Advisory Agreements will be maintained in an interest-bearing escrow account, and amounts in such account (including interest earned on such paid fees) will be paid to the Adviser only upon the approval of the related Fund shareholders or, in the absence of such approval, to the related Fund.

3. Each Trust will hold meetings of shareholders to vote on the approval of the New Advisory Agreements for the Funds on or before the 120th day following the earlier of the termination of the Existing Advisory Agreements on the Effective Date or May 1, 1996.

4. First Interstate and/or one or more of its subsidiaries will pay the costs of preparing and filing this Application. First Interstate and/or one or more of its subsidiaries will pay the costs relating to the solicitation of the Fund shareholder approvals, to the extent such costs relate to approval of the New Advisory Agreements necessitated by the Merger.

5. The Adviser will take all appropriate actions to ensure that the scope and quality of advisory and other services provided to the Funds under the New Advisory Agreements will be at least equivalent, in the judgment of the respective Boards, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, to the scope and quality of services provided previously. In the event of any material change in personnel providing services pursuant to the New Advisory Agreements, the Adviser will apprise and consult the Boards of the affected Funds to assure that such Boards, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, are satisfied that the services provided by the Adviser will not be diminished in scope or quality.

For the SEC, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Maragret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–5403 Filed 3–6–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–M

[Release No. 35–26480]

Filings Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as Amended (''Act'')

March 1, 1996.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing(s) has/have been made with the Commission pursuant to provisions of the Act and rules promulgated thereunder. All interested persons are referred to the application(s) and/or declaration(s) for complete statements of the proposed transaction(s) summarized below. The application(s) and/or declaration(s) and any amendments thereto is/are available for public inspection through the Commission's Office of Public Reference.

Interested persons wishing to comment or request a hearing on the application(s) and/or declaration(s) should submit their views in writing by March 25, 1996, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC 20549, and serve a copy on the relevant applicant(s) and/or declarant(s) at the address(es) specified below. Proof of service (by affidavit or, in case of an attorney at law, by certificate) should be filed with the request. Any request for hearing shall identify specifically the issues of fact or law that are disputed. A person who so requests will be notified of any hearing, if ordered, and will receive a copy of any notice or order issued in the matter. After said date, the application(s) and/or declaration(s), as filed or as amended, may be granted and/or permitted to become effective.

The Columbia Gas System, Inc.

The Columbia Gas System, Inc. (''Columbia''), 20 Montchanin Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19807, a registered public utility holding company, has filed an application-declaration with this Commission under sections 6(a), 7, 9(a), 10 and 12(f) of the Act.

Columbia proposes, through either an existing, direct subsidiary or through the establishment of one or more direct or indirect subsidiaries (''Energy Products Companies''), to: (1) market energy-related products including propane, natural gas liquids and petroleum; and (ii) market and/or broker electric energy at wholesale, and, to the extent permitted by state law, at retail, provided the activities will be limited to ensure the Energy Products Companies do not come within the definition of ''electric utility company'' under section 2(a)(3) of the Act. Columbia proposes to create and fund one or more Energy Products companies from time to time through December 31, 1997 through the purchase of up to $5 million of common stock, $25 par value per share, at a purchase price at or above par value. Alternatively, Columbia proposes to fund an existing subsidiary or subsidiaries with up to $5 million from time to time through December 31, 1997.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, pursuant to delegated authority.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–5404 Filed 3–6–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–M

[Release No. 34–36912; File No. SR–CHX–96–08]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Chicago Stock Exchange, Incorporated Relating to the Adoption of a Monthly Examinations Fee and the Rebilling of Certain Other Costs

February 29, 1996.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Act''),[1] notice is hereby given that on February 7, 1996 the Chicago Stock Exchange, Incorporated (''CHX'' or ''Exchange'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''SEC'' or ''Commission'') the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. On February 22, 1996, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposal with the Commission.[2] The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

In order to compensate for the extensive staff time and costs associated with examining off-floor firms that are not active participants in the CHX market, the Exchange is proposing to adopt an examinations fee of $1,000 per month, which would be applicable to CHX members and member organizations for which the Exchange is the Designated Examining Authority (''DEA''). This fee would be effective February 7, 1996. The following CHX members and member organizations would be exempt from the examinations fee: (1) inactive organizations; (2) organizations that operate from the Exchange's trading floor; (3) organizations that incur transaction or clearing fees charged directly to them by the Exchange or by its registered clearing subsidiary, provided, however, that such exemption shall only apply on

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] Amendment No. 1 changed the effective date for the new fee and added a detailed explanation of the new fee. *See* Letter dated February 21, 1996 from David T. Rusoff, Attorney, Foley & Lardner, to Anthony P. Pecora, Attorney, SEC.