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*Comment Date:* 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on June 4, 2018.

Dated: May 15, 2018.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2018-10728 Filed 5-18-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. OR18-24-000]

#### Notice of Request for Temporary Waiver; Merit Energy Company, LLC, Lambda Energy Resources, LLC

Take notice that on May 14, 2018, pursuant to Rule 204 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.204, Merit Energy Company, LLC and Lambda Energy Resources, LLC filed a petition seeking waiver of ICA sections 6 and 20 and Commission's implementing regulations at 18 CFR parts 341 and 357 with respect to the Kalkaska, Michigan pipeline which transports ethane and other natural gas liquids, and is being sold by Merit Energy Company, LLC to Lambda Energy Resources, LLC or an affiliate of Lambda, all as more fully explained in the petition.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). 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 proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Petitioner.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the eFiling link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 5 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

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*Comment Date:* 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on May 31, 2018.

Dated: May 15, 2018.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2018-10757 Filed 5-18-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM93-11-000]

#### Notice of Annual Change in the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods; Revisions to Oil Pipeline Regulations Pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 1992

The Commission's regulations include a methodology for oil pipelines to change their rates through use of an index system that establishes ceiling levels for such rates. The Commission bases the index system, found at 18 CFR 342.3, on the annual change in the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods (PPI-FG), plus one point two three percent (PPI-FG + 1.23). The Commission determined in an *Order Establishing Index Level*,<sup>1</sup> issued December 17, 2015, that PPI-FG + 1.23 is the appropriate oil pricing index factor for pipelines to use for the five-year period commencing July 1, 2016.

The regulations provide that the Commission will publish annually, an index figure reflecting the final change in the PPI-FG, after the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes the final PPI-FG in May of each calendar year. The annual

average PPI-FG index figures were 191.9 for 2016 and 198.0 for 2017.<sup>2</sup> Thus, the percent change (expressed as a decimal) in the annual average PPI-FG from 2016 to 2017, plus 1.23 percent, is positive 0.044087.<sup>3</sup> Oil pipelines must multiply their July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, index ceiling levels by positive 1.044087<sup>4</sup> to compute their index ceiling levels for July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019, in accordance with 18 CFR 342.3(d). For guidance in calculating the ceiling levels for each 12 month period beginning January 1, 1995,<sup>5</sup> see *Explorer Pipeline Company*, 71 FERC 61,416 at n.6 (1995).

In addition to publishing the full text of this Notice in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print this Notice via the internet through FERC's Home Page (<http://www.ferc.gov>) and in FERC's Public Reference Room during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time) at 888 First Street NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426. The full text of this Notice is available on FERC's Home Page at the eLibrary link. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field and follow other directions on the search page.

User assistance is available for eLibrary and other aspects of FERC's website during normal business hours. For assistance, please contact the Commission's Online Support at 1-866-208-3676 (toll free) or 202-502-6652 (email at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov)), or the Public Reference Room at 202-502-8371, TTY 202-502-8659. Email the Public Reference Room at [public.referenceroom@ferc.gov](mailto:public.referenceroom@ferc.gov).

<sup>2</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) publishes the final figure in mid-May of each year. This figure is publicly available from the Division of Industrial Prices and Price Indexes of the BLS, at 202-691-7705, and in print in August in Table 1 of the annual data supplement to the BLS publication *Producer Price Indexes* via the internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ppi/home.htm>. To obtain the BLS data, scroll down to PPI Databases and click on Top Picks of the Commodity Data including headline FD-ID indexes (Producer Price Index—PPI). At the next screen, under the heading PPI Commodity Data, select the box, Finished goods—WPUFD49207, then scroll to the bottom of this screen and click on Retrieve data.

<sup>3</sup>  $[198.0 - 191.9] / 191.9 = 0.031787 + 0.0123 = + 0.044087$ .

<sup>4</sup>  $1 + 0.044087 = 1.044087$ .

<sup>5</sup> For a listing of all prior multipliers issued by the Commission, see the Commission's website, <http://www.ferc.gov/industries/oil/gen-info/pipeline-index.asp>.

