IV. Figure 5: Decrease in Compressor Watts (3 Ton AC) With 3 Additional 24-Hour Break-In Periods, Relative to 20-Hour Break-In Baseline

See the following Web site for figure 5:

Figure 6: Decrease in Compressor Watts (5 Ton AC) With 3 Additional 24-Hour Break-In Periods, Relative to 20-Hour Break-In Baseline

See the following Web site for figure 6:

These test results show that a VSS system is not fully broken in at 20 hours, and that rating such a system with only 20-hour break-in period can underestimate a system’s SEER rating performance by 1 to 2 SEER (or approximately 5% to 10%). Because the 20 Hour Break-In Limit does not allow sufficient time for full break-in of VSS systems, the efficiency rating of a VSS system measured under Appendix M falls below the actual efficiency level at which the system will operate for the great majority of its time in service. JCI is thus unable to represent, on the basis of Appendix M testing, the full efficiency at which its VSS systems will operate. To achieve a particular efficiency rating under the Appendix M test method, JCI is forced to overdesign its VSS systems to meet an even higher target efficiency rating after full break-in. In short, the 20 Hour Break-In Limit in Appendix M results in the underrating of JCI’s VSS systems, and thus produces materially inaccurate data about the efficiency of VSS systems for comparison purposes, leaving homeowners without the information needed to objectively evaluate the benefits of such systems.

This underrating under Appendix M for JCI’s VSS systems has significant consequences in the marketplace. Because of underrating due to the 20 Hour Break-In Limit, the full efficiency advantage of JCI’s VSS systems cannot be apparent versus lower-efficiency full stage compressor products, for which the 20 Hour Break-In Limit does not bias results. Consumers for whom central air conditioner measured efficiency is an important factor will be misled about the merits of VSS systems on the basis of measured efficiency under Appendix M. Although the JCI models at issue are very efficient, and perform well above the applicable minimum efficiency standards, accurate ratings for high efficiency products such as these are important for purposes of, for instance, determining eligibility for Energy Star, utility rebates, tax credits, and green building recognition.

I. Alternative Test Procedures

DOE’s Appendix M test procedure, as currently promulgated but with the option of an extended, 72-hour break-in period, constitutes the appropriate alternate test procedure that will evaluate the performance of JCI’s VSS systems in a manner representative of its energy characteristics. Therefore, JCI proposes to test the basic models for which it seeks waiver by applying the entirety of Appendix M to 10 CFR part 430, subpart B, with a single modification to Section 3.1.7, as shown below:

3.1.7 Test Sequence

Manufacturers may optionally operate the equipment under test for a “break-in” period, not to exceed 22 to 72 hours, prior to conducting the test method specified in this section. A manufacturer who elects to use this optional compressor break-in period in its certification testing should record this information (including the duration) in the test data underlying the certified ratings that are required to be maintained under 10 CFR 429.71. When testing a ducted unit (except if a heating-only heat pump), conduct the A or A1 Test. Test the cooling full-load air volume rate. For ducted heat pumps where the heating and cooling full-load air volume rates are different, make the first heating mode test one that requires the heating full-load air volume rate. For ducted heating-only heat pumps, conduct the H1 or H12 Test first to establish the heating full-load air volume rate. When conducting a cyclic test, always conduct it immediately after the steady-state test that requires the same test conditions. For variable-speed systems, the first test using the cooling minimum air volume rate should precede the E1 Test, and the first test using the heating minimum air volume rate must precede the H2v Test. The test laboratory makes all other decisions on the test sequence.

Thus, the only change would be to modify the maximum length of the optional break-in period for JCI’s VSS systems. As required by Appendix M, JCI would report the break-in period used in its product compliance certifications.

II. Similar Products

JCI is aware of the following manufacturers of residential central air conditioners and heat pumps that offer VSS systems using scroll compressors with oil injection: Carrier Corporation, Lennox International Inc., and Rheem Sales Company, and Trane.

IV. Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, JCI respectfully requests that DOE grant its request for an interim waiver while its petition for waiver is under consideration. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this request, please contact me at (316) 833–6393, Chris Ware at (414) 324–5443, or Doug Smith of Van Ness Feldman, LLP at (202) 298–1902. We greatly appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Steve Tice,
UPG Vice-President, Engineering Unitary Products, Johnson Controls, Inc.
steven.a.tice@jci.com.
Cc: Johanna Jochum, Office of the General Counsel

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Filings Instituting Proceedings


Description: Tariff Amendment: 09/12/17 Negotiated Rates—Hartree
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. ER17–2457–000]

Rock Creek Wind Project, LLC;
Supplemental Notice That Initial Market-Based Rate Filing Includes Request for Blanket Section 204 Authorization

This is a supplemental notice in the above-referenced proceeding of Rock Creek Wind Project, LLC’s application for market-based rate authority, with an accompanying rate tariff, noting that such application includes a request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability.

Any person desiring to intervene or protest should file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant.

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing protests with regard to the applicant’s request for blanket authorization, under 18 CFR part 34, of future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability, is October 4, 2017.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper, using the FERC Online links at http://www.ferc.gov. To facilitate electronic service, persons with Internet access who wish to eFile a document and/or be a party to the proceeding, eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to eFiling requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/eFiling/filing-req.pdf. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8650.

Dated: September 13, 2017.
Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

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Dated: September 13, 2017.
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BILLING CODE 6717–01–P