

1997. Equitrans also states that certain other tariff sheets with it filed previously for September 1, 1997 effectiveness are mooted by the instant filing.

Equitrans states that copies of this rate filing were served on the parties to this proceeding, as well as Equitrans' jurisdictional customers and interested state commissions.

Any person desiring to protest the filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. All such protests should be filed as provided in section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining appropriate action, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

**Lindwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-983 Filed 1-14-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP96-610-000]

#### Granite State Gas Transmission, Inc.; Notice on Oral Argument

January 9, 1998.

In accordance with its motion of December 23, 1997, the Public Advocate of the State of Maine (Public Advocate) is given ten minutes to present its arguments at the oral argument scheduled for January 15, 1998 in this proceeding. The Public Advocate may reserve a portion of this time for rebuttal.

The time allotted to the Public Advocate herein is separate from and in addition to the time previously allotted to the supporters and opponents of the project in our notice issued December 10, 1997.

The Public Advocate must file with the Commission by 3 p.m. on January 12, 1998, the name of the person who will represent the Public Advocate at oral argument.

**Lindwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-991 filed 1-14-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2061]

#### Idaho Power Company; Notice of Authorization for Continued Project Operation

January 9, 1998.

On December 20, 1995, Idaho Power Company, licensee for the Lower Salmon Falls Project No. 2061, filed an application for a new or subsequent license pursuant to the Federal Power Act (FPA) and the Commission's regulations thereunder. Project No. 2061 is located on the Snake River in Gooding and Twin Falls Counties, Idaho.

The license for Project No. 2061 was issued for a period ending December 23, 1997. Section 15(a)(1) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. 808(a)(1), requires the Commission, at the expiration of a license term, to issue from year to year an annual license to the then licensee under the terms and conditions of the prior license until a new license is issued, or the project is otherwise disposed of as provided in section 15 or any other applicable section of the FPA. If the project's prior license waived the applicability of section 15 of the FPA, then, based on Section 9(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 558(c), and as set forth at 18 CFR 16.21(a), if the licensee of such project has filed an application for a subsequent license, the licensee may continue to operate the project in accordance with the terms and conditions of the license after the minor or minor part license expires, until the Commission acts on its application. If the licensee of such a project has not filed an application for a subsequent license, then it may be required, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.21(b), to continue project operations until the Commission issues someone else a license for the project or otherwise orders disposition of the project.

If the project is subject to section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that an annual license for Project No. 2061 is issued to Idaho Power Company for a period effective December 24, 1997, through December 23, 1998, or until the issuance of a new license for the project or other disposition under the FPA, whichever comes first. If issuance of a new license (or other disposition) does not take place on or before December 24, 1998, notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 18 CFR 16.18(c), and annual license under section 15(a)(1) of the FPA is renewed automatically without further order or notice by the

Commission, unless the Commission orders otherwise.

If the project is not subject to section 15 of the FPA, notice is hereby given that Idaho Power Company is authorized to continue operation of the Lower Salmon Falls Project No. 2061 until such time as the Commission acts on its application for subsequent license.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-989 Filed 1-14-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. PR98-5-000]

#### LG&E Natural Pipeline Company; Notice of Petition for Rate Approval

January 9, 1998.

Take notice that on December 31, 1997, LG&E Natural Pipeline Company (LG&E) filed pursuant to section 284.123(b)(2) of the Commission's regulations a petition for rate approval requesting that the Commission approve as fair and equitable rates for NGPA section 311 transportation services the following: (i) For firm transportation service, a demand charge not to exceed \$2.0893 and a variable charge not to exceed \$0.0129 per MMBtu; (ii) for interruptible transportation service, a volumetric rate not to exceed \$0.0186 per MMBtu; and (iii) for storage services, those established by contract between LG&E and its customers.

LG&E's petition states that it is an intrastate pipeline within the meaning of section 2(16) of the NGPA operating within the State of New Mexico. According to its petition, LG&E offers both firm and interruptible transportation services in interstate commerce under section 311 of the NGPA. It also offers storage services under section 311.

LG&E's currently effective rates for section 311 services were established by a Settlement in Docket Nos. PR94-21-000, *et al.*, which was approved on August 6, 1996. 76 FERC ¶ 61,181 (1996). LG&E's currently effective maximum firm transportation rate under section 311 consists of a maximum demand charge of \$2.4746 and a maximum variable charge of \$0.0117 per MMBtu; the current maximum interruptible transportation rate is \$0.0930 per MMBtu. The rates for storage services LG&E offers under section 311 are now "market-based",