

Specifically, Northern states that the proposed project is a proactive measure to uphold pipeline integrity on Des Moines A-line. Northern states that it needs to reduce operating pressure on that line from 490 psig to 380 psig. To replace lost capacity associated with the lowered operating pressure, Northern proposes to install (1) approximately 11.2 miles of 20-inch-diameter pipeline loop starting at Northern's existing Ogden compressor station, and (2) approximately 2.6 miles of 20-inch-diameter pipeline loop starting at Northern's existing Royal Estates reducing station. Northern also proposes to remove (3) 20 feet of 8-inch-diameter station piping and (4) 5 feet of the 16-inch-diameter Des Moines B-line, both at the Royal Estates reducing station. Northern further states that with the exception of a segment of pipeline that will be installed adjacent to the road right of way, the pipeline loops will be placed adjacent to the existing Des Moines B-line. To maintain Northern's contractual obligations, the operating pressure on Des Moines A-line will be reduced once the Des Moines B-line Loop Project is placed in-service. The estimated cost of the project is \$32.5 million.

Pursuant to section 157.9 of the Commission's rules, 18 CFR 157.9, within 90 days of this Notice the Commission staff will either: complete its environmental assessment (EA) and place it into the Commission's public record (eLibrary) for this proceeding; or issue a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review. If a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review is issued, it will indicate, among other milestones, the anticipated date for the Commission staff's issuance of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) or EA for this proposal. The filing of the EA in the Commission's public record for this proceeding or the issuance of a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review will serve to notify federal and state agencies of the timing for the completion of all necessary reviews, and the subsequent need to complete all federal authorizations within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's FEIS or EA.

Any person may, within 60 days after the issuance of the instant notice by the Commission, file pursuant to Rule 214 of the Commission's Procedural Rules (18 CFR 385.214) a motion to intervene or notice of intervention. Any person filing to intervene or the Commission's staff may, pursuant to section 157.205 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (NGA) (18 CFR 157.205) file a protest to the request. If no protest is filed within the time allowed

therefore, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request shall be treated as an application for authorization pursuant to section 7 of the NGA.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests, and interventions via the internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (www.ferc.gov) under the e-Filing link.

Dated: May 11, 2017.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Technical Conference

| | Docket Nos. |
|---|-------------|
| Developments in Natural Gas Index Liquidity and Transparency. | AD17-12-000 |
| Price Discovery in Natural Gas and Electric Markets. | PL03-3-000 |
| Natural Gas Price Formation | AD03-7-000 |

Take notice that on June 29, 2017, the staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) will hold a technical conference on Developments in Natural Gas Index Liquidity and Transparency from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EDT), in the Commission Meeting Room at 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426. A detailed agenda will be issued and published on the Calendar of Events on the Commission's Web site¹ prior to the conference. Commission members may participate in the conference.

The purpose of this technical conference is to understand the state of liquidity in the physical natural gas markets, to explore current trends in physical natural gas trading and price reporting and how the use of natural gas indices have evolved over time, to obtain industry's views on the current level of confidence in natural gas indices and price formation, and finally, to consider whether there is a need to improve natural gas market liquidity and price reporting and, if so, how. Staff plans to discuss these issues with buyers and sellers of physical natural

gas, natural gas pipelines, ISO/RTOs or public utilities that use natural gas indices in their tariffs, market monitors, index developers, energy exchanges, academics and market experts. Staff recognizes that a number of factors influence market liquidity, and encourages the participation of interested parties to speak about price discovery, liquidity evaluation, and market activity measurement in the physical natural gas markets, among other things influencing the natural gas markets.

All attendees are encouraged to preregister at <https://www.ferc.gov/whats-new/registration/06-29-17-form.asp>. There is no fee to register or attend.

The technical conference will be transcribed. Transcripts will be available from Ace Reporting Company and may be purchased online at www.acefederal.com, or by phone at (202) 347-3700. In addition, there will be a free webcast of the conference. The webcast will allow persons to listen, but not participate, and will be accessible at www.ferc.gov Calendar of Events. The Capitol Connection provides technical support for the webcast and offers the option of listening to the technical conference via phone-bridge for a fee. If you have any questions, visit www.CapitolConnection.org or call (703) 993-3100.

Commission conferences are accessible under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For accessibility accommodations, please send an email to accessibility@ferc.gov or call toll free 1-866-208-3372 (voice) or 202-208-1659 (TTY), or send a FAX to 202-208-2106 with the required accommodations.

For more information about the technical conference, please contact: Sarah McKinley (Logistics), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8368, Sarah.Mckinley@ferc.gov Eric Primosch (Technical), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-6483, Eric.Primosch@ferc.gov Omar Bustami (Legal), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-6214, Omar.Bustami@ferc.gov

Dated: May 10, 2017.

Kimberly D. Bose,

Secretary.

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¹ www.ferc.gov.