

Questar received authorization in Docket Nos. CP95-650-001, CP95-650-002 and CP95-658-000, 74 FERC ¶61,216, (1996) to abandon, by transfer, the specified gathering and transmission facilities to Questar Gas Management Company (QGM), a wholly owned, regulated subsidiary of Questar.¹ Questar states that it has notified all of its gathering customers of the transfer of all gathering contracts to QGM.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulation Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.211 and 385.214 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. Pursuant to Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations, all such motions or protests must be filed no later March 13, 1996. 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 motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-5925 Filed 3-12-96; 8:45 am]
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[Docket No. CP96-217-000]

City of Tallahassee, et al., Complaints, vs. Florida Gas Transmission Company, Respondent; Notice of Complaint

March 7, 1996.

Take notice that on February 28, 1996, City of Tallahassee, City of Lakeland, Orlando Utilities Commission, Jacksonville Electric Authority, and Florida Gas Utilities (jointly Complainants), c/o John Hengerer & Esposito, 1200 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, filed in Docket No. CP96-217-000 a complaint pursuant to Rule 206 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, against Florida Gas Transmission Company (FGT) alleging violations of FGT's tariff provisions and Commission rules regarding affiliate preference in provision of jurisdictional service in connection with construction

¹ The acquisition, ownership and operation of these facilities by QGM are nonjurisdictional activities exempt from the Commission's jurisdiction under section 1(b) of the Natural Gas Act.

of a proposed delivery point in Leon County, Florida, all as more fully detailed in the complaint which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

It is stated that the complainants are all firm transportation customers of FGT and members of the Florida Cities Fuel Committee, an *ad hoc* group of municipalities which customarily participate in FGT rate and certificate proceedings. It is explained that FGT's interconnecting delivery point, for which FGT requested prior notice authorization in Docket No. CP96-139-000, would serve West Florida Natural Gas (WFNG), a local distribution company, which in turn would make deliveries to the Department of Correction's (DOC) Wakulla Correctional Institution in Wakulla County, Florida.

Complainants allege that because FGT would not be fully reimbursed by WFNG for the construction costs, FGT would be subsidizing construction of the facility, and complainants allege that such a subsidy is in violation of FGT's tariff.

Complainants further allege that the proposal would involve preferential treatment for Citrus Trading, FGT's marketing affiliate, which would provide gas supplies for the deliveries to the DOC, and it is alleged that this violates the Commission's rules prohibiting affiliate preference. It is alleged that FGT has adopted a new policy on customer ownership of gate station facilities, which would permit WFNG to own the meter station which is among the proposed facilities, and it is alleged that such ownership is in violation of FGT's tariff provisions. Complainants allege that the proposed change in ownership policy is not in the public interest and should be evaluated before it is implemented.

It is stated that the City of Tallahassee, one of the complainants, has simultaneously filed a protest in Docket No. CP96-139-000, FGT's prior notice filing. It is asserted that the City of Tallahassee had made a bid to serve the DOC's Wakulla facility.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before April 8, 1996, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the

proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-5932 Filed 3-12-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. RP95-197-000, RP95-001 and RP96-44-000]

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation; Notice of Informal Settlement Conference

March 7, 1996.

Take notice that an informal settlement conference will be convened in this proceeding on Friday, March 15, 1996, at 10:00 a.m., for the purpose of exploring the possible settlement of the above-referenced proceeding. The conference will be held at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC.

Any party, as defined by 18 CFR 385.102(c), or any participant, as defined by 18 CFR 385.102(b), is invited to attend. Persons wishing to become a party must move to intervene and receive intervenor status pursuant to the Commission's regulations. See 18 CFR 385.214.

For additional information, please contact Donald A. Heydt at (202) 208-0740 or Michael D. Cotleur at (202) 208-1076.

Lois D. Cashell,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-5927 Filed 3-12-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. CP96-228-000]

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation; Notice of Application

March 7, 1996.

Take notice that on March 4, 1996, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation (Transco), P.O. Box 1396, Houston, Texas 77251, filed in Docket No. CP96-228-000 an application pursuant to Section 7(c) and 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act for (1) a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing it to construct and operate certain Chickasawhay River replacement crossings and (2) an order permitting and approving the abandonment of existing facilities at the

same location, with the certificate and construction clearance authorized by April 1, 1996, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Transco states that it has four pipelines across the Chickasawhay River in Mississippi—3-inch diameter Main Line A, 36-inch diameter Main Lines B and C and 42-inch diameter Main Line D. It is stated that this river crossing is in Clarke County, Mississippi and is approximately 15 miles west of the location where Transco's system crosses the Mississippi-Alabama state line. Transco states that all gas produced onshore and offshore Texas and Louisiana and onshore Mississippi which moves on Transco's system to Transco's markets in the Deep South, Atlantic Seaboard and eastern markets flows through this Chickasawhay River crossing.

