

147 FERC 61,156
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

May 28, 2014

In Reply Refer To:
Equitrans, L.P.
Docket No. RP14-817-000
Docket No. RP14-818-000

Equitrans, L.P.
625 Liberty Avenue, Suite 700
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222-3111

Attention: Sarah A. Shaffer
Rates Director

Dear Ms. Shaffer:

1. On April 30, 2014, Equitrans, L.P., (Equitrans) filed revised tariff records¹ in Docket No. RP14-817-000 to modify certain sections of its Statement of Rates, Rate Schedules, General Terms and Conditions (GT&C), and Form of Service Agreements. Equitrans states that the purpose of its filing is to make miscellaneous updates and clarifications to its tariff, and to correct typographical errors. On May 1, 2014, Equitrans filed a revised tariff record in Docket No. RP14-818-000 to make certain corrections to its original filing that resulted from recent Commission action in Docket No. RP14-685-000.² As discussed below, we waive the Commission's 30-day notice requirement and

¹ See Appendix.

² *Equitrans, Inc.*, 147 FERC ¶ 61,074 (2013). In Docket No. RP14-817-000, Equitrans proposed certain tariff modifications associated with its new interruptible wheeling service that it previously proposed in Docket No. RP14-685-000. Equitrans stated that it included those proposed changes in the RP14-817-000 docket because the proposed effective date of its new interruptible wheeling service was to be before the May 30, 2014, effective date of the instant filing. The Commission subsequently accepted and suspended Equitrans' interruptible wheeling service in Docket No. RP14-685-000, to become effective October 1, 2014. Accordingly, Equitrans filed a revised tariff record in Docket No. RP14-818-000 to remove from its tariff all proposed tariff modifications relating to its interruptible wheeling service.

accept Equitrans' revised tariff records as set forth in the Appendix, effective May 30, 2014, as proposed and reject [Section 4.4, Other Service Rates LPS & IWS, 2.1.0](#) as moot.

2. Public notices of the filings were issued on May 1, 2014. Interventions and protests were due as provided in section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations (18 C.F.R. § 154.210 (2013)). Pursuant to Rule 214 (18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2013)), all timely filed motions to intervene and any unopposed motion 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. Peoples LDC³ filed adverse comments. On May 15, 2014, Equitrans filed an answer to Peoples' comments. While the Commission's regulations generally prohibit answers to protests, the Commission will accept this answer to provide a better understanding of the issues in this proceeding.⁴

3. The majority of Equitrans' proposed tariff modifications involve housekeeping changes. These include: (1) fixing typographical errors; (2) correcting tariff inconsistencies; (3) removing obsolete tariff language; and, (4) reformatting tariff sections. The Commission accepts these proposed tariff revisions.

4. Equitrans also proposes four tariff modifications that are more substantive in nature. First, it proposes a new system map in section 3 of its tariff. Second, Equitrans proposes to merge section 6.19 (Non-Waiver of Future Default) and section 6.41 (Nondiscriminatory Waiver of Tariff Provisions) of its GT&C into one section. Equitrans states that its proposed merger of these tariff sections is for administrative convenience because both sections cover the same subject matter. Equitrans also proposes to modify section 6.14 of its GT&C to reduce the lengths of open seasons for capacity that will become available for 12 months or longer from 30 business days to 14 days. Equitrans states that this open season requirement is similar to what other pipelines have used for their open seasons.⁵ Finally, Equitrans proposes to modify its Form of Service Agreement for Rate Schedule FTSS to add the effective date of the contract and to allow for a variable contract demand under the service. Equitrans states that allowing variable contract demand for its Rate Schedule FTSS service would make

³ Peoples LDC is composed of Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC, Peoples TWP LLC, and Peoples Gas WV LLC.

⁴ 18 C.F.R. § 385.213(a)(2)(2013).

⁵ Equitrans states that "[t]he shortened open season period is consistent with Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America's open season for the Gulf Coast Market Expansion Project which was held from February 18, 2014, through March 4, 2014 and Rockies Express Pipeline LLC's open season for the East-to-West Project which was held from January 29, 2014 through February 12, 2014." Equitrans Transmittal Letter at p. 3 fn. 1.

this rate schedule consistent with its other firm transportation rate schedules, all of which allow for variable contract demand. The Commission finds that these tariff provisions are consistent with its regulations and are just and reasonable.

5. In its comments, Peoples LDC generally supports Equitrans' tariff modifications, but expresses concerns regarding a proposed change to Equitrans' Statement of Rates. According to Peoples LDC, Equitrans reformatted the manner in which its rates are displayed on its Statement of Rates, and adopted new section headings using the term "Rate Zone." It contends that Equitrans operates a reticulated system with postage stamp rates, and requests that Equitrans provides assurances that the use of the new term "Rate Zone" will not result in any substantive ratemaking or operational changes.

