

150 FERC ¶ 61,237
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

March 30, 2015

In Reply Refer To:
Cheniere Creole Trail Pipeline, L.P.
Docket No. RP15-569-000

Lisa M. Tonery
Cheniere Creole Trail Pipeline, L.P.
C/o Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.
666 Fifth Avenue, 31st Floor
New York, NY 10103

Dear Ms. Tonery:

1. On February 27, 2015, Cheniere Creole Trail Pipeline, L.P. (Creole Trail) filed a revised tariff record¹ to adjust its fuel retainage percentage, as required by section 6.15 of the General Terms and Conditions (GT&C) of its FERC Gas tariff. Specifically, Creole Trail proposes to slightly increase the effective fuel retention percentage from 0.80 percent to 0.85 percent, which Creole Trail states is based on estimated rather than actual fuel and lost and unaccounted for gas data as required by its tariff.² Therefore, Creole Trail requests waiver of section 6.15 of its GT&C so that it may continue to temporarily use estimated data rather than actual fuel and lost and unaccounted for gas data. Creole Trail further requests that the revised tariff record become effective April 1, 2015. As discussed below and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the requested temporary waiver and accepts the proposed tariff record subject to condition, to be effective April 1, 2015, as requested.

¹ Cheniere Creole Trail Pipeline, L.P., FERC NGA Gas Tariff, Baseline Tariff, [Section 4, Statement of Currently Effective Rates, 14.0.0.](#)

² In Creole Trail's last fuel retainage percentage filing, the Commission accepted Creole Trail's proposal to temporarily use estimated fuel and unaccounted for gas data to establish a decreased fuel retention percentage, from 2.0 percent to 0.80 percent. *See Cheniere Creole Trail Pipeline, L.P.*, 149 FERC ¶ 61,085 (2014).

2. In support of its request to continue the temporary use of estimated instead of actual fuel and lost and unaccounted for data, Creole Trail states that it is nearing completion of the flow reversal project that began in 2013, which continues to render the pipeline out of service.³ As Creole Trail previously explained the flow reversal project will add 53,000 horsepower of compression and will allow Creole Trail to provide firm transportation service south to natural gas export facilities operated by Sabine Pass LNG, L.P. Creole Trail states that it anticipates the flow-reversal project will be in service as early as April 2015.⁴

3. Creole Trail states it is this significant factor that requires the continued temporary use of estimated fuel and lost and unaccounted for gas data to determine its fuel retainage percentage. Creole Trail therefore proposes to calculate its fuel retainage percentage based upon an estimate of fuel and lost and unaccounted for natural gas volumes of 175,000 dekatherms (Dth) and an estimated annual throughput of 25,700,000 Dth. According to Creole Trail, these estimates result in a proposed fuel retainage percentage of 0.85 percent.

4. Public notice of Creole Trail's filing was issued on March 3, 2015. Interventions and protests were due March 11, 2015, as provided by section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations.⁵ Pursuant to Rule 214,⁶ all timely filed motions to intervene and any unopposed 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 this proceeding or place additional burdens on existing parties. No interventions, protests or adverse comments were filed.

5. The Commission finds that Creole Trail has shown good cause to grant its waiver request. The Commission has previously granted waiver of applicable tariff provisions to allow pipelines to use forecasted throughput and fuel usage data to calculate fuel retention percentages⁷ when doing so will minimize a future under or over-recovery of

³ See *Cheniere Creole Trail Pipeline, L.P.*, 142 FERC ¶ 61,137 (2013).

⁴ In its last fuel retainage percentage proceeding, Creole Trail expected the service outage resulting from the project to last through September 2014.

⁵ 18 C.F.R. § 154.210 (2014).

⁶ 18 C.F.R. § 385.214 (2014).

⁷ See *El Paso Natural Gas Co.*, 145 FERC ¶ 61,271 (2013). See also *Ruby Pipeline, L.L.C.*, 143 FERC ¶ 61,284 (2013); *N. Nat. Gas Co.*, 132 FERC ¶ 61,166 (2010); *Columbia Gulf Transmission Co., L.L.C.*, 123 FERC ¶ 61,313 (2008).

fuel, including granting the waiver to permit Creole Trail to use estimated data in its last fuel retainage filing to decrease its fuel retainage percentage. In this case, Creole Trails seeks a waiver to allow it to continue to use estimated throughput and fuel use data to increase its fuel retainage percentage in order to avoid a significant under-collection of fuel during the startup period of the flow reversal project until its next annual fuel filing. Thus, we grant the requested waiver. As Creole Trail states, however, its use of estimated data is temporary. Therefore, we will condition our acceptance upon Creole Trail carrying any over/under collection balance forward to the next annual true up adjustment period. This will ensure that neither Creole Trail nor its shippers are unduly disadvantaged. Accordingly, the Commission grants Creole Trail's request for waiver of section 6.15 of its GT&C and accepts, subject to condition, the proposed tariff record, to be effective April 1, 2015, as requested.

By direction of the Commission.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,
Deputy Secretary.