

143 FERC ¶ 61,260
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

June 20, 2013

In Reply Refer To:
Equitrans, L.P.
Docket No. RP13-972-000

Equitrans, L.P.
625 Liberty Avenue Suite 1700
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3111

Attention: Paul W. Diehl, Senior Counsel-Midstream

Reference: Request for Temporary Waiver

Dear Mr. Diehl:

1. On June 10, 2013, Equitrans, L.P. (Equitrans) filed a request to temporarily waive certain Commission regulations and North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) Wholesale Gas Quadrant (WGQ) Standards, as delineated below, to account for temporary system outages that will occur as a result of the planned replacement and upgrade of Equitrans' existing computer software system. Equitrans requests the temporary waiver from June 28, 2013 at 5 p.m. through July 1, 2013 at 7 a.m.¹ Equitrans states that this replacement and upgrade of the computer systems is necessary to allow Equitrans to provide greater functionality on its electronic bulletin board as well as to meet future growth requirements. Equitrans requests a Commission order granting the requested waivers no later than June 24, 2013.

¹ Equitrans waiver request at 1 & Attachment A. Equitrans states that if the implementation of the upgrade is delayed at the last minute, Equitrans will defer the upgrades and outage until July 26, 2013. Waiver request at 2.

2. Specifically, Equitrans seeks waiver of :
 - a. NAESB WGQ Standards 5.3.31 through 5.3.45, 5.4.16, 6.3.3, and 10.1.4, which govern capacity release transactions, trading partner agreements, system-wide notices, and data interchange; and
 - b. Section 284.12 of the Commission's regulations, which set standards for pipelines business operations and communications.
3. According to Equitrans, it requests these waivers to ensure business continuity on its system during planned upgrades, which will cause Altra Web (Equitrans' nominations and capacity release systems) and Equitrans' electronic bulletin board (including system-wide notices) to be unavailable during the waiver period. Equitrans states that it scheduled the work during a week that would cause minimal disruption to its customers. Additionally, Equitrans states that during the time the Altra Web system is unavailable, Equitrans will continue to accept nominations and changes to those nominations by facsimile, in accordance with its tariff. In addition, Equitrans states that it will provide confirmations and similar information usually posted on the electronic bulletin board to its shippers by e-mail.
4. The Commission issued notice of Equitrans' waiver request on June 11, 2013, allowing for protests and interventions filed on or before June 14, 2013. Pursuant to Rule 214, 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 party filed a protest or adverse comments.
5. For good cause shown, we grant Equitrans' request to waive the requested Commission regulations and NAESB standards discussed above. The Commission has granted similar waivers to other pipelines under similar circumstances.²

By direction of the Commission.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

² See, e.g., *Columbia Gas Transmission Corp.*, 116 FERC ¶ 61,067 (2006); *Sabine Pipe Line LLC*, 126 FERC ¶ 61,159 (2009); *Equitrans, L.P.*, 138 FERC ¶ 61,119 (2012).