

123 FERC ¶ 61,321
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

June 30, 2008

In Reply Refer To:
Equitrans, L.P.
Docket No. RP08-223-001

Equitrans, L.P.
225 North Shore Drive
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212-5861

Attention: David K. Dewey
Vice President and General Counsel

Reference: Twentieth Revised Sheet No. 5, Thirtieth Revised Sheet No. 6
and Seventeenth Revised Sheet No. 10
to Equitrans, L.P.'s FERC Gas Tariff, Original Volume No. 1

Dear Mr. Dewey:

1. On February 29, 2008, Equitrans, L.P. (Equitrans) filed the subject tariff sheets to recover costs incurred by Equitrans under the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (PSIA). Equitrans asserted these costs were "Qualifying Costs" pursuant to section 38 of the General Terms and Conditions (GT&C) of Equitrans' tariff. The Independent Oil & Gas Association of West Virginia (IOGA) protested the February 29 filing. In a letter order issued on March 27, 2008,¹ the Commission accepted and suspended the above referenced tariff sheets, subject to refund and condition, and further Commission action. The Commission directed Equitrans to file additional explanations to its proposal. On April 28, 2008, Equitrans filed certain explanations and other information pursuant to the March 27 Order. As discussed below, the Commission removes the refund condition imposed by the March 27 Order and accepts the subject tariff sheets effective April 1, 2008, without further condition.

2. Public notice of the April 28 filing was issued on April 30, 2008. Interventions and protests were due as provided in section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations (18 C.F.R. § 154.210 (2007)). Pursuant to Rule 214 (18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2007)), all timely motions to intervene and any motions to intervene out-of-time filed before the

¹ *Equitrans, L.P.*, 122 FERC ¶ 61,288 (2008) (March 27 Order).

issuance date of this order are granted. Granting late intervention at this stage of the proceeding will not disrupt this proceeding or place additional burdens on existing parties. No adverse comments or protests were filed.

3. In the March 27 Order, the Commission directed Equitrans to file additional explanations of its proposal. Specifically, Equitrans was directed to address the issues raised by IOGA, and to answer certain questions set forth in the March 27 Order.

4. In its filings, Equitrans included, among other things, a description of each invoice and the corresponding reference to the U.S. Department of Transportation's pipeline integrity regulations. Further, Equitrans stated that, were it not for the PSIA, it would not have replaced the pipeline segments or incurred the operating and maintenance expenses that are the subject of the instant proceeding. The Commission finds that in the instant filing, Equitrans has adequately addressed the concerns raised by IOGA, and has shown that the costs it seeks to recover are "Qualifying Costs" pursuant to section 38 of the GT&C of Equitrans' tariff. Based upon Equitrans' additional explanations, the Commission removes the refund condition, and accepts Equitrans' proposal and the subject tariff sheets effective April 1, 2008, without further condition.

By direction of the Commission.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

cc: All Parties
Public File