Transco states that because of mass erosion of the river banks, Main Lines A, B and C are exposed or have shallow cover in the river and are subject to potential physical damage from boat traffic and periodic flood debris in the river.

Transco states that it cannot perform these replacements pursuant to Section 2.55(b) of the Commission's Regulations because the temporary work spaces which Transco will need off the existing maintained right-of-way do not meet the guidelines for such spaces set out in the Commission staff's letter to Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, dated March 15, 1995. It is stated that this application is *not* required by the Commission's order issued May 12, 1994 in Arkla Energy Resources Company, Docket No. CP91-2069-000, 67 FERC ¶ 61,173, (replacements outside of existing right-of-way cannot be performed pursuant to section 2.55(b)) because no new permanent right-of-way will be required in connection with this project. Transco states that it is imperative that Transco complete the new crossings soon to ensure that gas from the production areas described above is able to flow to Transco's markets.

Transco proposes to install approximately 1,400 feet of new 30-inch diameter Main Line A by horizontal directional drilling under the Chickasawhay River, at the location of its existing pipeline crossings of the Chickasawhay River.¹ The alignment of

the new Main Line A will parallel the existing Main Line A and will be offset approximately eight feet to the south of the existing Main Line A. It is stated that approximately 180 feet of 30-inch diameter pipe will be conventionally installed by trenching from the entrance and exit of the bore and tied in to existing Main Line A.

Transco states that it also proposes to install approximately 1,400 feet of new 36-inch diameter Main Line B by horizontal directional drilling under the Chickasawhay River. The alignment of the new Main Line B will parallel the new Main Line A with a spacing of approximately 22 feet to the south of new Main Line A. New Main Line B will be approximately 75 feet north of existing Main Line B. It is stated that approximately 175 feet of 36-inch diameter pipe will be conventionally installed by trenching from the entrance and exit of the bore and tied in to existing Main Line B.

Transco states that it also proposes to install approximately 1,470 feet of new 36-inch diameter Main Line C by horizontal directional drilling under the Chickasawhay River. The alignment of the new Main Line C will parallel Main Lines A and B with a spacing of approximately 25 feet to the south of new Main Line B. New Main Line C will be approximately 125 feet north of existing Main Line C. It is stated that approximately 160 feet of 36-inch diameter pipe will be conventionally installed by trenching from the entrance and exit of the bore and tied in to existing Main Line B.

Transco states that Main Line D will not be replaced.

Transco states that the proposed replacement will restore the long-term integrity of Transco's transmission system at the Chickasawhay River crossings. Since the 30-inch and 36-inch diameter crossings are being replaced by identical 30-inch and 36-inch diameter crossings, system capacity at the Chickasawhay River will remain unchanged—at 3,353,767 Mcf per day. It is stated that the shallow, conventionally installed Main Lines A, B and C at this location will be retired by removal.

It is stated that the cost of new Main Line A is estimated to be \$1,197,260; the cost of installation of new Main Line B is estimated to be \$1,396,806; and the cost of installation of new Main Line C is estimated to be \$1,396,806.

Transco states that it needs to replace Main Lines A, B and C as soon as possible because of their vulnerable condition.

Transco states that issuance of a certificate to Transco and construction

clearance by April 1 is justified for two reasons: (1) the above-described need for security of gas service to Transco's market areas, and (2) the de minimis impact on the environment of the crossing project (as described below). With respect to the environment, Transco states that the following are significant points:

1. On the west side of the river approximately 0.77 acre of temporary work space (TWS) off the existing permanent right-of-way will be required at the location where the drilling rig will be set up, and approximately 0.15 acre will be required for removal of existing pipe and for repair of an erosion problem on the bank. This total of 0.92 acre of off right-of-way TWS on the west side is presently forested and will be cleared (none is forested wetland). The remainder of the TWS on the west side is located on existing permanent right-of-way. On the west side, wetland areas are located well away from the construction area. This impact will be minimized by the use of mats and other appropriate means. On the west side, approximately 0.567 acre of access road off the right-of-way will be required, but it is on an existing farm lane.

On the east side of the river approximately 0.49 acre of off right-of-way TWS will be required for drilling operations; 0.34 acre will be required for stringing pipe; and 0.18 acre will be required for removal of existing pipe and for repair of an erosion problem on the bank. Of this east side right-of-way TWS, 0.6 acre is presently forested and will be cleared (none is forested wetland). The remainder of the TWS on the east side, is located on existing permanent right-of-way. On the east side, approximately 1.52 acres of non-forested wetland will be utilized for stringing pipe; approximately 0.09 acre of this will be outside the existing permanent right-of-way. Impacts will be minimized by using road board where necessary. Most of the land around the right-of-way on the east side has been logged recently; this is the reason no forested wetland will be impacted.

