

717w), and Section 20 of the Interstate Commerce Act (ICA, 49 U.S.C. 20).

The regulations for preservation of records establish retention periods, necessary guidelines and requirements to sustain retention of applicable records for the regulated public utilities, natural gas and oil pipeline companies subject to FERC's jurisdiction. These records will be used by the regulated companies as the basis for their required rate filings and reports for the Commission. In addition, the records will be used by the Commission's audit staff during compliance reviews, by enforcement staff during investigations and for special analyses as deemed necessary by the Commission. The records retained by jurisdictional companies as directed by the Commission are the result of a mandatory requirement.

On January 8, 1999 the Commission issued AI99-2-000, an Accounting Issuance providing guidance on records storage media. Specifically, FERC gave each jurisdictional company the flexibility to select its own storage

media. The storage media selected must have a life expectancy equal to the applicable record period unless the quality of the data transferred from one media to another with no loss of data would exceed the record period.

On January 27, 2000, FERC issued a final rule amending its records retention regulations for public utilities and licensees, natural gas and oil pipeline companies. These changes included revising the general instructions, shortening various records retention periods. The final rule's objective was to reduce or eliminate burdensome and unnecessary regulatory requirements. FERC anticipated a reduction of 679,800 hours. OMB questioned FERC's estimates of the anticipated reduction and so the existing estimates 1,236,000 for 515 respondents remained on OMB's inventory. (Using these existing figures, the total hours per respondent for recordkeeping purposes equals 2,400 hours.)

It has been over three years since Order No. 617 took effect on January 1, 2001 and there has been sufficient time

for jurisdictional companies to implement the final rule's provisions. Therefore, in responding to this notice, FERC is interested in knowing if the jurisdictional companies have obtained substantial reductions in the recordkeeping burden for maintaining their records under the revised retention periods. In addition, the Commission is interested in learning if and what savings were achieved by jurisdictional companies by freeing up storage space formerly used for retaining records. The Commission implements these filing requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR Parts 125, 225 and 356.

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year approval of these recordkeeping requirements, with no changes to the existing collection of data.

Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents annually (1)	Number of responses per respondent* (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)x(2)x(3)
515	1	¹ 2,402	² 1,236,896

¹ Rounded off.

² includes documentation recordkeeping requirements of Order No. 634.

Estimated cost burden to respondents: 1,236,896 hours/2,080 hours per year × \$107,185 per year = \$63,738,797. The cost per respondent is equal to \$123,765.

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including:

Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements;

(4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional and clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to

providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost for information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the

burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

**Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission**

[Docket No. CP04-314-000]

**Algonquin Gas Transmission
Company; Notice of Application**

May 6, 2004.

Take notice that on April 30, 2004, Algonquin Gas Transmission Company (Algonquin), 5400 Westheimer Court, Houston, Texas 77056-5310, filed in Docket No. CP04-314-000 an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, and the regulations of the Federal Energy

Regulatory Commission. Algonquin requests authorization to increase the maximum allowable operating pressure of its I-8 System located in Braintree, Massachusetts. The application is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. The filing may also be viewed on the Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, call (202) 502-3676 or TTY, (202) 502-8659.

Algonquin states that its proposal is related to pipeline inspection work necessary for compliance with recent Department of Transportation pipeline safety regulations. Algonquin's I-8 System consists of about 2 miles of 16-inch diameter pipeline located in Braintree that begins at the East Braintree meter and regulation station, and extends north through residential streets to its end at the interconnection with Algonquin's I-9 System at the Potter Street meter and regulation station. Algonquin also states that the current maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) of the I-8 System is 750 pounds per square inch gauge (PSIG), while the 24-inch pipelines it connects to immediately upstream and downstream have an MAOP of 1,000 PSIG. Algonquin proposes, subject to the result of the hydrostatic testing, that it be allowed to increase the MAOP of the I-8 System from 750 PSIG to 958 PSIG.

Algonquin states that this will further compliance with the pipeline safety requirements and also enhances the flexibility and reliability of existing services on Algonquin's system. Algonquin also states that the increase in MAOP results in an additional 140,000 dekatherms per day of available firm transportation capacity to the greater Boston and northern New England natural gas markets. Algonquin also seeks a pre-determination of rolled-in rate treatment for this project. Algonquin requests that the Commission issue a final certificate no later than July 8, 2004, in order to meet the natural gas requirements in the Northeast for the 2004-2005 winter period.

The name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom any further questions, correspondence and communications concerning this Application should be addressed is: Steven E. Tillman, General Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Algonquin Gas Transmission Company, P.O. Box 1642, Houston, Texas 77251-1642; Phone: (713) 627-5113; Fax: (713) 627-5947.

There are two ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project. First, any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this project should, on or before the comment date, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.10). A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties. A party must submit 14 copies of filings made with the Commission and must mail a copy to the applicant and to every other party in the proceeding. Only parties to the proceeding can ask for court review of Commission orders in the proceeding.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project, or in support of or in opposition to this project, should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commenters will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of the environmental documents, and will be notified of meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commenters will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. The Commission's rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project provide copies of their protests only to the applicant. However, the non-party commenters will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission (except for the mailing of environmental documents issued by the Commission) and will not have the right to seek court review of the Commission's final order.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests, and interventions via the internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) under the "e-Filing" link.

Comment Date: May 26, 2004.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP99-301-112]

ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Negotiated Rate Filing

May 6, 2004.

Take notice that on April 30, 2004, ANR Pipeline Company (ANR), tendered for filing and approval amendments to Rate Schedule ETS service agreement number 107892 and Rate Schedule FTS-1 service agreement number 109223 between ANR and a subsidiary of We Energies, Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCO). The amendments effectuate a change to Section 3, Contract Quantities, removing the optional Transporter's Use language that ANR offers to Shippers that are impacted by the biannual fuel changes.

ANR requests that the Commission accept and approve the subject negotiated rate agreement amendments to be effective May 1, 2004.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with § 385.214 or § 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with § 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceedings. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. This filing is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the eLibrary. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or TTY, contact (202) 502-8659. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the e-Filing link.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

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