<sup>1</sup> 153 FERC 61,312 at P 52 (2015).

Dated: May 11, 2018.

**Kimberly D. Bose,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018-10756 Filed 5-18-18; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC18-13-000]

#### Commission Information Collection Activities (FERC-537); Comment Request; Extension

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection, FERC-537 (Gas Pipeline Certificates: Construction, Acquisition, and Abandonment).

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due July 20, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. IC18-13-000) by either of the following methods:

- *eFiling at Commission's website:*  
<http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>.

- *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier:*  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,  
Secretary of the Commission, 888 First  
Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

**Instructions:** All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: <http://www.ferc.gov/help/submission-guide.asp>. For user assistance contact FERC Online Support by email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or by phone at: (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 for TTY.

**Docket:** Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/docs-filing.asp>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ellen Brown may be reached by email at [DataClearance@FERC.gov](mailto:DataClearance@FERC.gov), telephone at (202) 502-8663, and fax at (202) 273-0873.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** FERC-537 (Gas Pipeline Certificates: Construction, Acquisition, and Abandonment).

**OMB Control No.:** 1902-0060.

**Type of Request:** Three-year extension of the FERC-537 information collection requirements with no changes to the current reporting requirements.

**Abstract:** The FERC-537 information collection requires natural gas companies to file the necessary information with FERC in order for the Commission to determine if the requested certificate should be authorized. Certain self-implementing construction and abandonment programs do not require the filing of applications. However, those types of programs do require the filing of annual reports, so many less significant actions can be reported in a single filing/

response and less detail would be required.

The data required to be submitted in a normal certificate filing consists of identification of the company and responsible officials, factors considered in the location of the facilities and the impact on the area for environmental considerations. Also to be submitted are the following, as applicable to the specific request:

- Flow diagrams showing the design capacity for engineering design verification and safety determination;
- Cost of proposed facilities, plans for financing, and estimated revenues and expenses related to the proposed facility for accounting and financial evaluation.
- Existing and proposed storage capacity and pressures and reservoir engineering studies for requests to increase storage capacity;
- An affidavit showing the consent of existing customers for abandonment of service requests.

Additionally, requests for an increase of pipeline capacity must include a statement that demonstrates compliance with the Commission's Certificate Policy Statement by making a showing that the cost of the expansion will not be subsidized by existing customers and that there will not be adverse economic impacts to existing customers, competing pipelines or their customers, nor to landowners and to surrounding communities.

**Type of Respondents:** Natural gas companies.

**Estimate of Annual Burden:**<sup>1</sup> The Commission estimates the annual public reporting burden for the information collection as:

### FERC-537

[Gas pipeline certificates: Construction, acquisition, and abandonment]

	Number of respondents	Annual number of responses per respondent	Total number of responses	Average burden and cost per response <sup>2</sup>	Total annual burden hours and total annual cost	Cost per respondent
	(1)	(2)	(1) * (2) = (3)	(4)	(3) * (4) = (5)	(5) ÷ (1) <sup>3</sup>
18 CFR 157.5-11 (Interstate Certificate and Abandonment Applications).	52	1.19	62	500 hrs.; \$39,500.	31,000; \$2,449,000.	\$47,096
18 CFR 157.53 (Pipeline Purging/Testing Exemptions).	1	1	1	50 hrs.; \$3,950 ..	50 hrs.; \$3,950 ..	3,950
18 CFR 157.201-209; 157.211; 157.214-218 (Blanket Certificates Prior to Notice Filings).	21	1.86	39	200 hrs; \$15,800	7,800 hrs.; \$616,200.	29,343
18 CFR 157.201-209; 157.211; 157.214-218 (Blanket Certificates—Annual Reports).	129	4 1.05	135	50 hrs.; \$3,950 ..	6,750 hrs.; \$533,250.	4,134

<sup>1</sup> "Burden" is defined as the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide

information to or for a Federal agency. For further explanation of what is included in the information

collection burden, reference 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.