

106 FERC ¶ 61,084
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

January 29, 2004

In Reply Refer To:
Docket No. RP98-39-033

Attn: Kevin M. Sweeney, Esq.
Attorney for Global Santa Fe Corporation
John & Hengerer
1200 17th Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20036-3013

Dear Mr. Sweeney:

1. On November 4, 2003, you filed a Settlement Agreement on behalf of Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) and Global Santa Fe Corporation (Global Santa Fe). Commission Trial Staff did not oppose the Settlement. Supplemental comments were filed by Northern and Global Santa Fe on November 24, 2003. No party has filed comments opposing the Settlement.
2. On December 10, 2003, the Presiding Administrative Law Judge certified the offer to the Commission as uncontested.
3. The Settlement addresses Northern's claim for refunds of Kansas ad valorem taxes paid to Global Santa Fe or its predecessors.
4. Article I of the Settlement Offer requires that Global Santa Fe pay Northern the sum of \$821,642.53 as of October 31, 2003, plus interest at the Commission prescribed refund interest rate from that date through the date of payment.
5. Article II of the Settlement Offer incorporates all articles, definition and terms and conditions in the November 2000 settlement by reference. Northern Natural Gas Company, 93 FERC ¶ 61,311 (2000).
6. Article III of the Settlement Offer provides for Global Santa Fe's release from further liability to Northern for reimbursement of Kansas ad valorem taxes at issue in these proceedings.
7. Article IV defines the effective date of Settlement.

8. The Commission finds that the Settlement appears to be fair, reasonable, and in the public interest. See Rule 602(g)(3). Accordingly, the Commission approves the Settlement. The Commission's approval of the Settlement does not constitute approval of, or precedent regarding, any principle or issue in this proceeding.

9. This letter terminates Docket No. RP98-39-033.

By direction of the Commission.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

cc: All parties