6. In its answer, Equitrans states that the reformatting of its Statement of Rates will not result in any substantive ratemaking or operational changes. It explains that it includes the section heading "Rate Zone" on its Statement of Rates to reflect that Equitrans now has separate rate zones on its system – one rate zone for the Mainline and Sunrise transmission systems and another rate zone for the Allegheny Valley Connector system. The Commission finds that Equitrans has satisfactorily addressed the concerns raised by Peoples LDC and will accept the proposed change based upon Equitrans' assurance that it intends no substantive ratemaking or operational changes by its proposed heading.

7. As discussed above, the Commission grants waiver of the Commission's 30-day notice period and accepts the proposed tariff records set forth in the Appendix to be effective May 30, 2014, as proposed, and rejects [Section 4.4, Other Service Rates LPS & IWS, 2.1.0](#) as moot.

By direction of the Commission.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.

Appendix

Equitrans, L.P.
FERC NGA Gas Tariff
Equitrans Tariff

Tariff Records Accepted Effective May 30, 2014 (Docket No. RP14-817-000)

[Tariff, First Revised Volume No. 1, 3.0.0](#)

[Section 1, Table of Contents, 10.1.0](#)

[Section 3.1, Transmission System, 4.0.0](#)

[Section 3.2, Mainline and Sunrise Transmission Systems, 0.0.0](#)

[Section 3.3, Allegheny Valley Connector, 0.0.0](#)

[Section 4, , 1.0.0](#)

[Section 4.1, Transportation Rates NOFT, FTS, STS-1 & FTSS, 12.0.0](#)

[Section 4.2, Transportation Rates ITS, AGS & Products Extraction, 12.0.0](#)

[Section 4.3, Storage Service Rates 115SS, 60SS, GSS, INSS & SS-3, 2.0.0](#)

[Section 5.2, Rate Schedule FTS, 8.0.0](#)

[Section 5.3, Rate Schedule ITS, 4.0.0](#)

[Section 5.4, Rate Schedule 115SS, 3.0.0](#)

[Section 5.5, Rate Schedule 60SS, 4.0.0](#)

[Section 5.6, Rate Schedule INSS, 4.0.0](#)

[Section 5.7, Rate Schedule SS-3, 2.1.0](#)

[Section 5.10, Rate Schedule LPS, 4.0.0](#)

[Section 5.12, Rate Schedule FTSS, 1.0.0](#)

[Section 5.13, Rate Schedule GSS, 1.0.0](#)

[Section 6, Index to Provisions, 9.0.0](#)

[Section 6.4, Quality, 1.0.0](#)

[Section 6.6, Procedures for Requesting and Contracting for Service, 3.0.0](#)

[Section 6.8, Scheduling of Services, 8.1.0](#)

[Section 6.10, Force Majeure, 1.0.0](#)

[Section 6.13, Billing, Payment and Reimbursement, 2.0.0](#)

[Section 6.19, Non-Waiver for Future Default, 1.0.0](#)

[Section 6.22.6, Notice of Prearranged Release, 1.0.0](#)

[Section 6.22.7, Posting and Bidding Requirements, 3.0.0](#)

[Section 6.22.9, Awarding of Released Capacity, 3.0.0](#)

[Section 6.22.11, Recall of Released Capacity, 1.0.0](#)

[Section 6.35, North American Energy Standards Board \("NAESB"\), 6.0.0](#)

[Section 6.37, Security Cost Tracker \(SCT\) Mechanism, 3.0.0](#)

[Section 6.40, Reservation of Capacity for Future Service, 3.0.0](#)

[Section 6.41, Reserved for Future Use, 3.0.0](#)

[Section 6.44, Tariff-Permitted Provisions in Service Agreements, 6.0.0](#)

[Section 6.45, Operational Purchases and Sales, 2.0.0](#)

[Section 7.1.1, Rate Schedule NOFT - Exhibit A, 3.1.0](#)

[Section 7.10.1, Rate Schedule PS - Exhibit A, 5.0.0](#)

[Section 7.11.1, Rate Schedule FTSS - Exhibit A, 1.0.0](#)

Tariff Record Rejected as Moot (Docket No. RP14-817-000)

[Section 4.4, Other Service Rates LPS & IWS, 2.1.0](#)

Tariff Record Accepted Effective May 30, 2014 (Docket No. RP14-818-000)

[Section 4.4, Lending and Parking Service Rates, 2.2.0](#)