

108 FERC ¶ 61,232
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before Commissioners: Pat Wood, III, Chairman;
Nora Mead Brownell, Joseph T. Kelliher,
and Suedeem G. Kelly.

Northern Natural Gas Company

Docket No. IN02-5-000

ORDER TERMINATING COMPLIANCE PLAN

(Issued September 15, 2004)

1. On July 24, 2002, the Commission approved a Stipulation and Consent Agreement (Agreement) between Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern Natural) and the Market Oversight and Enforcement Section of the Office of the General Counsel (Enforcement). *Northern Natural Gas Company*, 100 FERC ¶ 61,119 (2002). The Agreement resolved an Enforcement investigation of Northern Natural's compliance with the 1997 cost limits on blanket certificate construction as set forth in 18 C.F.R. §157.208 (d) (1997). Under Part III A of the Agreement, Northern Natural would implement a compliance plan to help assure its future compliance with the cost limits for blanket certificate projects.
2. Part III B of the Agreement provided that, after two years, Northern Natural could petition the Commission to terminate the plan upon a showing of compliance. By a letter dated July 29, 2004, Northern Natural requested termination of the plan. It stated that the company has complied with the plan by instituting the prescribed internal procedures and filing required monthly updates with the Commission. The Office of Energy Projects staff reviewed Northern Natural's filings and agrees that the company has complied with the plan.
3. We find that Northern Natural has complied with the requirements of the Agreement, and do hereby terminate the compliance plan in the Agreement.
4. We remind the company that it remains obligated under Part III C of the Agreement, with respect to each future request for prior notice construction authorization, to separately identify and specify the costs of each activity it intends to perform pursuant to section 2.55 of the Commission's regulations, 18 C.F.R. §2.55, in conjunction with the proposed blanket certificate construction.

The Commission orders:

(A) The compliance plan required under the Agreement between Northern Natural and Enforcement is terminated.

(B) All other requirements of the Agreement remain in force.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)

Linda Mitry,
Acting Secretary.