In summary, Transco states that on both sides of the river the TWS are minor, and of these only 1.52 acres are forested and none are forested wetland.

2. Clearances have been received with respect to endangered/threatened species from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Mississippi Natural Heritage Program. The Mississippi Game and Fish Commission provided Transco with information that the gulf sturgeon (federal listed as threatened, stated listed as endangered) may be found in the project area. Transco

¹ Transco states that directionally drilled pipelines under rivers are significantly more secure than older pipelines which were installed by way of trenching the river bed. It is stated that the 30-inch and 36-inch pipeline crossing discussed herein will be an approximate depth of 30 feet beneath the Chickasawhay River navigation channel.

evaluated this in the context of the project to ensure that the project will not impact this species; the evaluation verified that the project will not impact this species.

3. A Phase I cultural resources report was filed with the Mississippi State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) by letter dated January 23, 1996. The report documents the results of the Phase I investigation which did not locate any cultural resources. In a letter dated January 25, 1996 the SHPO indicated that it had reviewed the report and that no historic properties will be affected by the project.

By letter dated February 9, 1996, Transco requested from the SHPO information concerning groups who may be interested in cultural resources which the Phase I survey may have missed, particularly Native Americans who may have knowledge of sacred areas or locations of special value to them. Additionally, with such letter, Transco submitted an "Action Plan for Treating Known and Unanticipated Discoveries of Human Remains and Historic Properties". By letter dated February 14, 1996, the SHPO identified the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. Also, the SHPO advised that the action plan is acceptable. Transco states that Mr. Ken Carleton, the Tribal Archaeologist, was contacted by telephone on February 26, 1996 and indicated he was satisfied with the results of the archaeological survey and identified no sacred sites or other areas of concern within the project boundaries.

4. Transco states that it does not consider *in situ* replacement a practical option because such conventional replacement would be subject to the same erosive forces of the river.

5. Transco states that the proposed installations and removals will improve the visual or aesthetic value of the river banks at the Chickasawhay River crossing by allowing native revegetation and dynamics of the river to control the natural succession of the banks at the crossing. Transco states that it will implement measures to restore and stabilize the construction work spaces and abandoned rights-of-way.

Therefore, Transco states that in view of (1) the essential need for the Chickasawhay River crossing to be able to move gas from Transco's production areas to Transco's market areas, and (2) the de minimis environmental impact of such project, Transco requests that the Commission issue a certificate and construction clearance by April 1, 1996.

By its application, Transco also seeks authorization to abandon by removing portions of its Main Lines A, B and C

at the Chickasawhay River which will be replaced (including the portions in the river bed). Transco states that gas transmission across the Chickasawhay River will be unaffected by these abandonments. It is stated that the cost of removal of all three line segments is estimated at a total of \$300,000.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before March 18, 1996, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest 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 Natural Gas Act (18 CAR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and procedure, a hearing will be held with further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that a grant of the certificate is required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Transco to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-5929 Filed 3-12-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. RP96-170-000]

Trunkline Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

March 7, 1996.

Take notice that on March 5, 1996, Trunkline Gas Company (Trunkline) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff First Revised Volume No. 1,

the tariff sheets listed on Appendix A attached to the filing, proposed to be effective April 5, 1996. Trunkline asserts that the purpose of this filing is to comply with the Commission's order issued September 28, 1995 in Docket No. RM95-3-000, 72 FERC ¶ 61,300 (1995).

Specifically, Trunkline is: (1) Adding Trunkline's telephone and facsimile numbers, as well as street address on the title page; (2) providing a separate map for each zone showing major interconnections; (3) rearranging rate sheet components to show adjustments approved pursuant to Subpart E of the Regulations in a separate column; (4) including a statement describing the order in which Trunkline discounts its rates; (5) updating and modifying the Index of Firm Customers to include the maximum daily quantity for each contract; (6) including a description of periodic reports required by Commission orders or settlements in proceedings initiated under Part 154 or 284 of the Commission's Regulations; and (7) updating references to Part 154 of the Regulations.

Trunkline states that a copy of this filing is being served on all affected customers and applicable state regulatory agencies.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.211 and 385.214 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed as provided in Section 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 proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-5926 Filed 3-12-96; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. ER95-203-007, et al.]

UtiliCorp United Inc., et al.; Electric Rate and Corporate Regulation Filings

March 6, 1996.

Take notice that the following filings have been made with the Commission: