

137 FERC ¶ 61,095  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

October 31, 2011

In Reply Refer To:  
Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC  
Docket No. RP11-2576-000

Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC  
711 Louisiana Street, Suite 900  
Houston, TX 77002

Attention: Shelly A. Corman  
Sr. Vice President

Reference: Letter Order Approving Uncontested Settlement

Dear Ms. Corman:

1. On September 21, 2011, Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC (Transwestern), pursuant to Rule 207(a)(5) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure,<sup>1</sup> filed a petition for approval of a Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (Settlement), submitted in lieu of its obligation to file a Natural Gas Act (NGA) section 4 general rate case. The Settlement is uncontested and the Commission grants the petition and approves the Settlement as it appears fair and reasonable and in the public interest.
2. The Commission issued a public notice of the petition with interventions and protests due by October 3, 2011. Pursuant to 18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2011), all timely filed motions to intervene and motions to intervene out-of-time filed before the issuance date of this order are granted. Granting late interventions at this stage of the proceeding will not disrupt the proceeding or place additional burdens on existing parties. All of the parties filing comments either support or do not oppose the Settlement.
3. Article I states that the Settlement resolves all rate and tariff issues as provided therein.

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<sup>1</sup> 18 C.F.R. § 385.207(a)(5) (2011).

4. Article II states that the Settlement rates are set forth in the attached tariff records, effective April 1, 2012, April 1, 2013, and April 1, 2014, and Transwestern will file tariff records containing the rates no later than 30 days before the effective dates.
5. Article III provides for revisions to Transwestern's Tariff as shown in the tariff records attached to the Settlement. Within 15 days of the date on which the Settlement becomes effective pursuant to Article VIII, Transwestern shall file the tariff records contained in Appendix C of the Settlement.
6. Article IV sets forth the agreed-upon depreciation and amortization rates.
7. Article V describes the accounting treatment for various items.
8. Article VI specifies that Transwestern shall make an NGA section 4 rate case filing on October 1, 2014, and specifies certain items to be included in such rate case filing, unless the parties reach a settlement in advance of such date providing otherwise.
9. Article VII sets forth the moratorium on changes to the Settlement.
10. Article VIII provides that the Settlement shall become effective on the first day of the first month following the date on which a Commission order approving the Settlement, without modifications or conditions that are materially adverse and unacceptable to any Settling Party, becomes final.
11. Article IX states that a final Commission order approving the Settlement shall constitute final approval of all necessary authorizations and waiver, to the extent necessary, to effectuate all of the provisions of the Settlement.
12. Article X provides that the Settlement is privileged and of no effect until it is approved and becomes effective.
13. Article XI states that the Settlement is not severable, represents a negotiated settlement only with respect to the issues resolved therein, and except to the extent explicitly set forth in the Settlement, neither Transwestern, the Commission, its Staff, nor any Party shall be deemed to have approved, accepted, agreed to, or consented to any policy, methodology, or other principle underlying or supposed to underlie any of the matters provided for in the Settlement.
14. Article XII contains various miscellaneous provisions, including the provision that the standard for review of proposed changes to the Settlement is the just and reasonable standard.

15. The Commission's approval of the Settlement does not constitute approval of, or precedent regarding, any principle or issue in this proceeding.

By direction of the Commission. Commissioner Spitzer is not participating.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,  
Deputy Secretary.