to 18 CFR 284.123(b)(2). (18 CFR 381.403) .....	\$ 12,760

<b>Fees Applicable to General Activities</b>	
1. Petition for issuance of a declaratory order (except under Part I of the Federal Power Act). (18 CFR 381.302(a)) .....	25,640
2. Review of a Department of Energy remedial order:	
<i>Amount in controversy:</i>	
\$ 0-9,999. (18 CFR 381.303(b)) .....	100
\$ 10,000-29,999. (18 CFR 381.303(b)) .....	600
\$ 30,000 or more. (18 CFR 381.303(a)) .....	37,430
3. Review of a Department of Energy denial of adjustment:	
<i>Amount in controversy:</i>	
\$ 0-9,999. (18 CFR 381.304(b)) .....	100
\$ 10,000-29,999. (18 CFR 381.304(b)) .....	600
\$ 30,000 or more. (18 CFR 381.304(a)) .....	19,630
4. Written legal interpretations by the Office of General Counsel. (18 CFR 381.305(a)) .....	7,350

<b>Fees Applicable to Natural Gas Pipelines</b>	
1. Pipeline certificate applications pursuant to 18 CFR 284.224. (18 CFR 381.207(b)) .....	*1,000

<b>Fees Applicable to Cogenerators and Small Power Producers</b>	
1. Certification of qualifying status as a small power production facility. (18 CFR 381.505(a)) .....	22,050