

116 FERC ¶ 61, 067
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

July 20, 2006

In Reply Refer To:
Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation
Columbia Gulf Transmission Company
Crossroads Pipeline Company
Central Kentucky Transmission Company
Docket No. RP06-436-000

NiSource Corporate Services Company
1700 MacCorkle Avenue, S.E.
Charleston, WV 25314

Attention: David P. Sharo,
Senior Attorney

Reference: Temporary Waiver of Tariff

Ladies and Gentlemen:

1. Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation, Columbia Gulf Transmission Company, Crossroads Pipeline Company and Central Kentucky Transmission Company (the Pipelines) filed to request a temporary waiver of: (1) certain sections of its General Terms and Conditions;¹ (2) certain NAESB Standards;² and (3) section 284.12 of the Commission's regulations. The Pipelines are requesting this authority to allow temporary

¹ Specifically, sections 2.8 (EBB Access requirements: Operations), 6.2 (Nominations) and 6.3 (Confirmation and Scheduling by Transporter) of the Pipelines' respective FERC Gas Tariffs.

² Specifically, North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) Standards 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.3.4, 1.3.8, 1.3.21, 1.3.37, 1.3.45 (nomination related standards); 2.3.6, 2.3.21, 2.3.40, 2.3.41, 2.3.42, 2.3.49 (flowing gas related standards); and 5.3.31, 5.3.32, 5.3.33, 5.3.44, 5.3.45 (capacity release related standards).

modifications to the nominations and scheduling process on certain dates, as well as the temporary suspension of these requirements during certain periods, associated with the outages of the Pipelines' Electronic Bulletin Board (Navigator) due to the relocation of the NiSource mainframe computers.³ Further, the Pipelines state that explanations of the specific temporary modifications were posted on Navigator on July 5, 2006, July 14, 2006 and for Central Kentucky on July 19, 2006.

2. Public notice was issued on July 18, 2006. Interventions and protests were due on or before July 19, 2006. Pursuant to Rule 214, (18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2005)), all timely filed motions to intervene and any motions to intervene out-of-time filed before the issuance date of this order are granted. Granting late intervention at this stage of the proceeding will not disrupt the proceeding or place additional burdens on existing parties. Several protests were filed complaining about the loss of flexibility to shippers, the potential for incurring penalties, and the lack of information provided by the Pipelines as to the procedures to be followed during the suspension of the standards.

3. We will grant the requested temporary waiver for the dates specified in footnote 3, subject to the conditions discussed below. The Pipelines proposed to make these necessary changes to their computer systems prior to the winter heating season when the system generally has the most flexibility, and we therefore will grant the waiver request on the short notice provided by the Pipelines.⁴ However, we agree with the protests that the Pipelines should provide the shippers with additional information as to the procedures to be followed and need to provide as much flexibility as possible to their shippers during the mainframe outage. We therefore condition our grant of the waiver on the Pipelines providing information to the shippers on the procedures to be followed during the

³ The Pipelines state that all functions of Navigator will be unavailable for periods up to 48 hours on the following days: Saturday, July 22, 2006; Saturday, August 12, 2006; Saturday August 19, 2006 and up to 72 hours on Saturday and Sunday, September 2-3, 2006.

⁴ However, it is clear that the Pipelines here knew about the need for these waivers well in advance of the date on which they filed their waiver request, and were it not for the need to complete these repairs during the summer, we would not be acting on this request on such short notice. In the future, the Pipelines should file any such requests sufficiently in advance of the date when the waiver is needed.

weekends on which the standards are waived, making reasonable accommodations to shipper's needs for flexibility,⁵ and waiving scheduling or imbalance penalties for shipper imbalances that do not jeopardize system operations.⁶

By direction of the Commission.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

cc: All Parties

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⁵ See *Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Line*, 99 FERC ¶ 61,373 (2002).

⁶ See *Southern Natural Company* 78 FERC ¶ 61,125 at 61,482 (1997).